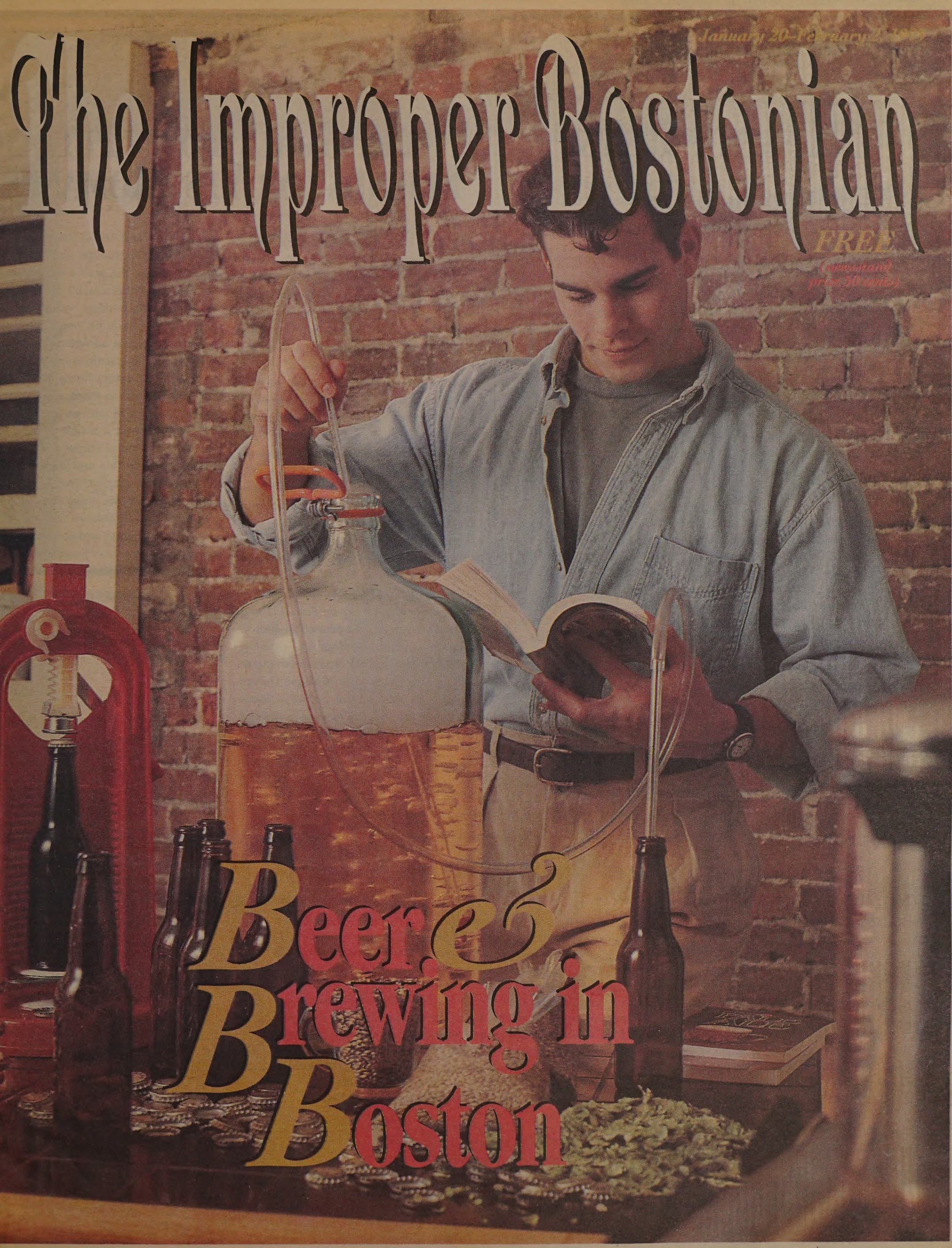
January 20–February 2, 1977

The Improper Bostonian

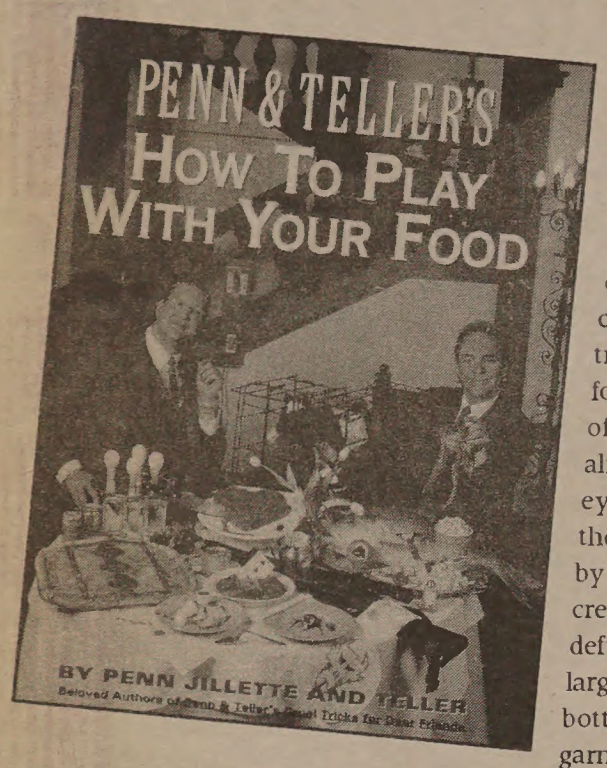
FREE
(newsstand price 50 cents)



Beer & Brewing in Boston

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Naughty Boys



Because these mischievous miscreants, Penn and Teller, are large-type individuals, and performers of extraordinary and comic feats in their own show, it's generous of them to cook up this slew of amazing, comic, and usually disgusting tricks that you too can perform for your friends without benefit of Broadway. There's the already-famous "poke-out-your-eye-with-a-fork" trick, in which the alleged eye goo is provided by a small container of restaurant cream. There's the movie-date-defying one where you plant your large and scary hand inside the bottom of the popcorn box and garner a scream when she reaches for popcorn and finds this "monster" in there. Or you can drive people crazy by pre-slicing an intact banana using a hat pin — sort of a bogus Crop-Circles effect. Linguini A La Stigmata involves inviting "bloody" emanations, seemingly from your palm. With their goofery, and their oddly clean-cut sunny natures gliding along under their mad practices, Penn and Teller are really the Letterman's Lettermen, sticking it to vegetarianism, homeopathy, and good, simple manners. Short of doing a single trick out of this book, you can have a good read. Of their wonderfully tasteless Oliver Stone Melon-Head shooting trick they write: "One of the things that's pointed out repeatedly by conspiracy hobbyists is Kennedy's head jerking 'back and to the left' when the bullet hits in the Zapruder film. In JFK, 'back and to the left' is repeated enough that Ollie seems like he's trying to start a dance craze."

Penn and Teller's
"How To Play With Your Food"
Villard Books, $20.

A Very Small Town Full of Friends, or Yes, Romance

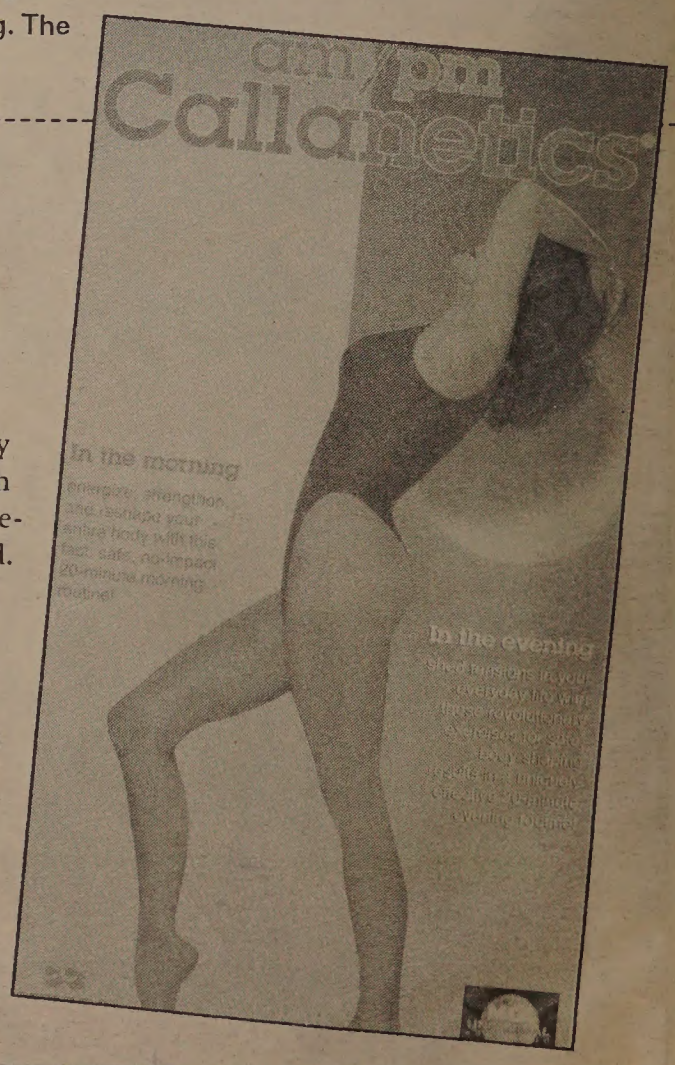
The Post Club's waiting room scrapbook is full of rosy resignations offered because, as the departing members report, they have found "someone wonderful through the club" and are either settling in or getting married. Like most dating clubs, The Post Club makes use of a library of videos (also of photos and self-presentations) that range from the chipper, clean-cut and hopeful to a tongue-in cheek version of the same, demonstrating rather than merely announcing the person's sense of humor. But what makes this pleasant, inviting and relaxing place different is that it also operates like a social club, with parties, the theater and outdoor outings. The Post Club is also a focus for good works done in groups, (Their Have A Heart Benefit For The Homeless, open to members and non-members for $12 in advance will be held on Feb. 11) and even as a mini adult-education center, with seminars on astrology, self-defense, tax planning etc. This broadens the base of the enterprise and diffuses things away from an insistent bulls-eye focus on dating and mating to a more general involvement with a group or gang. The owners, Mark and Cheryl Goodman, who met and married through another dating service, cite as the active ingredient in their services the overall elevation of self-esteem, the perking and flirting and shining of the shoe on one's best-foot-forward. Such that sometimes, a member will use the transforming tonic gotten from their dating flurry at the Post Club, and go on to meet a mate elsewhere. Once, a much-requested Post-Club woman met a much-not-chosen man in the activity room of the Club. They hit it off in this real-life encounter and eventually married. The Goodmans, who "conceived" the Post Club on their own honeymoon believe that they are more catalysts and conduits (shapers of attitude and creators of possibilities) than introducers. Though they certainly are that too.

The Post Club
313 Washington Street
Newton, Mass. 02158
332-CLUB

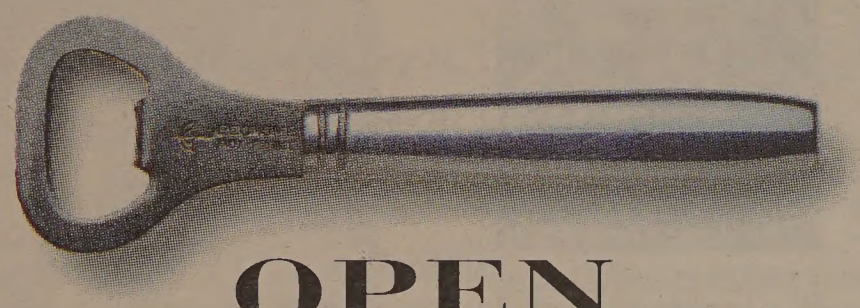
Give A Quarter of an Inch To Lose Inches

This is the exercise tape you may have seen at your video store with the word Callanetics written suggestively down the back and over the bump of the model's rump. Located somewhere between the un-bouncy stretch of yoga and the expansiveness of ballet, but nowhere entering into the frenzied territory of aerobics, this one-hour program named after Callan Pinckney involves easy, familiar postures assumed for the count of one hundred. Within those positions that include a form of nearly static sit-ups, leg stretches, hip and butt muscle exertion, and what she calls the "exiting pelvic rotation" — the exercise required is simply to move "one half or one quarter of an inch," while the numbers of repetitions accomplished are totted up on the side of the screen. The goal, demonstrated in some unretouched photos of one "Jean" (whose hipbones begin to appear in sharper relief after 19 sessions) is tightening, toning, and improving the "bottom line." (One exercise is said to "Turn your pear into a sweet peach.") There's an ongoing lower body fixation here (Callan's own trim form serves as a walking advertisement) with those recalcitrant saddle bags, hips and thighs getting a lot of attention. The spirit of Callanetics, and this makes it trancily inviting to push the tape to "On," is dreamy and slow. The exercise is microscopically tiny.

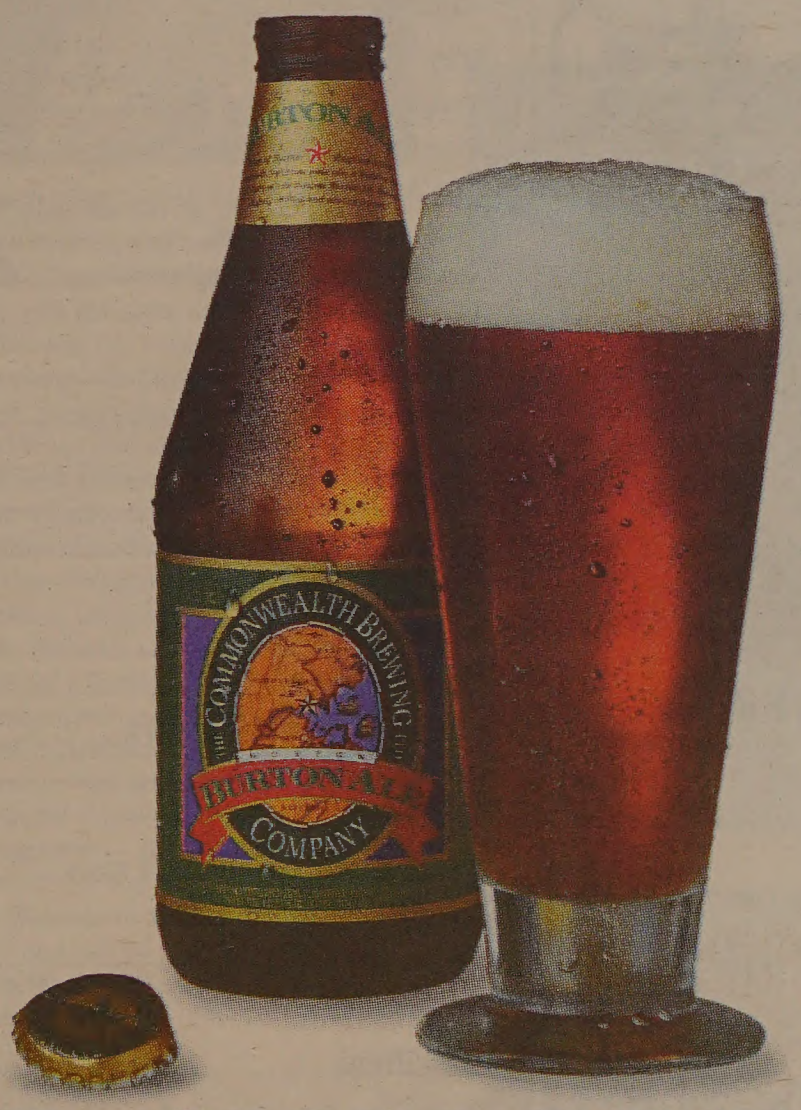
Callanetics
At Videosmith
$24.95



Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146



OPEN



YOUR OWN BREWERY.

The Commonwealth Brewing Company is now available by the bottle. Open one for yourself, and taste the fresh brewed, full-bodied flavor of Boston's finest traditional English pale ale. Best enjoyed slightly chilled and among friends.

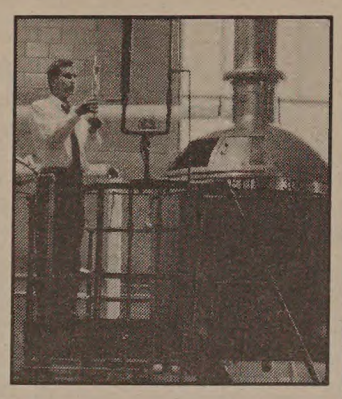
New from The Commonwealth Brewing Company.
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery.

BOSTON
BURTON ALE

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Most people are familiar with Sam Adams beer, but Boston also plays host to a number of other brew-pubs and breweries. Join us as we tour our way through the Boston Beer Company, Mass Bay Brewing and others as we unravel Boston's long history in the world of brewing.

BY CHAD SANBORN

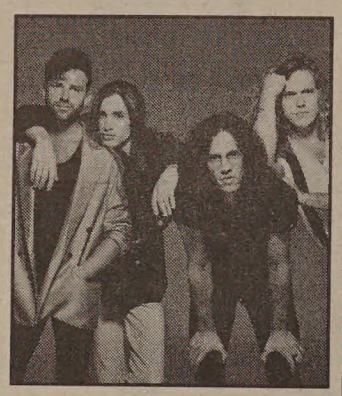
10 Just Brew It



Legalized in 1978 in the Carter Administration's finest hour, homebrewing has grown to include over 1.5 million people. It's easy to get started and fairly cheap as hobbies go. Join The Improper for a lesson in one of the finer arts in America: Homebrewing

BY ERIC PETERSON

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With sold out shows at the Orpheum Theatre this week, Extreme opens up in a candid interview revealing why they're Boston's most popular hometown boys.

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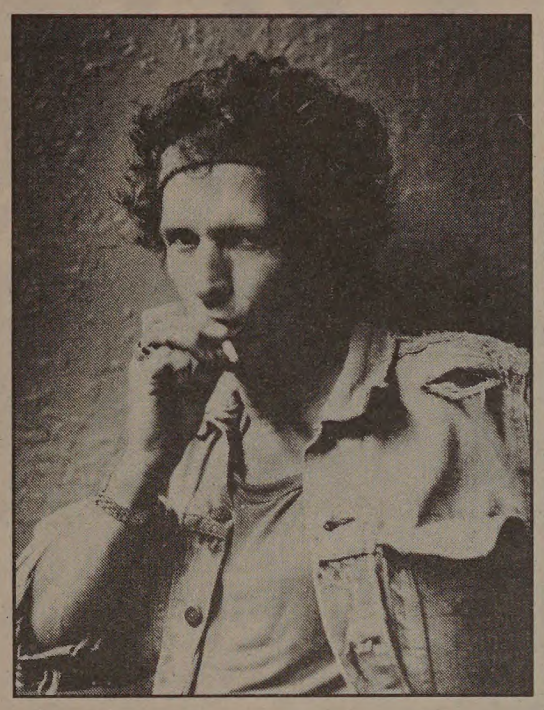
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AROUND TOWN



Enjoy opera but I don't understand Italian? Here's a fun solution. The **New England Conservatory Opera Theater and Opera Studio** is presenting two one-act comic operas January 29,30 and 31 at the Emerson Majestic Theatre. This Italian double bill will be **sung in English**.

Rossini's *Il Signor Bruschino* is a comedy of manners which "takes longer to explain than it does to play" jokes stage director and conductor John Moriarty. Florville wants to marry Sophia, whose Gaudenzio has decided that she must marry the son of his friend, the irascible aristocrat Signor Bruschino. Bruschino Junior, is in an inn for not paying his bills, so Florville disguises himself as the younger Bruschino, fools Gaudenzio and marries Sophia before anyone is the wiser.

Donizetti's *Le Convenienze Teatrali* is a lampoon of backstage life, in which a baritone plays the overly ambitious mother of an aspiring young soprano. Set in a provincial Italian theater, Donizetti satirizes the foibles and pretensions involved in creating an opera. Tickets are only $10 ($8 for students and seniors) and are available at Jordan Hall Box Office 536-2412 or The Emerson Majestic 578-8727.

Keith Richards, the old man of rock and roll, solos into town "Stoneless" on February 12 to gig with his band the **X-Pensive Winos** at the Orpheum Theater. Coming off of their most recent album, Main Offender, Richards and The Winos will play selections from their new release, Talk is Cheap and most likely, tunes from the vast archive of Rolling Stones material. Playing without the Stones hasn't been as traumatic as one would think. Richards says, "I thrive on the loyalty of a band. I like the feeling of camaraderie, mainly because I'm used to it. In the early days of the Stones, it was us against the rest of the world. Maybe that's where it all sprang from — the early days when all we'd got was each other." We'll see. Tickets are $23.50 for the 7:30 show and can be purchased through TicketMaster by calling 931-2000.

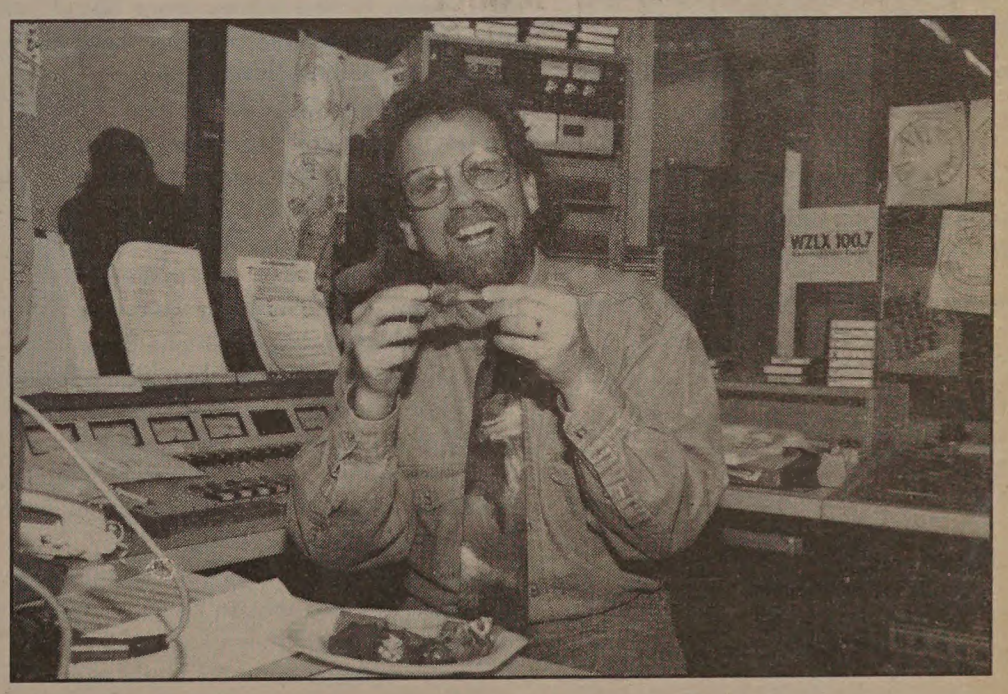


Mikhail Baryshnikov and Twyla Tharp will give only three performances at the Wang Center for the Performing Arts in an exclusive Boston engagement. Twyla Tharp is one of America's leading dance choreographers and adds **"Cutting Up"** to her extraordinary dance portfolio. "Cutting Up" is an expression through movement of the evolution of social dancing during this century — tracing the history of dance from ragtime to the current era. This three-act performance features music by Sterling Smith, Hoagy Carmichael and Louis Armstrong. Performance times are January 29 and 30 at 8p.m. and January 31 at 3p.m. Tickets are available through Celebritycharge 482-6661, The Wang Center Box Office and Ticketmaster.

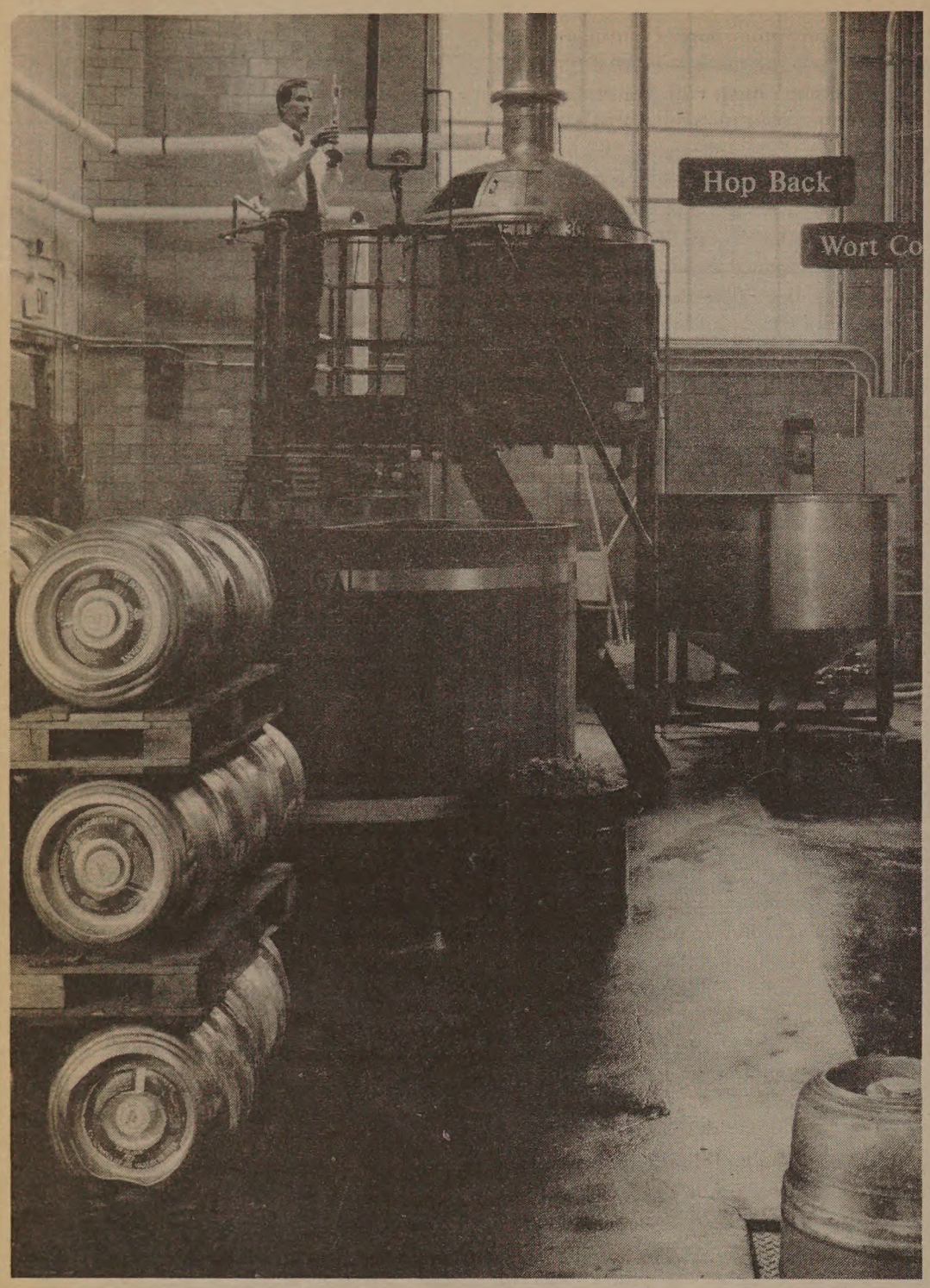




The Poet's Theatre celebrates **Irish Drama** in a series of events planned for January. A full production of ***Prayers of Serkin*** by Sebastian Barry and directed by Nora Hussey will run for two weeks, January 2-24 and 27-31. The play is about a small family who faces intermarriage to assure their survival under the threat of extinction. Fintan O'Toole of the *Irish Times* calls it "a haunting, evocative work...one of the new Irish plays bringing poetic drama back into the theater." A staged reading of *Boss Grady's Boys* also by Sebastian Barry and directed by Vincent Dowling will be performed January 25 and 26 at 8p.m; Tickets range $6-$15 call 422-1742 for more information.



Sample and judge Boston's finest wings and cast your vote for your favorites at the **Bud Dry WingDing** being held at the Westin Hotel, Copley Place January 28, 5-9p.m. Twelve local restaurants are putting their wings to the test to benefit Easter Seals. Admission is only $6 which gets you a sample of hot wings from each restaurant and a chance to win ski-getaway packages to Sugarbush and Waterville Valley-among other prizes. WZLX's Mad Max will be one of the celebrity judges and DJ for the event. For more information call 482-3375.



Brew vats at the Boston Beer company, home of Sam Adams beers.

Beer & Brewing in Boston

BY CHAD SANBORN

President George Bush and President Bill Clinton have something in common. Here's a hint: more important than their respective turns in the highest office in the United States, this mutual interest hits closer to home for many Bostonians. As far apart as they may stand on the issues, these two good old boys crowd each other at the bar when ordering their favorite beer: Boston's own Samuel Adams.

You can bet that when Bush freely, though grudgingly, transfers the reins of leadership to Clinton, he will leave a few cases of Samuel Adams Lager for him in the fridge. "Have it all, Bill," the 41st president will intone to the 42nd, "you've earned the privilege to pass out in the Mary Lincoln-Todd-Bridges room here at La Casa Blanca." Or something just as presidential.

Republican or Democrat, these wonks inside the beltway are just figuring out what Bostonians have known for quite awhile. Some of the best beer in the world is brewed in microbreweries and brew pubs nestled right here in the heart of the Hub. Never in its glorious beer-drinking history – from the rabble-rousing Samuel Adams himself to some lethargic fat guy and his postal dork pal at the end of a sitcom bar – has Boston enjoyed such a plethora of malt-hop-yeast combinations.

When asked about the recent spate of presidential preferences for Samuel Adam's Lager, Jim Koch, uber-brewmeister at the Jamaica Plain-based Boston Beer Company and the man behind Samuel Adams beers, says he was aware of the Bush's affinity for the brew. Clinton's testimonial, however, came as a surprise.

"We didn't even sell it in Arkansas until about six weeks ago," laughs Koch. "He (Clinton) must have been bootlegging it. I hear his wife likes it too. There's hope for the country yet."

Having cracked the Little Rock market, Samuel Adams Lager – named "Best Beer in America" for four years – is now distributed nationally, Koch says. Along with sibling beers such as Boston Lightship, Boston Ale and seasonal beers like Samuel Adams Wheat, Samuel Adams Double Bok and the recently-introduced Samuel Adams Stout among several others, Samuel Adams is closing in on Koch's stated goal of being "the beer that made Milwaukee jealous."

But as the folks at Boston Beer take their pride and joy national, we here at home remain preternaturally wary. There's something about the taste of national brand beer, something tainted. Maybe it's grit from the money-grubbing hands of the accountants who allow profit margins to dictate the quality of ingredients. Or maybe it's a blandness stemming from the sterile, lowest-common-denominator marketing imposed on corporate brewmeisters by zinfandel-swilling marketing gurus. Or maybe it's as simple as the idea of beer in cans.

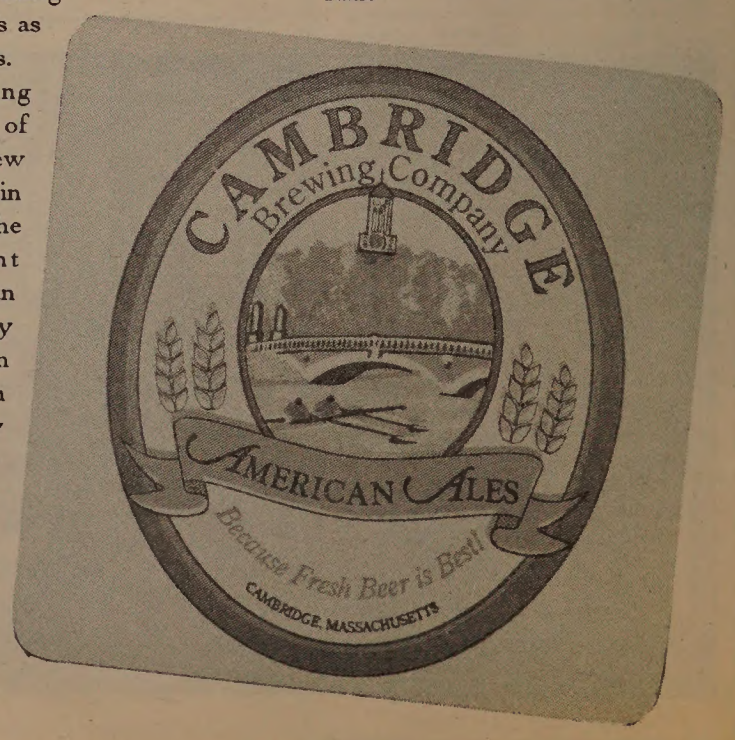
The Mass. Bay Brewing Company of Boston, brewers of Harpoon Ale, clings to its New England roots. When it opened in 1986, Mass. Bay Brewing was the first truly local independent brewery in Boston in more than 25 years. Though its market may be provincial – it stretches from the top of New England down into New York – Mass. Bay Brewing's reputation is world-wide. Nicholas Godfrey, director of operations, claims Mass. Bay Brewing has won more taste medals than any other independent brewery in the Commonwealth.

In addition to its signature brew, Harpoon Ale, the company also offers a European pilsner-style Golden Lager, a dry Stout, now available for the first time in bottles, and a dark Winter Warmer, among others.

Both Mass. Bay Brewing and Boston Beer Company offer brewery tours complete with the very-important tasting segments. In addition to its Friday and Saturday afternoon tours, Mass. Bay Brewing holds its 5:30 Club group tours every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For Mass. Bay Brewing tour information, call 455-1935. For information on Boston Beer company's Thursday and Saturday afternoon tours, call 533-9080.

Of the beers mentioned in this article, Ironside Ale has the oddest profile. Ironside Ale, Boston-based Olde Time Brewers' single offering, is a local beer not brewed in Boston nor in the surrounding area. It's brewed in Kentucky, which, although a wonderful state in its own right, is as un-Boston of a place as you could hope to find. Still, Ironside Ale qualifies as a local beer because it's available only in Boston.

Taking a page out of the Samuel Adams guide to starting a brewery, Rick Dugas, who along with wife Jeanette owns Olde Time Brewers, says the beer is brewed in Kentucky for business reasons, the chief reason being that no local breweries would work with Olde Time.



Cambridge Brewing Company
1 Kendall Square Cambridge 494-1994
Many kinds of beer, plus food. Great American Beer Festival winners.

Beer & Brewing in Boston



"When we started we had our own yeast," Dugas says. "No local breweries were willing to culture a new yeast because that's quit a project. Then we found a brewery in Kentucky that would. It's the Samuel Adams philosophy. First you build the beer and the brand. Then you build the brewery."

Dugas hopes to move the brewing of Ironside Ale to the Boston area within the year, though he's busy enough just selling the beer, he says. Introduced in May 1992, Ironside is a recreation of an old English style beer, Dugas says. It doesn't have a high hop taste and is less bitter than some of the English-style beers brewed today. If you're anywhere in Boston, Worcester or anywhere in-between, Ironside can be found in kegs and bottles in restaurants, bars and liquor stores. If you can't find it, tough.

But there's more to beer in Boston than vast oceans of beer swimming in industrial vats at local microbreweries. Ah, yes, there's the smaller but just as delicious ponds of beer housed in copper kettles at local brew pubs — defined as restaurants that brew beer on-site.

Within the past 10 months, two new pubs opened in the ocean microbrewery-deficient Boston area and at least one more is planned to open in 1993. Furthermore, there are so many different beers brewed here that many Bostonians are drinking their way to the status of beer connoisseur. A seemingly self-contradicting title, the concept of beer connoisseur combines the pretense of discriminating taste with the common guzzle monkey's idea of a good time.

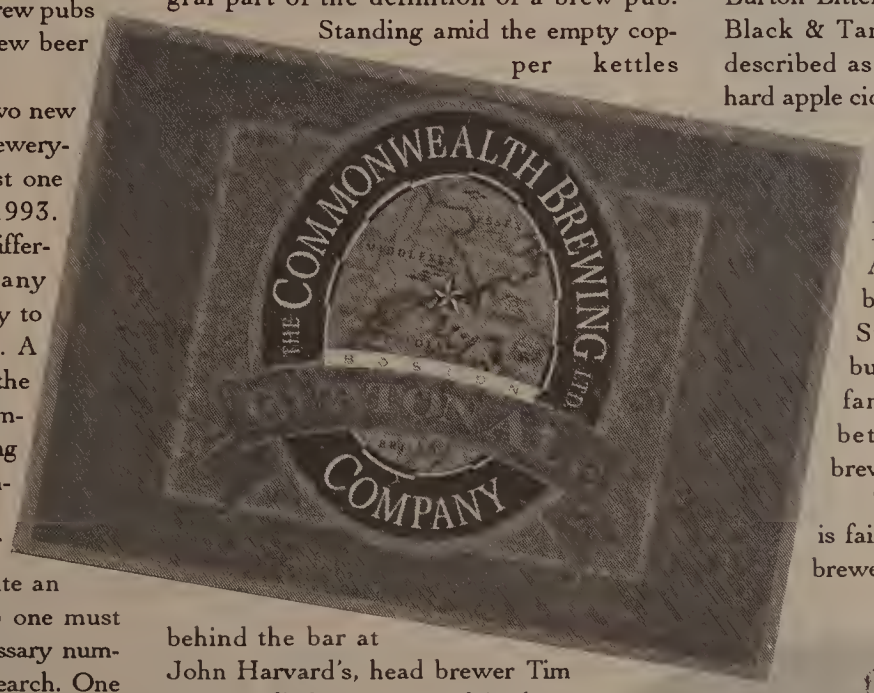
To attain the exalted status of beer connoisseur (or to even write an article about brewing in Boston) one must boldly face the daunting but necessary number of hours to be invested in research. One must give and give of oneself. Then, after visiting several brew-pubs and putting away many, many beers, the brew students eventually learns that the beer, and the brew philosophy it reflects are the only real differences between establishments. And that's enough.

Inexplicably, all brew pubs are done up in wood, with only slight variances in grain and darkness, and decorated with copper beer kettles, gunny sacks spilling grain, exposed beer pipes, dials, gauges and other brewing gadgetry. Visible from behind the bar, the presence of all this impressive brewing technology confidently reassures that, yes, the beer is brewed on-site. This is not always so.



For instance, two myths surround John Harvard's Brew House in Harvard Square, the newest Boston-area microbrewery. One myth, striving to become legend, involves a tongue-in-cheek historical account of the pub's namesake and the nature of his legacy to neighboring Ivy League finishing school. The other myth promises to become a modern-day nightmares of legislative inaction and public relations' gray areas.

It seems that, thanks to red-tape in the monolithic Commonwealth alcohol bureaucracy, John Harvard's is a brew pub that doesn't actually brew its beer on-site, an integral part of the definition of a brew pub.



Standing amid the empty copper kettles behind the bar at John Harvard's, head brewer Tim Morse politely tries to explain the pub's "is-but-it-ain't" status, as if trying to explain away a bad grade or a dent in the car bumper. Despite already receiving federal approval to brew beer on its premises, John Harvard's is still awaiting approval from Beacon Hill.

Quickly, Morse rambles through some mumbo-jumbo about a Commonwealth booze agency handing down judicial comments on existing laws (and other meaningless jargon). Ever polite, he holds his tongue and stop short of blurting out the obvious: these kettles are EMPTY and it's the state's fault! First, term limits. Then, the New Garden. Now, empty beer kettles. And a rather Orwellian pattern emerges...

But the resourceful staff at John Harvard's are side-stepping the State's quagmire by brewing off-site at the Mass. Bay Brewing Company, those nice people who brew Harpoon. Thankfully, the John Harvard's staff can proudly provide their tasty examples of how they believe beer should taste.

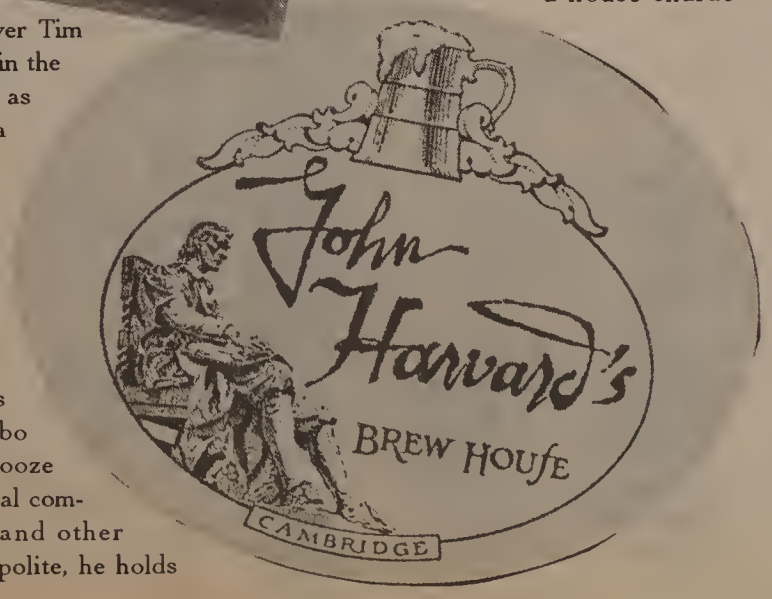
Open since August, Morse and his crew offer several ales including New Town Light, which the menu describes as "a classic American ale," an Irish Export Stout that's exported to nowhere yet is similar to Guinness (although less bitter). John Harvard's Pale Ale is a nutty ale reminiscent of traditional English ales and available either cold or at cellar temperature. Rumor has it that John Harvard's will have its on-site license soon and Morse promises lagers to complement the ales by February.

With all this talk of the resurgence of brew pubs, due respect must be paid to The Commonwealth Brewing Company. Founded in 1986 on a philosophy that speaks for all microbreweries – "Let no man thirst for lack of real Ale" – its opening marked the beginning of the modern era for Boston brew pubs.

Conveniently located near Boston Garden, The Commonwealth Brewing Company offers a wide range of beers, from traditional Classic Stout and Boston's Best Burton Bitter, to such special offerings as a Black & Tan, a Shandy and a Snakebite, described as an amber ale with a touch of hard apple cider.

Boston Beer Works is the newest brew pub in Boston proper. Located across from Fenway Park and open since April 1992, the Works is owned by Marc Kadish, and Joe and Steve Slesar. A family-owned business of sorts, Joe contends a familial relationship also exists between Boston Beer Work's brews.

"The process (for brewing beer) is fairly simple but it's an art. Each brewer does it a little bit differently. That's how each pub develops a house charac-



Boston Beer Works, 61 Brookline Avenue, Boston 536-BEER
13 varieties of beer, brunch/lunch, full dinner menu until 1 am.

Samuel Adams beers, Boston Beer Company, Jamaica Plain 533-9080
Distibuted nationally, the beloved of presidents.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland Street, Boston 523-8383
"Let no man thirst for lack of real Ale"

John Harvard's Brew House
33 Dunster Street, Harvard Squ. 868-3585
Many beers, full menu and bar menu, complimentary hors d'oevres..

Beers Brewing in Boston

Harpoon beers, Mass Bay Brewing Company, Boston 455-1935 "Won more taste medals than any other independent brewery in the Commonwealth"

Olde Time Brewers, Inc., 402 Rutherford Street, Boston; 242-1384 Brewers of Ironside Ale, "Anchored in Boston".



ter. You can tell our beers are a family."

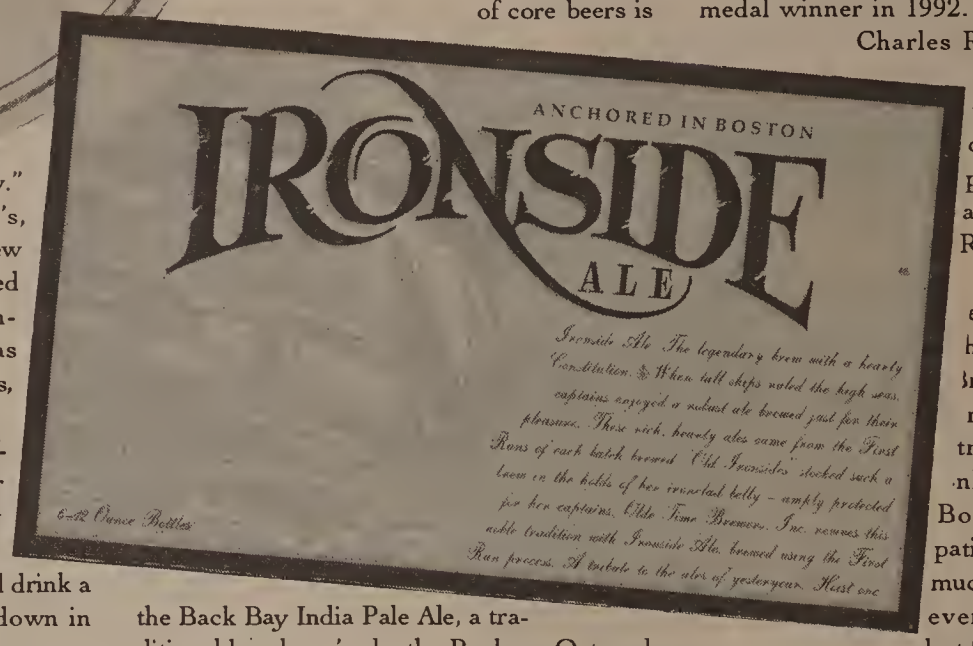
Like Morse at John Harvard's, Slesar – whose brother Steve is brew master – contends that micro brewed beer reflects a particular establishment's philosophy of beer as well as regional characteristics. That, he says, is a major draw of brew pubs .

"Beer brewed here is a little different than the (microbrewery) beer in Texas," Slesar says. "Beers in New England are heavier. You come in here in the winter, all bundled up, and drink a stout. You don't get much of that down in Texas."

Joe describes the recent interest in microbrewed beer on the part of drinkers, both in Boston and nationally, as the outcome of the imported beer craze of the late 1980's. After having their taste bud's awakened to a world of beers, he says, they began searching for as wide of a variety of beers as possible.

"It's less pretentious and expansive than sampling different wines," Joe says. "The common guy or girl can try different beers and it's not a major investment. It's a return to basics and there's room for the basics in brewing."

Like all microbreweries, Boston Beer Works offers a core menu of beers supplemented by seasonal brews. High on the list of core beers is



the Back Bay India Pale Ale, a traditional hop-lover's ale, the Buckeye Oatmeal Stout, a rich brew made of 20 percent oatmeal with hints of chocolate, and Boston Red, the brewery's signature beer.

As far as brewing philosophy is concerned, Jonathan Tremblay, director of operations at Phil Bannatyne's Cambridge Brewing Company, succinctly says, "If a beer doesn't have an after-taste, why drink it."

Located in Kendall Square, Cambridge Brewing's beers have a reputation for taste. It's the only brew pub in the Boston area that boasts Great American Beer Festival medal winners, Tremblay claims. Its Charles River Porter won a 1990 bronze in the Porter category (porter is a type of dark beer) and its Belgian Tripel was the specialty ale gold medal winner in 1992. Found alongside its Charles River Porter on the core menu are Cambridge Amber, described as a complex yet smooth amber, and the light Regatta Golden.

Turning four ears-old this spring, he Cambridge Brewing Company has relaxed neighborhood tmosphere and is the nly brew pub in the Boston area with a patio. That doesn't mean much right now, but not even Boston's winters last forever.

All things being equal, that' s a lot of beers on tap for Boston beer drinkers. That's enough beer to get you through a season of Patriot's football. That's even enough beer to help you through a long New England winter. Hell, that might even be enough beer to get you through a four-year hitch in the Oval Office. Now *that* is a lot of beer.

"WHEN AMERICA'S GREAT BEERS ARE POURED TOGETHER, SAMUEL ADAMS RISES TO THE TOP."

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"So you can drink whatever you're drinking now, and be a good beer drinker. Or drink my Samuel Adams Boston Lager . . . and be America's Best Beer drinker." James Koch

Boston Beer Company



Beer & Brewing in Boston

Boston's New Brew



BY ERIC PIERCE

Out of the vat, into the bottles and onto the shelf.

That's what has happened to The Commonwealth Brewery's newest concoction, Boston Burton Ale, modeled after the pale ale originated in Burton-upon-Trent, England. Though it's now bottled, the Burton is still available in its original "on-tap" form at the Commonwealth Brewery. The nutmeg-colored ale is the first of its kind in Boston to be brewed initially for on-premise consumption and later bottled and sold in stores.

Joining the likes of Sam Adams, Harpoon and Ironside Ale, Boston Burton brings immediate competition to a "local" market already filled with quality beer.

So will Boston Burton Ale be a force in the market? All it takes is a couple of sips to find out.

With sweet and bitter flavors that caress the palate, Burton Ale delivers a memorable taste. After working your way through its lingering and sturdy head, Burton's strong and aromatic flavors leave a fruity and brief aftertaste.

Burton Ale promises to be a prime candidate to not only challenge its more established local competition, but for veteran status in the American beer wars. Though it was initially sold in metropolitan Boston liquor stores and restaurants, President Joe Quattrocchi says that Boston Burton Ale will be "throughout the state as of January this year." Keep your Improper eyes open.

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WHAT'S ON TAP

Beer & Brewing in Boston
Just Brew It

BY ERIC PETERSON

Are you tired of making a withdrawal from your savings account every time you want to buy a six pack? Are you tired of low-alcohol, low-calorie, cold-pasteurized, dry-brewed, lime-filled malts that taste more like seltzer water than beer? Then pay attention. It's time for a primer on homebrewing, one of America's fastest growing hobbies.



"YOU'LL NEVER MISS THE WATER

Legalized in 1978 during the Carter Administration's finest hour, homebrewing has grown to involve more than 1.5 million people, according to Karen Barela, vice president of the American Homebrewers Association in Boulder, Colorado. Barcela also notes that the number is expected to increase by 30 percent in the next few years. The AHA has its own magazine titled *Zymurgy*, (use that in your next Scrabble game), is hosting a national convention July 27th through 30th in Portland, Oregon, and holds sanctioned national and regional contests where local brewers compete against one another. That's my kind of contest: win and you get an award. Lose, and you get to drink beer.

The homebrewing hobby is popular because it's easy to get started, and is fairly cheap. There are a number of stores in the Boston area where you can get a brew-your-own starter kit for between $35 and $75. Add a few dollars for some equipment and ingredients and you'll be brewing for cheaper than a night spent partying at a club. Plus, you won't have to put up with being bumped around by a bunch of cadavers in black turtlenecks. Like any good obsession, home brewing can also be incredibly complex. Once the advanced homebrewer gets into developing his or her own beer varieties, the process can turn into something reminiscent of your worst Chem Lab nightmare.

There are three general steps to making your own beer: brewing, fermenting and bottling. Each step requires one basic piece of equipment. For brewing, you need a large (5 gallon or more) kitchen kettle - a big pasta pot will work. For the fermenting stage, you need a large (7 gallon or so) food grade container, with an air- or water-lock on the top. The airlock allows the excess C02 generated by fermentation to escape while preventing bacteria from contaminating the beer.

The bottling stage requires, naturally enough, bottles. You'll want to accumulate plenty of the older-style beer bottles with the pry-off caps. Twist-offs won't work. Since these bottles are often used by import brands, you may want to snag empties from a bar. Or you could always buy some and drink them empty yourself. See? You're already having fun. You'll also need a siphon called a "racking" tube that will allow you to move the beer from the fermentation jug into the bottles, some new bottle caps and a capping tool. All of this equipment is available at local homebrewing supply stores.

Once you've assembled your supplies, the brewing process is fairly simple. In fact, Dave Ruggiero, owner of Barleymalt & Vine, a local seller of home brewing supplies says, "If you can bake a cake, you can brew beer." You start off by boiling the malt in the kettle. Next, hops are added to the malt. This creates a mixture called "wort" which is what you smell if you've ever been downwind of a brewery. The wort must then be cooled to between 60 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit and transferred to the fermentation jug. Finally, add the yeast, close the lid and sit back. The container will bubble and hiss as fermentation takes place over the next few days.

Ruggiero notes that the most common mistake homebrewers make is failing to keep everything clean. All of the equipment and anything that comes in contact with the mixture must be kept sterile. Otherwise, bacteria will contaminate the brew, which ends up tasting like swamp water. A friend of mine brewed some beer once, and it tasted like a cross between sour milk and cider. So remember, whether you put a spoon down on the counter, lick your fingers, or scratch your head, sterilize everything that will touch the brew.

Once the fermentation jug has stopped bubbling, it should be left alone for a few more days before bottling. Clean and sterilize your bottles, keeping them upside down to prevent airborne bacteria from settling into them. Dishwashers work very well for this. Finally, carefully move the jug to a place where you can work around it. Try to avoid stirring up the sediment that has settled to the bottom.

Another alternative is to transfer the beer to a sterilized plastic bucket for bottling. Gently suck on one end of the siphon to get the beer flowing and carefully fill each bottle. If you're bottling from the fermentation jug, keep the end of the siphon out of the "trub," which is brewspeak for the sediment on the bottom. It's helpful to have one person fill while another caps each bottle. Once you've filled your bottles, you should have about two cases of beer. Store the bottles in a cool, dark place for another week before you begin tasting your wares. Total elapsed time to brew the batch: three to four weeks.

Under federal law, you can make up to 10 gallons of beer per person and up to 30 gallons per household if more than one adult is brewing. However, you may not sell your beer. Do that and you can expect to find a t.v. crew from *COPS* accompanying the federal agents breaking down your door. On the other hand, if you think you might enjoy jail, go for it.

Recommended source material for the beginner is *The New Complete Joy of Homebrewing*, by Charlie Papazian. This book is almost unanimously acknowledged to be the Bible of homebrewing. Ruggiero, who has been brewing for about 10 years, says "I still consult the book whenever I have a question about brewing." Another good source of information is the American Homebrewer's Association. Write to them at Box 1679, Boulder, CO 80306 or call (303) 447-0816. There are also a number of local brewer's clubs in the Boston area that provide programs for beginners.

Finally, if you want to taste-test the results of some of Boston's best homebrewers, head for the Boston Brew-Off this spring. Organized by Ruggiero, it's a sanctioned competition where the beers are judged on aroma, style and flavor. Best of all, if you get moving, your own special brew could be one of this year's winners. So get off of you keg butt and just brew it.

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COMEDY

Out of the Madhouse and Onto the Stage

Cathy Ladman Returns to Boston

BY JACK C. MCBRAGG

The best way to get inside Cathy Ladman's head is to see one of her live routines. As one of the country's leading comedians, Ladman's one-woman act is a self-probing, anxiety-venting vehicle, designed to elicit laughs from empathetic audience members. She appears this week at the Comedy Connection in Faneuil Hall on a double bill with Rhonda Shear, star of USA's "Up All Night."

Since she was a 13 year-old kid, Ladman had always wanted to be a comic. Growing up with her family in Littleneck, Queens, New York, she would dream of becoming a comedian, all the while listening to albums of her most influential mentors — Cosby, Carlin, Robert Klein and her favorite, Woody Allen.

"Woody is my largest influence. One of my goals is that I have to work with him before he stops doing movies. I wrote him a four page letter and basically spilled my guts."

On stage, Ladman opens up about a lot of things, like using the public bathroom. "If the stall door locks and there's a hole in the ground, I'm a happy woman."

Some of her act is planned, but most of her truly personal material erupts during one of many frequent improvisational attacks on her life. "There's nothing riskier than to take a stand on your life," she says. "It helped me to grow up within my family."

It's also kept her fresh on stage. "I've learned how to make myself happy. I've learned that when I'm with one audience, it's different than all the others. It's not desirable to please every single crowd because all you do then is achieve mediocrity."

Ladman says that during some of her performances, she'll have a million thoughts cruising through her brain. She could be cracking a joke about buying enough Maxi pads at B.J.'s warehouse to last through menopause, while at the same time day-dreaming about an unrelated topic. "The things that go through my head on stage . . . my thighs are rubbing together, my thighs are getting fat — you know, things like that."

Ladman writes all of her own material, concentrating on topics from teaching, children and shopping to a major source of material (all original) — her family. *They* are anything but excused from her act, as her father receives the brunt of her personal and psyche-cleaning wrath. She says that you could effectively torture her "anal-retentive" father by "tying him to the wall and then refolding a road map the wrong way in front of him."

Ladman is also a compulsive shopper. "I bought a jock strap once and now use it to hang garlic in."

Though buying a jock strap for no apparent reason may be a sign to many people that this woman could use some help, you have to laugh at her presentation. Ladman is a pro at comedic timing and her delivery, which sometimes reaches breakneck speeds, is proof of a real genius at work. In light of her scatterbrained obsessiveness with life's idiosyncrasies, Ms. Ladman is also a specialist at relating those things that make the difference between a good day and a bad one. "A good day for me is when I'm doing my laundry and I get that lint screen off in one piece. Doesn't *that* feel good?" ❑

No matter what kind of day you're having, make sure to see her this Friday at the Comedy Connection in Faneuil Hall.

• Comedy Listings •

Catch a Rising Star 30B JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-0167. This legendary comedy club in the heart of Harvard Square is celebrating five years in business. Local and national acts. Sandwiches and cold appetizers served. Cover varies. Casual dress. For tickets and showtimes, call 661-0167 or 720-3450. Fri and Sat is Midnight Madness: Only $1 gets you in to see 4-6 comedians at midnight. Every Tue and Sun is Boston's Brightest Comedy Talent Search.

Thu 21st thru Sat 23rd.- Mike McDonald, Greg Fitzsimmons, Jon Shipman. Thu 28th thru Sat 30th.- Hugh Fink, Rich Gastis, Lee Ann Lewis. Sun 31st.- Super Bowl Sunday.

Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. **Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. This is the only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.**

Wed 20th.- Comedy Ski Night with Jackie Flynn. Thu 21st, Fri 22nd & Sat 23rd.- Jackie Flynn. Sun 24th.- Ed Regine, (9:15pm) Black Comedy Showcase. Mon 25th.- Kevin Knox, Jim Dunn. Tue 26th.- D.J. Hazzard. Sun 31st.- Ed Regine, (9:15pm) Black Comedy Showcase.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. **Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to bowl at this comedy club, which features both national celebs and local favorites. Show times: Fri at 9pm, Sat at 8pm and 10:30pm. Cover $8. Always packed and second-hand smoky. Casual dress.**

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See above. **Show times: Fri and Sat at 10pm. Cover $9.**

Guilty Children on Fri and ImprovBoston on Sat at the Back Alley Theatre, 1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge. **Call 576-1253 for times and ticket prices.**

Nick's Comedy Stop 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. **This comedy club is one of Boston's most popular attractions when it comes to local and national acts. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.**

Mon 18th.- Mike Stewart. Wed 20th.- Peter Sasso, Bob Sibel, Larry Reppucci. Thu 21st.- Richard Belzer, Paul Diangelo, Steve Kimbrough. Fri 22nd & Sat 23rd.- Richard Belzer, Paul Nardizi, Steve Kimbrough. Sun 24th.- Kevin Knox. Mon 25th.- Open Mic Night with Billy Martin. Tue 26th.- Jim Lauletta, Bob Sibel, Dan Rucklington. Wed 27th.- Ed Clark, Larry Reppucci, Brian Williams. Thu 28th.- Paul Diangelo, Brian Williams, Ed Clark. Fri 29th & Sat 30th.- Collin Quinn, Eddie Brill, Larry Reppucci.

Stand-up Comedy Cafe (formerly The Original Connection) at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. **Named by USA Today as the Number One comedy club in the country. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Rated by Rolling Stone and Vanity Fair as the nation's top comedy club. Noteworthy headliners have included Roseanne Arnold, Robin Williams and Steven Wright. Shows are Sun-Thu at 8:30pm, Fri and Sat at 8:30pm & 10:30pm. Tickets are Sun-Wed $6, Thu $8 and Fri & Sat $10.**

Wed 20th.- Steve Kimbro. Sun 24th.- Billy Martin. Mon 25th.- Chance Langton. Tue 26th.- Vinnie Favorito. Wed 27th.- Steve Kimbro. Sun 31st.- Billy Martin. Mon 1st.- Chance Langton. Tue 2nd.- Vinnie Favorito. Look for the new "Boston Unplugged" series - local bands giving acoustic performances. Call for more details!

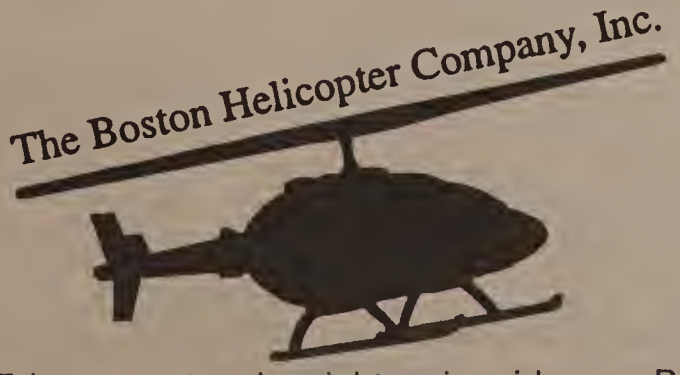
Stitches 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. **You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Every Tue at 9pm and Fri at 10:30pm: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu: Cross Comedy. Prices vary from $6-$10; no dress code.**

Wed 20th.- Greg Fitzsimmons. Thu 21st.- Cross Comedy. Fri 22nd & Sat 23rd.- Mike Dugan, Frank "The 'R'-rated Hypnotist" Santos @ 10:30pm. Sun 24th.- Open Mic Night with Vinnie Favorito. Tue 26th.- Frank "The 'R'-rated Hypnotist" Santos. Wed 27th.- Greg Fitzsimmons. Thu 28th.- Cross Comedy. Fri 29th & Sat 30th.- Marc Maron, Frank "The 'R'-rated Hypnotist" Santos @ 10:30pm. Sun 31st.- Open Mic Night with Vinnie Favorito.

T.T. the Bear's Place 10 Brookline Ave., Central Square, Cambridge. **"Oyster Cove, the Soap," a completely improvised comedy-drama, follows the fortunes and fears of a group of colorful characters on a Massachusetts island, coping with the '90s and each other. A new episode each week; runs indefinitely. Sundays 4-5:30pm.**

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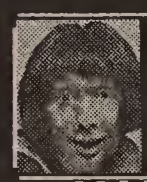
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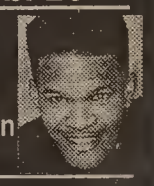
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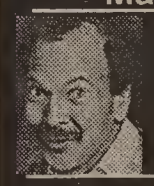
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"A Sweet Lesson On Loss"

Alain Corneau's film is a somber, beautiful meditation on the nature of art versus commerce. The main character is Sainte Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle), a reclusive musician who lives the simple life in the French countryside, where he resists repeated offers to play in the court of King Louis XIV. His young protégé, the flashy, technically-accomplished Marin Marlas (Guillame Depardieu, son of Gerard, who plays Marias as an older man), lacks his master's philosophy and joins the royal court. But he returns years later — bloated, bewigged, face heavily rouged — and wonders if it is not too late for him to become the musician he could have. A sense of loss pervades this sad and moving film, with special emphasis on the loss of those opportunities which we recognize only once they have passed us by. **A.L.**

Trespass

"Just Plain Action"

The premise is straightforward enough — two Arkansas firefighters (William Sadler and Bill Paxton) find a treasure map leading to a hoard of gold buried in East St. Louis, Missouri. These two amiable bumpkins cruise all too innocently through the poor, predominately black city in their new 4x4: for some reason, *Trespass's* filmmakers never acknowledge the obvious racial angle, even when the two run afoul of a local drug gang (led by Ice T and Ice Cube). Director Walter Hill is more interested in dellvering thrills and suspense, and in a large measure, he succeeds. Hill is a aided immensely by Loyd Ahern's expert low-light cinematography, and by the beautiful crumbling buildings in which the film was shot — seldom has decay looked so gorgeous. This may be a silly movie, but overall it's a technically superior piece of pulp, well-acted and edited. **A.L.**

Chaplin

"Portrait of a Genius"

Richard Attenborough's *Chaplin* is daring in its scope, attempting to follow Chaplln's life from his Dickenslan childhood and training in British vaudeville through hls meteoric film career, ending with the famous comedien's final years. While Robert Downey, Jr. is up to the task, not just imitating Chaplin but emulating the Little Tramp and the young mogul, the film bites off a bit more than it can handle. At more than two hours, the film could have ended with Chaplin's deportation: what follows is fodder, bordering on the sentimental. Still, Kevin Kline hands in a good performance as Douglas Fairbanks, and the supporting cast of Charlie's family and friends is tapped from a fine well of talent. More might have been made of Chaplin's creative genius and innovation, but the movie remains entertaining and uplifting. **T.S.L.**

A Few Good Men

"Exciting, Moving, and Funny"

Rob Reiner hits on a fail-safe formula for his latest picture: big stars in a politically-relevant drama, climaxing in riveting courtroom exchanges in *A Few Good Men*, a film in which two Marines are on trial for murdering one of their own. Lawyers Tom Cruise and Demi Moore try to prove the death was accidental as a result of secret disciplinary orders from above. Tom Cruise reprises hls usual hot shot character role with élan, while Demi Moore hands in a respectable and dignified performance as an internal affairs officer. Jack Nicholson, while convincing as a hard-nosed colonel, tends to lapse into Nicholson-ese, playing the sly, smart-mouthed speechmaker. *A Few Good Men* contains decent comedy as well as moving action, and winning lines are equally distributed. **T.S.L.**

Body of Evidence

Sex and Fury Signifying Nothing



Lawyer Frank Dulaney (Willem DaFoe) becomes involved with his client Rebecca Carlson (Madonna), who he is defending against accusations of killing her rich lover with sex.

BY TIM LEMIRE

Central to any lawyer's case is motive; without it, peoples' actions appear senseless. Obvious, one would think; yet this simple fact has somehow escaped the creators of Body of Evidence. This latest, Basic Instinct-like sex thriller involves a lawyer named Frank Dulaney (Willem DaFoe) who is defending one Rebecca Carlson (Madonna), a woman accused of killing her rich lover with sex (he had a bad heart) after having worked her way into his will.

Professional discretion being what it is in the movies today, Dulaney promptly falls into bed with his client, a move that puts his credibility, his case, and his wife and kid in jeopardy, not to mention his self-respect. And all this for a romp in the hay with a woman who openly admits to enjoying bondage. Why does Dulaney do it? This is the central question left unanswered in *Body of Evidence*, and consequently, the movie falls apart. We never get into anyone's head in this picture, and as a result the sex isn't titillating, the suspense is suspended, and working up any feelings for the characters becomes increasingly difficult.

Perhaps not coincidentally, this movie does emulate— sometimes downright imitate — the successful sex thriller *Basic Instinct*, starring Michael Douglas and Sharon Stone. We begin with the same police-investigating-the-boudoir scene, leading to the interrogation scene starring the sassy blonde. What is ironic is that as awful as *Basic Instinct* was, it does in some respects have an edge over *Body of Evidence*.

At least in *Instinct* we knew why Michael Douglas' cop is obsessed with the female sex criminal: she's his match in machismo, the malevolent side of his character which he cannot face, and cannot escape. In *Body of Evidence*, neither the writers nor DaFoe himself give us any indication as to why Dulaney falls for Carlson. DaFoe's performance is tepid at best; he gives us no idea who his character is, how he feels about his wife (Anne Archer), or how he feels about himself.

Body of Evidence

Metro Goldwyn Mayer
Directed by Dino De Laurentiis
Written by Brad Mirman
Starring Willem DaFoe , Madonna, Joe Mantegna, Anne Archer

Rated NC-17

As for Madonna, her performance is as one-note as her monotone rap in "Vogue." Granted, she inadvertently lends the movie humor, like when she laments to DaFoe on how the jury will interpret her sexual tastes as perverse: "They've taken something beautiful between two people," she cries, "and made it dirty!" Of course this is a laugh coming from the authoress of *Sex*, but that's precisely the point: we're not laughing because of Madonna's character, but because of Madonna. We never forget we are watching the Material Girl on screen, and while this may be a treat for some, for others it's a cheat. It's sad when you consider how many capable actresses could have played Dulaney a thousand times better — Sharon Stone leaps to mind!

Is there anything, the reader wonders, at all redeeming about this movie? Joe Montegna does hand in a fair performance as prosecuting attorney Garrett, mixing humor with his usual charm and smooth delivery. Unfortunately, neither he nor DaFoe are truly believable as lawyers: they commit flagrant offenses in the courtroom, and object to one another like dueling samurai. The presiding judge, played by Lillian Lehman, is no help, doling out warnings *ad infinitum*; she plays the worst judge since Morgan Freeman in *Bonfire of the Vanities*.

If the review sounds vitriolic, consider the hype surrounding *Body of Evidence* and its promises: a torrid psycho-sexual thriller, an NC-17 rating, and big stars. When the movie fails to deliver on any wavelength, when we end up laughing at the movie more times than with the movie, we wind up feeling like the victim of a tease — and in this case (adding up the seven bucks and the fact that the viewer is left limp, hopefully with laughter), it's a sexual tease of the worst kind. ❑

ALIVE

A Survivor's Tale of Strength and Spirit

BY TIM LEMIRE

When a plane carrying a South American rugby team crashes in the Andes mountains en route to Chile, the surviving team of athletes, really only boys, find themselves marooned with little food, shelter or method of communicating with the outside world. Alive, based on a true story, is as much a tale of spiritual discovery as of physical endurance: at one point, the boys must face the moral dilemma of cannibalism in order to survive. Although comparisons between Alive and the book of the same name by Piers Paul Reid will inevitably cause debate about the movie (as was the case with Spike Lee's X), the cinematic product stands on its own as an inspiring and engaging tale.



The fate of a marooned South American rugby team depends upon the courage and spirit of survivors Canessa (Josh Hamilton, left), Roy Harley (Kevin Breznahan, center) and Parrado (Ethan Hawke, right).

ALIVE

Touchstone Pictures
Directed by Frank Marshall
Produced by Robert Watts
Starring: Ethan Hawke, Vincent Spano Josh Hamilton

Rated R

The young men who comprise the bulk of the cast will be mostly new faces to moviegoers, with the exception of Ethan Hawke (*Dead Poets Society*) and Vincent Spano (*Rumble Fish*). Because of this, the players are more believable in their roles than "Brat Packers" would be. With solid writing and fine performances all around, viewers are convinced they're watching inexperienced youth, struggling to decide what to do with their worsening tragedy.

After the first week of survival, the boys, not surprisingly, start to act as a team, with their captain Antonio (Vincent Spano) taking charge. They melt snow to make water, and ration what little victuals they have: chocolate and a few bottles of wine. There are heart-wrenching moments, such as when the boys see a passing plane tip its wings at them. They are sure that a rescue is imminent, and, while Antonio sleeps, they feast on the chocolate and wine. Oddly, the rescue doesn't come, and led by med student Roberto (Josh Hamilton) the guys are forced to confess. The furious Antonio, losing his leader's cool, grabs Roberto and yells, "Who are you to gamble with my life?" The tension increases with Antonio breaking down, weeping, "I can't save any of you."

We see each of the boys' personality types manifesting throughout the crisis: defiance, fear, spiritual reliance, agnosticism, indifference, and indecisiveness all rear their respective heads. Yet none of the boys emerge as stereotypes, and we grow to know them well before dispassionate fate weeds the survivors out.

Alive does tend to simplify matters by investing in one young man, Nando (Ethan Hawke), who demonstrates the most resilience and will to survive. It is unquestionably Hawke's finest role, and he presents himself as a promising lead actor.

Although the cannibalism scenes in *Alive* are not for the squeamish, they are not gratuitous or especially gory. *Alive* is a moving film, a story of strength and even humor. We follow the survivor's day-by-day struggles, marveling at this display of the tenacious human spirit and taking to heart this reminder of the fragility of our life on earth. ❑

CRITICS CHOICE

KEY
- A Winner
- A Toss Up
- For the Birds

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Malcolm X	★	★	★	★	★	🐦	◯	◯	★
Hoffa	🐦	◯	★	★	🐦	◯	🐦	★	🐦
Leap of Faith	◯	🐦	🐦	★	◯	🐦	🐦	★	🐦
Muppet Xmas Carol	★	◯	🐦	★	◯	—	—	🐦	◯
A Few Good Men	★	★	★	★	★	🐦	◯	◯	★
Aladdin	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Forever Young	🐦	◯	★	◯	🐦	🐦	🐦	★	★
Home Alone 2	🐦	🐦	🐦	◯	◯	◯	★	🐦	★
Toys	🐦	◯	🐦	🐦	🐦	🐦	🐦	◯	🐦
The Bodyguard	🐦	🐦	🐦	🐦	◯	🐦	◯	◯	◯

FLICKS IN A FLASH

HOFFA

"Even Jack's Not Enough"

Considering the talent and expense involved, *Hoffa* ranks as a major disappointment. David Mamet seems like the perfect choice to chronicle the brutalities and backroom intrigues of the nascent Teamsters movement, but his script is neither here nor there: there's very little of Hoffa's private life, for example , or his exact ties to organized crime, or even a chronology - we're never sure what year we're in, or what city, or how old Nicholson is supposed to be (he makes an unconvincing 30 year-old). Actor/director DeVito doesn't help things, either. He doesn't know how to film crowd scenes, and his character in themovie is fictitious. Jack Nicholson does all right as Hoffa, but even he can't salvage this misguided, surprisingly boring screen biography. **A.L.**

THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL

"Highly Bearable Goofball Fun"

Michael Caine stars in this umpteenth re-telling of Dicken's indestructible classic, and he makes a serviceable Scrooge (although he's hardly "hard as flint," as one of the film's songs describes him). But the real stars are, of course, the muppets. Every muppet that ever was seems to have a part in this tale, and most of them integrate well; some are even clever and inspired choices. The muppets now belong to Disney, which may explain why this movie isn't as wildly inventive or subversive as the old muppet t.v. show. Maybe it's just the absence of the late Jim Henson. Nevertheless, this is a perfectly pleasant children's film; adults should have no problem sitting through this hour and twenty-minute production. **A.L.**

ALADDIN

"Pure Magic From Disney"

Disney Pictures have outdone themselves yet again with a sure to be classic in large part thanks to Robin Williams, lending his manic comedic talent to the Genie. The Disney animators keep pace with him, giving his imaginative rantings visual action, and William's rapid fire humor is only heightened with these visual aids. Although Princess Jasmine is as liberated as Belle in *Beauty and The Beast*, she cannot escape being drawn with comely cleavage and a 10-inch waist. Aladdin is a lovable poor boy, but where did this Arabian kid learn to give his monkey "five?" If you haven't seen an animated movie since childhood, go to see Aladdin to recapture a feeling Disney introduced to many of us as kids: joy. **T.S.L.**

PETER'S FRIENDS

"With Friends Like These"

Kenneth Brannagh's latest, about the tenth-year reunion of a disparate group of college friends in England, is an absolute stiff. The reason: Rita Rudner's glib and shallow screenplay, which she co-wrote with her husband, Martin Bregman. Lineslike "If there is a God, he takes awfully long lunch breaks," bear the indelible stamp of Rudner's crummy one-liner sensibility. Worse yet, this film also marks her acting debut, making it a one-two combination that floors Brannagh early and often. His acting is fine, but his direction seems mired in the script's banality. The one bright spot is Emma Thompson, Branagh's wife, who looks radiant, and displays a genuine flair for comedy. **A. L.**

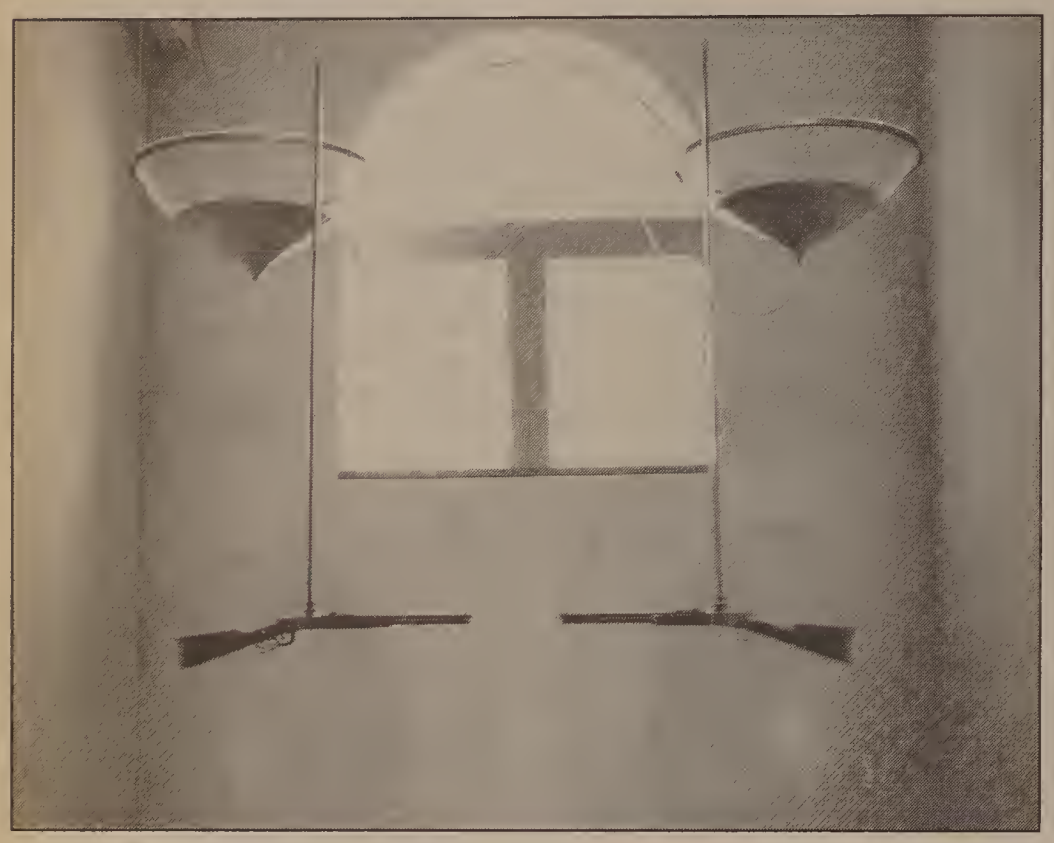
X

"Lee , Washington Make Their Mark"

The epic movie *X* is an even-handed, engaging treatment of the civil rights leader that is easily the finest of Spike Lee's six movies. In addition to fine performances from Albert Hall, who plays Brother Baines - Malcolm's initiator into Islam - and Delroy Lindo, who plays Malcolm's crime boss father figure Archie, Denzel Washington steals the show as Malcolm X. To compare the articulate, iron-gazed Malcolm at *X*'s conclusion with the hustling, slick-tongued Negro caricature at the beginning, is to realize the enormous talent of Washington. A voice at the end of the film asks, "Did you ever hear Brother Malcolm?" and "Did you ever see him smile?" Spike Lee gives you the opportunity to do so here, and "to do so" is encouraged. **T.S.L.**

PERFORMING OBJECTS

Interpretation at Its Best



"High Moon" 1991, Rebecca Horn mixed media

BY KATHY MATHESON

Welcome to this meeting of Art Appreciators Anonymous here at the Institute for Contemporary Art. Attending this gathering is the first step in the recovery program for pretentious art admirers. You were once taught that anything in a museum or art gallery must be important enough to warrant your undivided attention and admiration. But the ICA is a place to form your own opinions, a place where, upon viewing Bruce Nauman's Raw Materials OK OK OK *- a three-screen video of a man spinning around upside down and repeating "OK" over and over - you should not be afraid to say, "That is not art, and I do not think any less of myself for saying that."*

Then again, just because the *objets d'art* in the ICA's current exhibition, "Performing Objects," aren't oils on canvas does not mean they should be immediately dismissed, either. The words "performing objects" may connote some abstract geometric shape suddenly breaking into song and dance, but fortunately, art at the ICA is much more complicated than that.

One of the most haunting installations is Rebecca Horn's *High Moon*. Two rifles, suspended from the ceiling, are randomly spun - perhaps echoing the random violence that surrounds us today - and fed an ammunition of "blood" (red water). When the guns end up pointed at each other, shots ring out and red water spatters the walls. Below, a thin river runs red.

PERFORMING OBJECTS

Through February 21
At the Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston

Eerily, you can still hear the shots while viewing Dara Birnbaum's *Tiananmen Square: Break-In Transmission*. Her installation consists of several sets of suspended laserdisc players, TVs and speakers, alternately showing CNN and CBS broadcasts of the Tiananmen Square massacre, along with an underground music video of a song recorded by Chinese students after the rebellion. The assault on your eyes and ears is a real test of what you should believe, just like during Tiananmen Square when TV reporters would say one thing while Chinese officials would say another.

Bruce Nauman's work may take a little thought before any kind of appreciation sets in. It is very easy to dismiss *Raw Materials OK OK OK* (the man spinning around on TV) as completely ridiculous. But after thinking about it for a while, you may find it to be an interesting comment on the drone mentality suffered by many people with desk jobs — or even an illustration of U.S. Congress in session.

Nauman also has an interesting interpretation of the concept of accountability and an-eye-for-an-eye with his neon work entitled, *Double Poke in the Eye*. His third piece, *Large Butt to Butt*, a suspended metallic sculpture of two animals attached at their rear ends, really defies analysis no matter what the little wall description tells you. The title pretty much says it all.

Other exhibits featured include TV screenings of the BBC productions of Irish playwright Samuel Beckett's three plays *Ghost Trio, Not I* and *"...but the clouds..."* It's definitely for those familiar with Beckett's philosophy, if not these works specifically.

Peter Campus' *Head of a Man with Death on His Mind* is a 13-minute video of recorded tension. The wall text compares the exhibit to a man posing for a portrait: the painter records the best, single image of the person, but the video camera leaves nothing out.

Around the corner, Gary Hill's installation may be considered spooky at first, especially because you're afraid of stepping on it. Hill projects images of various body parts onto books that have been laid on the floor, thus characterizing, according to the ICA, "the transition between ordinary language and theatricality through television." OK, OK, OK.

Tatsuo Miyajima's *Double Spiral* runs through all three stories of the gallery: two slender black poles covered with spiraling two-number digital counter. Each counter goes through the numbers 1-99 at varying speeds, but what is being counted? Years? Days? Births? Deaths? Murders? Marriages? Your imagination may surprise you when left to interpret this.

Don't doubt that "Performing Objects" is truly a test of your definition of the word "art." Instead of just a random walk through the galleries, two things that will really enhance your visit are the orientation video that contains interviews with the artists, and the interpretive descriptions on the walls. (After all, in a place where a lighted exit sign could be easily mistaken for one of the exhibits, you need all the interpretation you can get.)

As you explore the gallery, your heart jumps at the sound of gunshots from *High Moon*. In your mind, you know they are just pretend, but a little thought will remind you that they could just as easily be coming from Beijing. Or Bosnia. Or Somalia. Or Boston. ❑

"Performing Objects" runs through Feb. 21.

STAGE NOTES

The American Repertory Theatre will be presenting the world premiere of "Cakewalk" as their last production this season. This is a semi-autobiographical work by Peter Feibleman about his turbulent 40-year friendship with the feisty, outspoken American author/playwright Lillian Hellman. The play will be directed by Ron Daniels. "The Caretaker," which was previously announced for that time slot, now will be presented in March. For information, call 547-8300.

"Arms and the Man," George Bernard Shaw's classic satire of romance, heroism, and social pretensions, is playing at the New Repertory Theatre through February 14. The action turns on a young soldier who invades a lady's bedchamber and is greeted by a barrage of chocolates. Kathryn Lubar plays the young, impetuous Raina; M.S. Rogers is the professional soldier; and Stephen Benson is Raina's naive and impudent fiance. Munson Hicks is the director. For tickets and information, call 332-1646. The comedy is also on the schedule at the Huntington Theatre Company, later this season.

In order to raise funds for 1993, Tina Packer's Berkshire-based Shakespeare & Company is offering a casebound edition of Richard Burdick's new book, "Next Time I Want to Come Back As a Yellow Bird," to the first 500 donors of $100 or more. In the volume, Burdick, a founding trustee of the company, describes his often-humorous adventures in the world of entertainment, television, and theater. For orders or information, write to Shakespeare & Company, The Mount, P.O. Box 865, Lenox, MA 01240, or call (413) 637-1197.

"A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline," starring Sandy Martin as the famed country singer, is United States premiering at the Charles Playhouse through February 14. Written and directed by Dean Regan, and co-starring Larry Blamire, this musical concert retrospective comes to Boston from Vancouver. For information, call 426-6912.

"The Wiz" will be at the Wang Center for one week, February 2-7, with original Broadway stars Stephanie Mills and Andre de Shields. To charge tickets, call 931-2787.

On January 27, Alla Demidova and Claire Bloom will appear in "Silenced Women" at Sanders Theatre in Cambridge. This is a tribute to Anna Akhmatova and Marina Tsvetaeva, two of this century's gifted Russian poets. For tickets call 496-2222 or Ticketpro at 1-800-828-7080.

HEARTBREAK HOUSE

Missing It Won't Break Your Heart



Jeremy Geidt and Tracy Sallows in "Heartbreak House"

BY NANCY LEONARD

This past June, David Wheeler won the tenth annual Elliot Norton Award for his direction of *Misalliance* at the American Repertory Theatre. He was cited for turning George Bernard Shaw's "wind into wit and sheer theatrical pleasure." Well, he's done no such wonders for *Heartbreak House*. Despite a visually stunning close, Shaw's look at the idle leisure class in England on the eve of World War I remains talky and ambiguous. This ART production is thoughtful but lacks dramatic punch.

Heartbreak House is a big, lumbering vehicle, with far too many things on its mind. Shaw intended Captain Shotover's ship-like drawing room, where the action is set, to represent the ship of state drifting toward the coming storm. Its inhabitants and guests fill their lives with irresponsible, self-centered romantic pursuits, and deride the politicians and businessmen whom they've allowed to govern society in their place. When danger unmistakably intrudes, their reactions are varied but ineffectual.

Most of the play suffers from lack of focus — part of it a deliberate Shavian depiction of the aimlessness he is rebuking. Characters come and go at the author's design, and converse in pairs on wide-ranging themes. The direction here tries to find meaning in a dynamic reading of the text. If meaning is still elusive, the vigor, at least, maintains interest. Yet, the play would have much more impact if suffused with a moodier artistry — something atmospheric to connect the whole and evoke perceptions along the way.

The specific action turns on the women in the play. Young Ellie Dunn has been invited to the country estate by Hesione, the Captain's Bohemian daughter, to be talked out of marrying Boss Mangan, the "perfect hog of a rich man" to whom Ellie's "bound in gratitude." Hesione insists Ellie marry only for love — though her own marriage has long since diminished to formality, and she whiles away her time with amorous flirtations. Shotover's other daughter, the "rigidly conventional" Lady Utterword, is an unexpected visitor, returning after 23 years because of some longing for the family she once firmly rejected.

As Shaw wends his way through attraction and heartbreak — and diverse other interests — Ellie grows into a strong woman. Quickly, she throws off the pain of unrequited love, and moves on to resolute determination. But it's a misplaced resolve, as Captain Shotover impatiently counsels. Shaw's stand-in, this eccentric, old sea captain/inventor recalls the upright past, when adventure and fulfillment were linked, and bemoans the younger generation's foolish, misspent lives. Courage is to be nurtured, not fear. Ellie finds the courage to stand on her own, but her desired "life with a blessing" may or may not materialize in the dangerous world fracturing about them.

If the ending is inconclusive, since the passing of the danger is as notable as the sudden fury, it's certainly stunning in visual terms. Derek McLane's drawing room has vanished, its few furnishings and its trio of tall, arched doors hoisted up high. A great sail, lashed tightly to its boom during the earlier action, has been unfurled, and now reaches to the top of a mighty mast. Surrounded by a streaky blue expanse and roiling waves, Captain Shotover is once again at the wheel of his ship. The younger people, clustered about the deck, face their uncertain future in a dying light. It's a stunning maritime tableau, touched with hope and heartbreak.

An ingratiating, articulate energy defines the performances. The talky evening does not lag, although it's pretty much devoid of emotional impact and striking imagery along the way. (This is a play of ideas, which are better understood through the program notes than the dramatization.) Jeremy Geidt is earnest and opinionated as the gray-bearded seaman, and quite funny in his eccentricity. Though slight of stature, he's a commanding presence, as Shaw intended, and believably wins Ellie's devotion. As Ellie, Tracy Sallows is a bit mannered but gracefully appealing in her growing strength and independence (that is, putting aside the few moments of coldheartedness through which she passes).

Margaret Gibson brings exquisitely vibrant detail to Hesione, the aging coquette. There's sharp detail, too, in Candy Buckley's Lady Utterword — her rectitude only a bit smudged by the delight she takes in manipulating her admirers. As Hesione's domesticated husband Hector, Royal Miller is all polished verve and agile posturing; but we never see the man under the pose. Jack Willis is good as Boss Mangan, an improbable role veering from ruthless villain to tender-hearted babe. Christian Baskous is good, too, as Lady Utterword's effete, lovesick brother-in-law. Gustave Johnson is fine as Ellie's selfless father. William Young's burglar and Patti Allison's housekeeper add further sparks.

Catherine Zuber's Edwardian finery is colorful and evocative, although the wide array of long gowns does summon extraneous thoughts of a fashion show. Howell Binkley's lighting is varied and effective. Maribeth Back's sound design aptly fills the air with music, explosions, and Shaw's "splendid drumming in the sky." This ART production of *Heartbreak House* is a dutiful effort, marked more by its energetic performances and inconclusiveness than by artistic inspiration or dramatic impact. You'd do well to read the commentary before the show. ❑

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THE ARTS CALENDAR

DANCE

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for *Don Quixote*, which runs Feb. 11-21. Noted for its drama, roaring comedy, colorful folk sequences and virtuoso passages, this ballet will charm with its tempestuous Spanish flair. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Ballet Lecture Series
19 Clarendon St., Boston
Join us Feb. 2 at 7pm for a panel discussion with men who have chosen ballet as a career. Discussion will focus on the challenges of performing *Don Quixote* and how the men feel about their roles.

The Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
This is an event not to be missed, as Mikhail Baryshnikov performs with Twyla Tharp and a company of dancers Jan. 29-31. Call 931-ARTS or 482-9393 for times and ticket information.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
"World Press Photo '92," an exhibition of the best images of 1991 by some of the worlds' top photojournalist, will be on display in the Great Hall through Jan. 30.

N.E. School of Photography
NESOP presents "The Beach as I Found It," color prints by Katherine I. Chabot. The photos are compositions washed up by the last tide, as Chabot combed the beach for the most unique arrangements left by chance of ebb and flow. Runs Jan. 7-28.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton Centre
The NFL (no, not football) presents "Nocturnal Realms," an exhibition of night photographs by Joel Howe. Runs Jan. 4-29.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston
The PRC is pleased to present "Camera as Weapon: Worker Photography Between the Wars," through Jan. 24. During the tumultuous era of the 1920s-30s in Weimar Germany, a movement, known as the worker photography movement, used the camera as a means to promote social change.

CLASSICAL

Civic Symphony Orchestra of Boston
at the Royal Sonesta, Cambridge
The CSOB presents a Pops Cabaret Concert, featuring selections from *Phantom of the Opera, Brigadoon, Kiss Me Kate* and *That's Entertainment*. It takes place Jan. 22 at 8pm; tickets are $35 and include champagne and dessert.

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Soprano Leslie Holmes and pianist Roland Nadeau will give a musical presentation of cabaret songs on Jan. 26 at 6:15pm.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
New England Conservatory's Youth Philharmonic Orchestra will perform a program Jan. 30 at 4pm, including works by Ives, Rachmaninoff, Saint-Saens and Brahms. This concert is re-scheduled from Dec. 12, when a snowstorm cancelled it. This orchestra is one of the best of it's kind; don't be fooled by the word "youth."

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

Sanders Theare
Harvard Square, Cambridge
The Boston Theater Group presents a one-night-only performance of "Ascona," an opera exposing the haunting origins of the counterculture at the turn of the century. It takes place Jan. 29 at 8pm; call 496-2222 for tickets.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The Bank of Boston Celebrity series continues Jan. 22 at 8pm with a performance by the Cleveland Orchestra. Call 931-ARTS for ticket information.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River—while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at noon.

Mass. Brewing Company, Inc.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1pm. For more information call 455-1935.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Samuel Adams Brewery
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2pm and Saturdays at noon and 2pm, the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Films start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

USS Constitution
Charlestown Navy Yard
Come to the "Adventures at Sea" film series every Wed. night at 7pm. Jan. 20 it's *Captains Courageous*, while on Jan. 27 you can see *Moby Dick*.

Women Making Movies
at the ICA and the Brattle Theater
The Boston chapter of the National Organization for Women presents the 1993 Women's Film Festival Jan. 22 & 23 at the ICA and Jan. 24 at the Brattle. All proceeds go to NOW; tickets are $10 per night or $25 for all three dates. Call 782-1056 for times and more detailed information.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Apr. 1, you can design your own bicycle at a cutting-edge interactive computer station, featuring spectacular 3-D color graphics. The Computer Museum is the only museum in the world devoted solely to educating the public about computers and their impact on society. Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln
"Arthur Ganson: Diverse Machinery," a fascinating collection of mechanical art, runs through Jan. 31. Ganson's mechanical marvels blur the line between the animate and inanimate, addressing a wide range of emotions from joy to frustration. Close to 40 machines will be on display; some are hand-cranked. Call 259-8355 for more information.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Through Mar. 28, the Sackler is showing "First Under Heaven: The Henderson Collection of Korean Ceramics." Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Feb. 21, see "Performing Objects" - where artists create an arena for interaction between the viewer and the work of art. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5-9pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 253-4444
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Come see "Leonardo da Vinci: The Anatomy of Man - Drawings from the Collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II." The

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

by Leslie Semonian

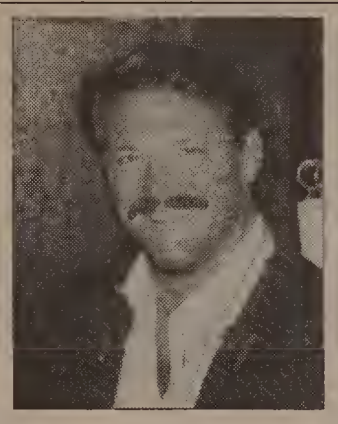
"If you could be born in a different era, which would it be?"



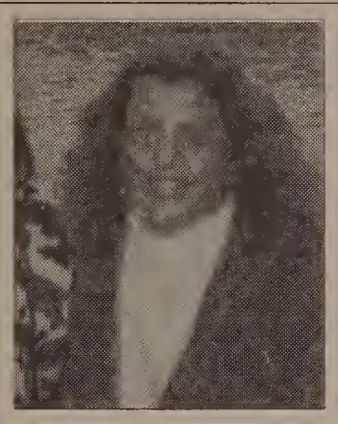
Sam, 47, Waltham
"I would have liked to be in my twenties in the forties so I could have appreciated first hand the jazz of the time."



Laura, 24, Holbrook
"I wish I was a flapper in the 1920's, so I could wear fringed skirts, do the Charlston, and drink bootlegged whiskey."



Gene, 40, Winthrop
"The 1800's. Drive around in a horse and buggy on cobblestone roads. No machinery, no pollution and a simple life."



Mary Beth, 26, Brighton
"The Victorian era would have been ideal because of its romance, style and chivalry."



Mark, 26, Seattle
"There's no question I'd be a cowboy in the mid 1800's. Men were men and if you had a problem with someone you'd just shoot them."



Kimberly, 32, Boston
"The civil war era. The men in the war fought for the freedom we have today. Besides, doesn't every woman want to be Scarlet?"

exhibit includes more than 30 drawings, which chart da Vinci's evolution of style and his exacting investigation of human anatomy. Through Feb. 21.

MFA also presents "Late 20th-Century Prints" through Jan. 31. This exhibit consists of innovative and expressive contemporary prints from the 1970s-1990s, and will include both European and American prints in a great variety of media.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit that runs Feb. 2 to May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures!

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 9am-4pm and Sun., 9am-5pm.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
at Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Until Jan. 23 see *Black Snow*, a hilarious adaption of a novel by the same name. The show centers on the absurd misadventures of a young playwright trying to get his latest work produced at the Moscow Art Theatre. Through Mar. 3, the A.R.T. performs George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House*, about Britain's aristocracy on the eve of World War I. Call 547-8300 for times and ticket information.

Boston Baked Theatre
255 Elm St.
Davis Square, Somerville
Boston's top improv performers will battle it out Jan. 20 & 27 in two matches presented by the U.S. Improvisational Theatre League. The audience uses color-coded voting cards to decide the outcome. The action starts each night at 7:30pm; for tickets, call 864-1344.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

Chiswick Park Theatre
Rte. 20, Sudbury
Come see the new musical *Mating Habits of the Urban Mammal* and find out why romance these days is more difficult (and funnier) than ever. It runs Jan. 22 through Valentine's Day (how appropriate!). Call 508-443-5550 for times and ticket information.

Colonial Theatre
106 Boylston St., Boston
Aspects of Love, Andrew Lloyd Webber's most recent and intimate musical, will play a limited one-week engagement from Jan. 19-24. The play brings to life five impassioned characters who trace out an expanding circle of emotion on a golden post-war Continent. Call 931-2787 for times and ticket prices.

Huntington Theatre
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
The HTC presents the first major American production of *My Mother Said I Never Should*, a humorous account of the relationships within one British family's four generations of mothers and daughters. The production runs until Feb. 7. Call 266-0800 for times and ticket prices.

Leland Center
Boston Center for the Arts
Bloody Poetry, a play which focuses on the relationship between Byron, Shelley, Mary Shelley and Claire Clairmont, runs through Feb. 6. Call 983-5330 for times and ticket information.

Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St., Boston
Running through Feb. 7, *The Mystery of Irma Vep* is a wonderfully funny comedy which features a sympathetic werewolf, a vampire and an Egyptian princess brought to life when her tomb is opened. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket prices.

Merrimack Rep.
at the Lowell Auditorium
50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell
MRT will start off the New Year with one of Shakespeare's funniest comedies, *Twelfth Night*, through Jan. 30. For times and ticket reservations, call 1-508-454-3926.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
The Mystery Cafe presents *Let's Kill the Boss* every Thur. at 7:30pm, Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6 and 9pm and Sun. at 7pm. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Theatre
at the 1st & 2nd Church
66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents the 4th annual NeWorks Festival: 10 days of readings and

(continued on following page)

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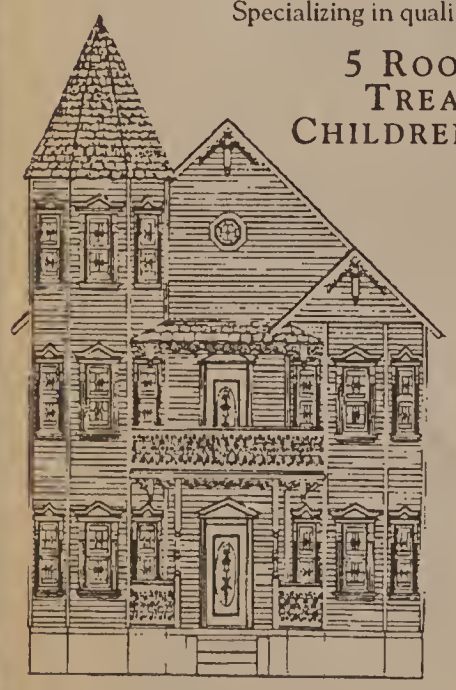
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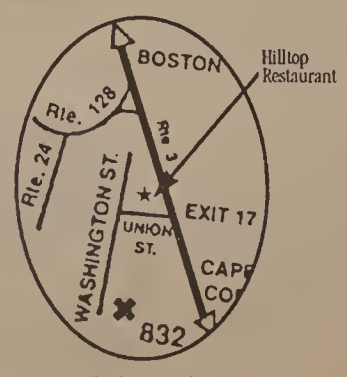


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ARTS

(Theater Continued)

workshops premiering six new works-in-progress by Massachusetts playwrights. Jan. 22 & 23, its *Decade*, about 10 gay men linked by the AIDS epidemic; Jan. 29 & 30 see *Let the Whistle Blow*, about rape on a women's college campus. Both are at 8pm; tickets are $10.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
The New Rep. presents George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man* until Feb. 14. Magical, irreverent and deliciously witty, this play explodes myths about heroism, manhood and love. Call 332-1646 for times and ticket information.

NORA THEATER
Harvard Square, Cambridge
Orphans, tagged as "theater for the senses and emotions and not the mind," makes its Boston debut through Jan. 30. It's a three-character, absurdist black comedy about a Chicago mobster and two brothers he meets in North Philadelphia. Call 495-4530 for times and ticket prices.

SPEAKEASY STAGE CO.
at the Black Box Theatre
Boston Center for the Arts
The SSC presents *Closer Than Ever*, a wonderful new musical that takes you on an emotional journey through the anguish, amazement and human comedy of contemporary living. It runs Thu-Sun from Jan. 21-Feb. 14.

STUDEBAKER THEATER
at The Performance Place
277 Broadway, Somerville
Studebaker Theater inaugurates its 15th anniversary with a collaborative evening of short plays: ***A Clean Slate*** and ***The Man Himself***. The show runs Jan. 27- Feb. 6, Weds-Suns at 8pm.

TERRACE ROOM
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have suddenly taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

THEATRE REDUX
at First Parish Church
3 Church St., Harvard Square
Theatre Redux presents the New England premiere of *Pokey*, the comic journey of a man who sets out to find the past he abandoned. See it Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm through Feb. 6. Tickets are $15; call 547-2302.

TRIANGLE THEATER
at the Paramount Penthouse
58 Berkeley St., Boston
The provocative, bittersweet comedy/drama ***Adam and the Experts*** visits Boston through Jan. 30. Call 426-3550 for times and ticket information.

LECTURES/READINGS

AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The AAÇ presents "Answers Plus" on Jan. 27 at 6:30pm - a free, confidential seminar to answer the financial, legal and job-related questions of men & women who have recently tested HIV positive. Call 437-6200 x281 for more information. Also, on Jan. 29 at 8pm, the AAC sponsors "Sex in the '90s," a much-acclaimed workshop for gay men.

CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION
56 Brattle St.
Harvard Square, Cambridge
Discover Korea and Japan from a G.I.'s point of view Jan. 26 at 8:15pm, when a Korean War veteran lectures and presents a slideshow. Do you detest Boston winters? Then attend "Stop Hating Winter," a lecture on Jan. 28 at 10:30am. To get in the mood for spring, come back Feb. 1 at the same time for a slideshow on "Gardens of the World." Feb. 2, it's "Understanding Mexico." Tickets for each lecture are $2. Call 547-6789.

JAVA CAFFE
558 Tremont St., Boston
Every other Tuesday, starting Feb. 2 at 8pm, come to Bad Poetry Night! Neophytes are encouraged to attend this "neo-beat-expressionist-rant-n-rave-pop-speak that puts a snappy spin on the SLAM." Call 426-8246 for more information.

PINE MANOR COLLEGE
The Founders' Room
400 Heath St., Chestnut Hill
On Feb. 3 at 7:30pm, Dr. Michele Paludi discusses "Ivory Power: Sexual Harassment on Campus." Dr. Paludi is the director of the Women's Studies Program at Hunter College (C.U.N.Y.) in New York.

GALLERIES

COPLEY SOCIETY
158 Newbury St., Boston
The annual Winter Members show, a juried show featuring recent works in all media, style and genre, runs through Feb. 6.

LEVINSON KANE GALLERY
14 Newbury St., Boston
Through Mar. 14, Stephen Huneck will transform this gallery into a studio apartment, complete with furniture that he made. Gallery patrons are encouraged to "experience *his* work as if in *your* home."

THE SPACE
102 South St., Boston
The Space presents "The Computer is Not Sorry," a show of installation art, hypertext literature and interactive music, by artists who investigate the computer as an artistic object. Through Jan. 30.

SPECIAL EVENTS

EASTER SEALS WING DING
at the Westin Hotel
Copley Place, Boston
Cast your vote for the best tasting chicken wings at the 1st annual Easter Seals Wing Ding on Jan. 28 from 5-9pm. Admission is only $6 and it's for a good cause. Sponsored by WZLX, so expect music and prizes, too. Call 482-3375.

HAL WEINBERG FOUNDATION
at Boston Billiards
126 Brookline Ave., Boston
Enjoy this gala "rack 'n' roll" fundraiser Jan. 26 at 7pm, an evening complete with entertainment, buffet supper and sport. Proceeds go to support youth scholarship programs. Call 956-3320 for more information.

ARTS

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

Rich Irish Culture in an Even Richer Work

BY NANCY LEONARD

There was a great deal of uncertainty as to whether *Dancing at Lughnasa* would come to Boston after its Tony Award-winning run in New York. Brian Friel's play, which had its world premiere in 1990 at Dublin's Abbey Theatre, was a natural for these parts, but a scheduled booking at the Colonial Theatre was an on-again, off-again, on-again affair. During the uncertainty, the Huntington Theatre Company, which staged the author's *Aristocrats* and his masterful *Translations*, sought the rights.

Well, the brief two-week stop at the Colonial should not deter the Huntington or any other theatre company from mounting this work by Ireland's pre-eminent contemporary playwright. *Lughnasa* is a leisurely play of subtle power. Its rich details - accumulating from daily chatter and a few special events - touch upon hope and heartbreak for one family and for the country which defines and delimits their lives. It's a lovely and lyrical work with a great deal on its mind.

The proceedings focus on the Mundy sisters - five unmarried women struggling to maintain a household in the village of Ballybeg. One of them has a child, a boy named Michael, who serves as narrator. Looking back from an adult perspective, he recalls the few weeks in August 1936 when the family was last together. The atmosphere - hope and joy amidst a sense of unease and change - is what he remembers most vividly, along with a few specifics: the family's new and often balky wireless, which brought music into their lives; the return of Father Jack, their uncle who spent 25 years as a missionary in an African leper colony; and two visits by his father, Gerry Evans, an itinerant Welshman of considerable charm and little character.

Kate is the oldest sister, a self-righteous schoolteacher, generally disapproving but not uncaring, and fretful about the future. Maggie, irreverently longing for a man and a smoke, cooks and tends the farm. Agnes, ladylike at 35, knits wool gloves on consignment, when she is not cooking and cleaning. Rose, who also knits, is the simple one, instinctively following her own desires. Chris, the youngster, is Michael's mother, happily succumbing to Gerry's spell whenever they meet.

Little happens in Friel's play, which is talky but very purposive. August is the time of Lughnasa, a pagan harvest festival marked by bonfires, dancing and berry picking. The Lughnasa customs parallel African rituals - both should have been swept away by religion, but instead have become firmly rooted community celebrations, meeting some basic human needs. Kate disapproves of the Lughnasa celebrations, and is shocked to discover that Jack's faith has dwindled amidst Ugandan ceremonies. But her religious rectitude counts for naught. She cannot control her sisters or the changing times - and even at one point joins them in frenzied dance (outside their view). In their privation - and Friel's narrative poignantly skips ahead to describe a bleak future - the Mundy family finds hope and comfort in the simple expression of dancing.

Patrick Mason's direction moves the evening slowly but engagingly along. (He won the 1992 Tony Award for Best Director, while his subject matter was honored as Best Play.)

With the Broadway cast replacements for the Abbey Theatre actors repeating their roles in Boston, the characterizations are nicely defined. Donal Donnelly is wonderful as the sickly, confused cleric. Pasty-faced and stammering to find his English vocabulary after speaking Swahili for so long, he suddenly grows articulate and animated when describing the joy of tribal rituals. It's a powerful moment.

Patricia Hodges is a straight-backed, no-nonsense presence as Kate, funny in her stiff dance, and funny when shocked by the others. Disapproval and concern live in her silent gaze. Jacqueline Knapp is an earthy, fun-loving Maggie, who stumps Michael with riddles. Jan Maxwell nicely plays the responsible Agnes, vividly complaining about unpaid servitude, and drifting belatedly into Gerry's whirl. Selena Carey-Jones is good as Rose, moving from brunette dowdiness to red hair and bright colors with imagined romance. Bernadette Quigley is the shy Chris, who flowers when waltzing with her adored Gerry. As the latter, Robert Emnet captures the wastrel but not the charm. Kenneth L. Marks is OK as Michael - though he never seems to be the little boy, since he stands out of the action.

Joe Vanek's set - a flower-dotted sweep of grain rising on a hillside behind the open farmhouse kitchen - is glorious, as is Michael Baldassari's lighting. The intermittent wireless music is by Richard Fitzgerald. Terry John Bates' choreography is apt.

Dancing at Lughnasa is lovely. Friel's play expertly combines memory, history, and Irish culture in a richly textured work. It deserves to resurface ere long. ❑

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE CHILDREN OF ARMENIA



PHOTO BY DR. CAROLANN NAJARIAN

President Levon Ter Petrossian of the Republic of Armenia has declared Armenia a state of national disaster. He has appealed for assistance from the world "in order to secure the survival of the people through the harsh winter months." Independent studies by UN teams, the United States, the American Red Cross and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies corroborate the severity of the situation in Armenia.

You can help us get precious milk and baby formula to the children of Armenia, the most helpless victims of this crisis. Since 1989, The Armenian Children's Milk Fund has been airlifting supplies—helping to feed thousands of children in Armenia. Won't you help ease the suffering and save lives this winter? Please rush your checks to:

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ANAGO BISTRO

Food with Affection

BY JONATHON ALSOP

Love and affection are the emotional counterparts of food and wine. When we really want to say "I love you," an expressive meal is almost always involved. Come Valentines Day, chocolates, bubbly and a batch of inedible flowers put physical form to our affections. The message seems clear: say it with food, but flowers are nice too.

Anago Bistro in Cambridge, open barely 90 days now, has all the food and wine/love and affection bases covered. Owners Bob Calderone and Susan Finegold, both the nice round age of 33, have been together since 1986 when they met while working at the restaurant Panache, which begat 798 Main, which begat Anago Bistro. "As a chef, you always dream of owning your own restaurant," says Bob. "When (the former owner of) 798 Main wanted to get out, Susan and I wanted to get into it."

In the kitchen, Bob works to produce a diverse and integrated menu. "I'm focused in the kitchen on maintaining quality and maintaining interest," he says. His style combines elements of Italian home cooking with the flexibility of modern and post-modern French cooking. "The basics are: it has to be fresh, it has to be flavorful and savory, it has to express natural flavors. The food should be hearty, but not off the deep end."

Susan manages all the service in the restaurant as well as the business side of things. "We love to eat out, and we eat out all the time," says Susan, "so we know what we like and how we like to be treated. We look for options when we go out instead of the straight appetizer-entree-dessert format. Our menu is really the way Bob and I enjoy eating most. A combination of appetizers and pastas and wines gives you more options, and you can be more creative."

Anago Bistro's menu features a half-dozen appetizers, three pasta and two grilled bread dishes that can be ordered in entree and appetizer portions, and six plated entree dishes. The evening we visited, we asked the our hosts to prepare the Anago Sampling Menu ($30 a person) so we could get a broad look at the menu. It worked out beautifully, although it was almost too much food. Another option is to craft your own more modest sampler from the menu. The wine list was quite good and very well-priced. We had the 1990 Abbaye de Valmagne, a simple country French white for $17, with the appetizers and a half-bottle of the voluptuous 1989 Guigal Cotes-du-Rhone red for $9, with the entrees.

Dinner began with an outstanding appetizer portion of baked vegetable casserole and native goat cheese with grilled flatbread and poached garlic. The goat cheese was very mild and slightly warm. The vegetable casserole was like a layered ratatouille with bright, lively flavors. We sampled an exceptional grilled portabella mushroom and asparagus appetizer with sweet red pepper oil. The mushrooms tasted smoky and wild, and the asparagus was fresh and perfectly crunchy. The sweet red pepper oil was a delicious puree of red pepper the consistency of a smooth mustard. Next came a plate of sauteed Maine shrimp cakes, fresh salad greens, and baked corn and sausage polenta. The polenta was especially good, nice and chunky, made of fine and coarse corn meal with whole corn kernels mixed in.

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Bob makes all his own pasta fresh every day and, in the two pasta dishes we tasted, his attentions really paid off. Our appetizer portions of linguini with sauteed Nantucket scallops and chicken raviolis with duck confit were very good. Tiny French green beans and pear tomatoes formed a wreath around the linguini, and the scallops were perfectly underdone. The chicken ravioli came with wild mushrooms and asparagus in a smooth, smoky meat sauce.

Normally, one entree would be split between two people as part of the Sampling Menu, but we sampled both the grilled game hen with oven roasted vegetables and the grilled venison steak entrees, which were both very good. The farm-raised New Zealand venison was surprisingly mild and completely tender in the same wonderful smoky sauce. Our game hen had a much wilder taste, and the bed of greens sauteed with garlic gave it a kind of Southern flavor. The oven-roasted vegetables were exquisite, especially the whole roasted beets. For dessert, we enjoyed a nice sampling of sweets: chocolate and rum bread pudding, Spanish custard with preserved cranberries, and tirami su with berry sauce.

When it comes to creating something meaningful, whether it's food or wine or anything, you have to love it to be successful. "I know I could make my life a lot easier," Bob says. "We could buy bread and buy pasta and give everybody the same vegetable. But that's not going to do it for us. We want to be treating people like kings and queens."

And that's a sign of love. ❑

APPETEASERS

BY PETER MCNAMARA &

THE CHINA LOGO SYNDROME

If you missed the boat - like the Titanic or the Normandie - you can still dine on their dinnerware if you're smart logos and all. **Lou Lou's Lost and Found** at 121 Newbury Street may have what you need if you wish to dine in style. With plates, saucers and other dinnerware, Lou Lou's sells the best from Maxine's in Paris to the former Howard Johnson's on Route 3 and claims to provide "Luxury with Economy." This isn't just a store - it's a museum. For more information, call 859-8593.

THE PHANTOM CHEF OF THE OPERA

Il Deuxie Grande Coppola De La Cathedralé Di Milano . . . Evening opera doesn't have to be stuffy, pretentious or expensive. Saturday evenings at 8p.m., the **Café Promenade** hosts Evening at The Opera. Their six singers, who call themselves the Opera Un Met wander around the café from table to table while hypnotizing diners with their angelic voices and captivating arias. Five fixe prix dinners ranging from $24.95 to $31.50 are available. Appetizers include such delights as Chilled Grilled Scallops with Braised Fennel and Beet Coulis and Pasta Crescent of Duck Confit and Savoy Cabbage while entrées include Roast Goose with Sweet Potato Pancakes and Ragout of Maine Lobster and Mussels with Duchess Potatoes and Merryrose Sauce. For more information, call the Collonade Hotel at 424-7000.

DOBROE DIEN TO "FREE" COOKING

Another Season, Another dinner. In this series of prix fixe menus is adapted from *Classic Russian Cooking* by Elena Molokhovet, a popular Tsarist cookbook published in 1861, is the inspiration for the series of dinners at **Another Season** at 97 Mount Vernon St., tel. 367-0880. Price is $22.00 per person and runs Monday to Thursday until March 18

BOSTON SCANDANAVIAN ENSEMVLE

Wet your palate with the taste · Scandinavia on the third Frida, of every month this year at **Maison Robert.** For $26.00 per person (including tax and tip), diners receive a traditional meal from one of the four Scandinavian countries, a glass of wine - while listening to an evening ringing with the sounds of native music. It's reservation only. Open seating or arranged tables. Call 227-3370 for more information.Upptrader den tredje fredagen varje manad pa **Maison Robert,** kl. 1900 hrs.. Skandinavisk meny ring 227-3370 for reservations.

TEXAS TAKES BOSTON

The Grand Opening of **Willy's Texas Pit Barbecue** really wowed an enthusiastic crowd of rib fanatics last Thursday evening at 10 Emerson Place in Boston (Charles River Park). This is the third to open in the country. After nine years in the National Football League with the Houston Oilers, owner Fred Willis has successfully combined his Texas rubs, ribs and smoking techniques to create what will be a legend in New England Barbecue (but beware of the flying Margaritas). General Manager Charlie Bletzer says response to the new restaurant has been phenomenal. Please note: Mr. Willis is one of few who knows the correct spelling of "barbecue." For more information, call 248-1970.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Congratulations to **Michael Perrier**, who has joined the staff of the Lenox Hotel as Food and Beverage Director, and to **Chris Glionna**, who has taken the position of Manager at Marcella's in the South End (their 18oz. sirloin is still $7.95).

JUICY DETAILS

Joseph Cimino, owner of Ciao Bella on Newbury Street, has transferred the liquor license from Durgin Park at Copley Place to 705-711 Boylston Street. Could this be the beginnings of a new Spaghetti Club? Also, look for a new Burger King overlooking the historic Trinity Church at Copley Square. Perhaps it will be more than just hamburgers that gets burnt on this deal. Well have it your way. And last but not least Michela's **Jody Adams** has added two new classes to her cooking series for February 13 and 27. For more information call the restaurant at 225-2121 ❑

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The Library Grill at the Hampshire House

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DINING

IN VINO VERITAS

BY JONATHON ALSOP

WINEMAKER PROFILE: MATYAS VOGEL, VIA DELLA CHIESA

When winemaker Matyas Vogel remembers the wines of his youth in southwest Hungary, he smiles and remembers its inclusion at every table, automatic as salt and pepper. Today, Matyas is the 35 year-old winemaker at Via della Chiesa Vineyards in Raynham, and it's tough to smile through one multi-dip recession after another. He wonders what it takes to make wine successful in America. "We are 45 minutes from one of the great cities of the world. This winery 45 minutes from Budapest would have no problems," he says. "We knew it was not a gold mine, but.."

Today, Matyas and vineyard owner Robert DiCroce are working with a reduced staff and, most frustrating of all, marking down very good wine to the sincerely ridiculous bargain basement price of $4 a bottle, by the case. "For now, we are trying to educate the public about Via della Chiesa and build a reputation with wine drinkers," Matyas says. Via della Chiesa opened late in 1990, and things are much better now than a year ago, "but it takes time," he says. "We must be patient until we're recognized as a quality wine venture."

All of Matyas' wines are extremely well-made: very clear, very clean, true to the grape and well-balanced. "I try to make the wine the old-fashioned way of wine making," says Matyas. "To preserve the fruit, we want as little physical involvement with the wine as possible...no unnecessary filtering, no over-manipulation. This preserves the pure taste of fruit, as if you picked a grape right now right off the vine and ate it. It should taste just like that in the wine."

Matyas' '91 Cayuga-Supreme is a good example of a fresh, well-made, well-handled wine. It has a good deal of spritz, the fruit is fresh and explosive, and the flavor is similar to an Italian Tocai, but much more light-hearted in personality. His '91 Cayuga-Muscat blend is a delicious wine in perfect proportion and shows a little more wildness than the Cayuga.

Via della Chiesa grows 10 acres of Cayuga and buys Muscat, Zinfandel, and other grapes from California on the spot market. "It is very opportunistic," says Matyas. "We try to buy wisely, then also have a red wine to go with the Cayuga." Although Matyas' '90 Zinfandel is clearly well-made, it's kind of plain, especially compared with the vivacious whites that came before. Naturally enough, it just doesn't seem to have as much personality as the wines Matyas grows himself.

"We are working for public acceptance and recognition," says Matyas. "We are 10 or 15 miles away from a half-million population. If they come to see and have a life experience, they will prove for themselves that we make good wine, good quality wines."

Via della Chiesa is at 513 Church St. in Raynham; they can be reached at (508) 822-7775. During the winter, the winery is open Saturdays from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays 12–5 p.m. From Boston, take 128 to Rte. 24 South to Rte. 44 East.

"TASTINGS AROUND TOWN"

Brookline Liquor Mart, Allston: Saturday 2-4 p.m. Blanchard's in Allston, tastings every Friday 5-8 p.m. and every Saturday 2-5 p.m. Winecellar of Silene, Copley and Waltham stores, Fridays 4-6:30 p.m. and Saturdays 2-4:30 p.m. Marty's in Allston, Saturdays 1-3 p.m. Bauer on Newbury Street, Saturdays 4-7 p.m. Kappy's in Sudbury and Mall Wines at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, Saturdays, noon - 6 p.m. Chestnut Hill Wine Cellar, in the old Chestnut Hill Mall on Rte. 9 by Star Market, every Saturday, 4-6 p.m.

"BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU DEATH WATCH"

Beaujolais Nouveau-years are like dog-years, one for every seven. That makes the 1992's almost two years old starting the New Year. For now, though, let's test the Nouveau and taste as we go along to see what happens to the wine over the next couple of months as the prices drop. My prediction: cheap wines cycle down hard. By summer, it'll be in the Discount Graveyard competing with Santa's Reindeer Ridge in the 2/$5 pile. I bought a test case of 1992 DuBoef Beaujolais-Villages Nouveau anonymously and at random for $75 at a little wine store where I never normally shop (just to give the illusion of scientific control). As of Dec. 9, it still tasted like new with two months of bottle age, which is to say, still young and juicy, still spicy, very clear color, bright and lively with lots of personality. But will it keep? Tune in next month.

"FINE WINE ON A TIGHT BUDGET"

Beacon Beverage, Brookline: 1986 Baron Patrick Chablis, $9. Previous years have been great, classic Chablis with lean fruit and beautiful herbal/mineral flavors; 1986 was a great year for white Burgundy, ready to drink now, only a couple of cases left. The slightly depleted Discount Basement (a.k.a., "Death Bin") at Allston's Brookline Liquor Mart yields mega-buys: 1988 Augustin Peyrouse Tavel, $6.50, a good buy on one of the world's best dry roses; 1984 & 1986 Mitchelton Cabernet Sauvignon, $6.50, big, soft, mature Aussie Cabs, just a handful left (I think I liked the 1984 better); 1985 Redbank "Sally's Paddock," $5/half bottle, legendary Aussie rarely seen in the U.S., big wine in little bottle, red Bordeaux similarities, kind of a stretch, but excellent as a wine gift and good for Aussie-philes and the really curious. ❑

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ

1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, .232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sun 12-3p.m

CAFE MONAGENE

1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303
A unique restaurant with a fun and colorful atmosphere, serving brunch on Sundays 11:00-4:00 p.m.. You may not be able to write on our tablecloths anymore, but you can enjoy our funky new tabletops as you sip your mimosas and kir royales on Sunday mornings. Try our famous Chicago eggs with Pierogis, Eggs Benedict or house smoked fish platters. Cappuccino, Espresso and a full bar.

BOSTON DOWNTOWN CAFE

210 Washington St., Boston 338-7037
Serving breakfast from 8am to 3pm.Boston Downtown Cafe offers homemade delights ranging from poached eggs on english muffins with lox and Mornay sauce to carrot gingerbread and raisin pancakes. Housed in the forrmer WRKO movie lobby, the cafe also features a Disaster Tour of Boston on Saturdays at noon. For $10 get a 45 min tour of the city's most famous disasters and a fabulous lunch.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline 566-1002. Start your Sunday off at Cityside at the Circle. Brunch served 11AM–3:00PM. Menu: A la Carte includes Breakfast and Lunch dishes—prices range from $3.95–$9.95

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standarAmerican breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accptd.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Air Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty and steak & kidney pie to Irish stew trifle and porridge will make you want reservations tommorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 12p.m.-4p.m.. If you can't make the brunch, stop by from 4p.m.-9p.m. for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and á traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY III

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Also listen to jazz by local artists. Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Outdoor seating available.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped with poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, approximately 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

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ANOTHER SEASON
97 Mount Vernon St., Boston 367-0880
A, MC, V, $$
A classic restaurant with a modern menu served in style is what you will find at Another Season. Luncheon is served Tuesday-Friday, featuring light, fresh fare. Dinner is served Monday through Saturday from 5:45 to 10:00pm. The diverse menu offers wonderful specials and a creative three-course prix fixe menu for $22.00 (Mon. - Thurs.) Private rooms are available for parties, meeting and weddings. For these special events all menus are custom designed to suit the needs and tastes of the client. For reservations, information or a copy of the prix fixe menu for Fall please call 367-0880.

AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am - 11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303 M, V, A $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383 A, MC, V, DC $$
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo Wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that *feels* like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. All around you are floor to ceiling windows that look out over the streets of Boston's North End. The English-style ales are all robust top fermented, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30AM to 12 midnight Sun.- Thurs. and until 1:00AM Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA
15 West St., Bos. 338-4600
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

DURGIN PARK
340 Faneuil Hall, Bos. 227-2038
MC, V, A $$
Famous for ample portions and brusque and burly waitresses, this Boston institution serves up New England clam chowder, succulent lobster and thick prime rib for cheap. Eat at long, family-style tables with other patrons. Indulge in oysters at the newly refurbished raw bar. Lunch is also served at the piano bar. Reserve for parties of 15 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50. With their new renovations excellent prices and large portions El Phoenix should thrive in the future.

FOUR WINDS
266 Commercial St., Bos. 742-3922
A, MC, DC, V $$

DINING

This casual seafood grille sits across from Boston Harbor and though not claiming to have barnicles on the back door step, the Four Winds can claim a nice water view and some great fresh seafood and salad dishes. Stop by for the Cajun swordfish, broiled yellowfin tuna or one of their tasty sirloin steaks. Open daily from noon to 3:30p.m. for lunch and 5:30 to 10:30 dinner.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties inclued Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super Buffet Special 12 - 4p.m. every day ($5.75). Take out/delivery and catering services available.

JAE'S CAFE & GRILL
520 Columbus Ave., Boston
421-9405 $$ MC/V/AMEX
Nestled in Boston's South End, this two-floor, charming restaurant offers quality food with a Korean accent. Whether you choose one of the curry dishes, vegetable entrees, or selections from Jae's complete sushi bar, the courteous service and very reasonable prices are the perfect complements to any of their delicious meals. Desserts are also not to be missed. Full take out service available.

KASHMIR
279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$
Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

KEBAB'N'KURRY
30 Massachusetts Ave., Bos. 536-9835
A,D,MC,V $$
This small basement restaurant offers an extensive menu. The nan (Indian bread) is superb, often stuffed with potatoes and other goodies. Order a maharani thaali (Queen's platter) and sample a variety of dishes including; dal (lentils), paneer (cheese in a curried sauce) chickpeas and basmati rice. Open daily for lunch (except Sun.) and dinner.

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos.
426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700
$$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal". One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod. Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch and dinner.

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DINING

Sat./Sun., dinner menu only in town; lunch available. in the suburbs.

Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar

301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market. Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2am.

Massimino's Cucina Italiana

207 Endicott St., Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

Moon Villa

15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4am for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049 A,DF
$
Relax, dine and sodalize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon St., O'leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guiness beef stew and steak poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun. - Wed. 5 - 10 p.m. and Thurs - Sat 5 - 111p.m.. Lunch from 11-3.

The Original Sports Saloon

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise

54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850
$(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pat's Pushcart

61 Endicott St., Boston, 523-9616
MC/V $$
Serving fine Italian cuisine for over twenty years, Pat's Pushcart is a mainstay in Boston's North End. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Don't forget to ask about their everchanging daily specialties—the highlights of their menu.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant and Bar

20 Clinton St. (adjacent to Faneuil Hall)
523-5722, Delivery Service542-2121
MC,V,AMEX,D $$
Voted Boston's "Best Pizza" by Boston Magazine and voted the "Best Deep Dish Pizza in Chicago". Come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches. Huge $1.50 drafts always on special, Open 11am to late night.

Pronto

464 Thames St., Newport, R.I. (401) 847-5251
MC/V $$$
Enjoy Italian and continental cuisine among fresh flowers and great music in charming Newport. This elegant European-style bistro serves lunch daily 11:30 - 4 p.m.. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5:30 -11 p.m. on weekends. Fine wines are available by the glass and for the months of August and September, breakfast will be served 8 am - 12 p.m. on weekends.

Sienna's Ristorante

214 Lincoln St. Boston 426-6665
MC, V, A $$
At this Gourmet pizza and pasta sanctuary in the Leather District, you'll find friendly atmosphere in an informal setting. It was recently awarded "One of the Best Restaurants in Boston" by Boston's Best Guide. Dinner is served 5p.m.-11p.m. Mon. through Sat. Free delivery to downtown Boston, N. End, S. End, Beacon Hill and S. Boston.

Sorento's

86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make
for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

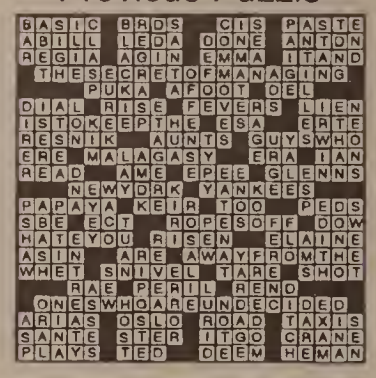
Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston
536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location, So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Warren Tavern,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history approximately 212 years. The Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country. The Tavern features an original decor of low bea.m.ed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward A.m.erican with a little international flair. Lunch 12-3:30. Dinner 5-10:30. 5-9 on Sun..

Answer to Previous Puzzle





HOT TICKET

Orpheum Theatre

January 25-26, Extreme w/Saigon Kick
7:30 (26th is Sold Out), $21.00

January 29, Emerson Lake and Palmer
7:30, $22.50

February 12, Keith Richards and the X-Pensive Winos
7:30, $23.50

Avalon

January 23, Neds Atomic Dustbin, Supreme Love Gods and Flowerhead
6:00 doors, $15.00, 18+ show

Providence Performing Arts Center

January 19, B-52's w/ Juliana Hatfield
7:30, $21.50/$20.00

Paradise

February 5, O-Positive
8:00 doors, $7.50/$8.50 d.o.s.

Going to Extremes

Meet Boston's Wildest Homeboys



Extreme - Paul Geary, Nuno Bettencourt, Gary Cherone and Pat Badger

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

Few Bostonian musical success stories are as dramatic as Extreme's rise to fame. After years of playing nearly every dive in New England, the band finally landed a much coveted record deal. Their self-titled debut sold respectably and showed potential; the band continued it's relentless touring in support of the album, and their reputation grew steadily.

Yet it was not until 1990 when their second album, *Extreme II Pornograffiti* (A&M) was released , that the band became international stars. That album yielded four hit singles, including characteristic Extreme rockers such as "Decadence Dance" and "Get the Funk Out." But it was the two acoustic numbers — "Hole Hearted" and the runaway smash "More Than Words" — which went into heavy rotation on just about every station in the country, from all-hits to easy listening to hard rock. The album sold over four million copies worldwide and the band headlined its own world tour. The MTV video further increased the band's fame, and to everyone outside of Boston, Extreme looked like an overnight success story.

Now Extreme are back with , *Extreme III Three Sides to Every Story*. Seventy eight minutes long, featuring the smashes "Stop the World" and "Rest In Peace," the album is both far longer and more complex than anything by the band's copy-cat competitors like Winger, Whitesnake and Warrant..

What has fueled Extreme's rise from being one of Boston's many metal bands to international superstars? Many attribute the band's success to guitarist and songwriter Nuno Bettencourt who is widely regarded as one of the finest guitarists in rock today. His searing leads are the backbone of Extreme's songs. But the rest of the band pull their weight: lyricist Gary Cherone is a competent singer, and a superb showman, bassist Pat Badger alternates smoothly between hard rock and hardcore funk, and drummer Paul Geary is as solid as they come. The band explores a wide range of styles, interspersing their hard rock with ballads, cabaret numbers and even flirting with rap.

Perhaps the only aspect of the band that overshadows their versatility is their ambition. III Sides to Every Story (produced by Bettencourt and engineer Bob St. John) is divided into three sections, "Yours," "Mine" and "The Truth." Each side has a different mood, thematically and stylistically.

"Yours" is Extreme at full throttle, pushing the boundaries of heavy metal, utilizing everything from samples of Martin Luther King Jr's speeches, to a cameo by rapper John Preziosa Jr. The songs, "Cupid's Dead" and "Rest In Peace" are intense and driving, the lyrics angry and bitter and highly political.

"Mine" finds the band at a slower tempo; the songs are melodic, the lyrics more philosophical, and the mood darker. In "Our Father" Cherone expresses his sense of helplessness with the line, "I'm in need of someone to tie my shoe, or take hold of my hand when I become afraid." The four other songs that make up "Mine" are equally introspective, including "Stop the World" and "Tragic Comic."

The final section, "The Truth," is different from anything the band has previously released. The three songs are all over six minutes long, with the final track, "Who Cares," checking in at just 8:19. It was recorded at the legendary Abbey Road studios in London and includes a 70 piece orchestra.

Bettencourt explained "The Truth" in a recent press release: "This was kind of a dream of ours. Most of the kids today never had a chance to grow up with some of the bands of the seventies. You could listen to a Yes record and go off on a journey. That's pretty much what our third side is, a musical journey."

Live, the band performs with intensity and vigor. Cherone may lead devout fans through arena rock clichés, but his performance seems genuinely sincere and spontaneous. Boston fans were given a chance to watch a "rehearsal" of the band's European tour late last year when the band headlined a sold-out WAAF listener appreciation party at Avalon.

Extreme is also doing their part to spread the wealth to other local musicians. The band hired Boston's Heavy Metal Horns to open for them on the second leg of their American tour and throughout Europe. The Horns add yet another dimension to big hits like "Hole Hearted" and "Cupid's Dead." ❑

Extreme play a pair of sold-out home-town shows at the Orpheum theatre on January 25 and 26.

Post-Holidays Jammed With Good Music

BY PETER CATALANO

There's lots of fine music being performed in the post-holiday rush. Try some chamber music at the Boston Conservatory where there of its young faculty — Michael Lenin, Lynn Chang and Andrés Diaz have formed a superb piano trio that will embark on a Far East tour immediately after their January 22 concert at the Boston Conservatory at 8 The Fenway in Boston at 8 p.m. On tap will be music by Beethoven, Copland and Mendelssohn. And at a mere $10, tickets are a bargain. They can be purchased at the door or in advance by calling 536-3063.

Meanwhile, the BSO will offer some unusual programs with sterling guest artists. Young, super-hyped Evgeny Kissin comes in to play and record the Rachmaninoff *Third Concerto* paired with the incomparable *Music For Strings, Percussion and Celesta* by Bella Bartók on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd at Symphony Hall. This is red meat for Kissin, and may be worth a trip, even though his debut recital in town was disappointing and callow.

It's no gamble hearing legendary Italian pianist Maria Tipo who performs the Beethoven *Fourth Concerto* with Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral" on the 4th, 6th and 12th of February with Seiji Ozawa.

Continuing its semi-staged opera series, the BSO performs Verdi's comic masterpiece, *Falstaff* on February 5, 9, 11 and 13. The cast is dicey in spots, but young voices of Dawn Upshaw and tenor Frank Lopardo along with veteran alto Maureen Forrester insure some sparkle. Tickets for all these BSO concerts range from $19.50 to $52 and can be purchased at the box office or by phone at 266-1200.

You might want to listen to some newly released recordings of *Falstaff* before the performance. The first is a re-release of the Arturo Toscanini version recorded in 1950 and has all the brio and nuance that you might expect from the maestro. The voices, however, are not the greatest of that generation and the mono sound is a little brittle, with the orchestra sounding baldly like a band.

Simultaneous with the Toscanini release on disc, RCA Victor/BMG brought a brand new *Falstaff* to market conducted by Sir Collin Davis. Rolando Panerai depicts the fat knight just right and he's the best thing on this CD though Frank Lopardo and Sharon Sweet do well on this disc. The conducting however, is not quite *echt* Verdi. That's why you are well to stick to the Toscanini version. ❑

Shocking Predictions For '93

Edited by Polly Campbell

It's the third week in 1993 and there's thousands of Elvis' in every post office and a Madonna song on every radio. So what else have we got to look forward to? We decided to turn this question over to some local music star-types. We asked them for their 1993 musical predictions, what they're looking forward to, what they hope for. Then we asked them if they thought there'd be an Elvis sighting in Boston in '93 and if so, where. Why did we ask this? Because now, more than ever, Elvis is everywhere. Had he stuck around in the regular way, he'd probably be enjoying a well-rounded retirement at Graceland, emerging for occasional guest spots on Sesame Street and golf games with former president Nixon. But since he shuffled off his mortal toilet in 1977, he's been the busiest man in show biz, chatting with psychics, monitoring Lisa Marie's recording career and showing up at every other MacDonald's. He's overdue for an appearance in Boston. We just want to know: what's going to happen, and *where*?

Jeff Conolly (Lyres)

"Because of the ten year cycle Madonna's thing is over. It's finished. In '93—she's going to try to revive her sagging career with an aerobics workout video. It will bomb. There will also be the first widespread reporting of disintegration of compact discs. A new trend will emerge where people prefer the sound of pops and scratches on vinyl to the disintegrated CD sound.

"The Elvis thing would happen at like 4:00 in the morning at Buzzy's Roast Beef. A limousine would pull up the King would get out and order a super boneless rib sandwich, with everything on it. That makes sense, wouldn't you think?"

Richie Parsons (Tomato Monkey)

"The return of 7" vinyl, it's definitely starting to happen. Major labels are using it as a promo item, but American India labels are producing it to sell, and that's what's cool. And I'm really hoping the Seattle thing blows over.

"The Elvis sighting would have to be in a suburban area, one of those suburban comedy clubs would be a good place."

Janet Egan (Malachite)

"Guns 'n' Roses will get rid of their extra members and try to do another **Appetite For Destruction**-type record,, and flop. And I'd like to see more women doing rock. The Indian Elvis will be sighted at the 7-11 in Central Square , Cambridge, late at night."

John Zewizz (Sleep Chamber)

"Madonna will get married again — to a man and a woman. Elvis has already been seen. He was leaving Hubba-Hubba after buying a full body harness, on his way the Joy of Movement center."

Sam McAfee (Chloe)

"Everyone will learn how to spell grunge. Videotape will become obsolete and everyone will start going out again. 6L6—they're a new local band to watch. They're going to be something else. Not too metally, not too punky — really good songs involved.

"Waltham is the only possible place for an Elvis sighting — I mean, where else would Elvis live?"

Patrick McGrath (Wheelers and Dealers)

"Here's a self-serving wish: that people will start liking that country music more in Boston, cause this is like the last hold-out against it in America. Also, I hope people will get into exotica and lounge music more, like Combustible Edison plays. It's just so nice.

"Our piano player Brother Cleve saw Elvis at this diner in Somerville that has Mexican food. Elvis was there and he said, 'Don't eat the chili baby, it's not very good.' Whether he'll make it into Boston is hard to say."

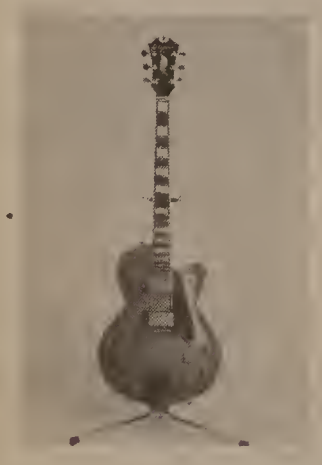
Dan Zanes (Del Fuegos)

"there'll be a renewed interest in the look and attitude and sound of the fifties. And I think there'll be a heightened sense of community in the music world.

"Elvis will be in the market down by the peas and carrots; Jonathan Richman called it years ago."

Willie Alexander (Persistence of Memory Orchestra)

"Getting my Persistence of Memory record out is my priority, for the rest of the world, I don't know....But I did see Elvis a couple of years ago on Broadway, in McGoon Square at the Dunkin' Donuts. It looked like he liked the donuts too, so he may be back there. Late at night, around three in the morning, that's his time to come in." ❑



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Like a Rolling Stone

NYC's Black '47 Widens Its Audience

By Rey Roldan

Seated in a corner table at the Trident Café on Newbury Street, Larry Kirwan doesn't seem like the fiery lead singer of New York's Black '47, whose passion enflames the Lower Manhattan pub *Paddy Reilly's* into a communal Celtic frenzy. Like Henry Rollins whose onstage persona is drastically different than Rollins the man, Kirwan isn't an explosive ball of rage, but instead a genial and creative man who leads one of New York's most sought-after bands.

Together for roughly two years, Black '47 has earned what most bands only dream about - a loyal following that builds exponentially. "We've been such a word-of-mouth band," says Kirwan with a slight Irish brogue. "We haven't really been played on the radio. Someone would hear the band and he'd tell his sister and she'd tell their friends and they'd tell their cousins. Most bands play Manhattan and that's it. We have really strong roots there; we play the whole five boroughs and Jersey and we draw from everyone from everywhere." Counted among the multitudes have been Kiefer Sutherland, Liam Neeson, Brooke Shields and Matt Dillon.

"Everyone knows about Black '47," said a poorly toupéed ex-MTV veejay Dave Kendall at a recent Lansdowne concert. "They're a band who people like, not a product that publicists create." While a large part of their draw is their excellent live shows, their recorded material stands strongly on its own. Their independently released self-titled debut sold thousands and received a 3 1/2 star review in *Rolling Stone* review. Their music also found its way to attract Ric Ocasek, who approached Kirwan for a chance to produce the band.

"It was interesing having Ric Ocasek approach us [about producing their album]," says Kirwan. "I asked him, 'How would you do it?' And he gave me a couple of ideas, a few which I have been thinking of myself, so I knew we were on the same wavelength."

The result, a self titled E.P. and a soon-to-be released full-length album titled *Fire of Freedom* on EMI, may very well widen not only *Paddy Reilly's* doors but also their audience, especially now when the music world is struggling to find an identity after Nirvana. Part Clash, part Pogues and a host of other influences, Black '47 does not try to confine its sound, but plays with each of them and finds a common thread. "Our roots were more of a mixture of traditional Irish music and rock," Kirwan explains. "Mine were more rock than [NYPD cop/uileann pipe and tin whistler Chris Byrne's] who came from a traditional music background. Fred [Parcells, trombone, tin whistle and vocals] went to Berklee where he studied jazz and big band. Geoff [Blythe, sax] was a Dexy's Midnight Runner with that soul-type thing. And [Thomas] Hamlin was more of a black and Latin percussion-type person. So, everybody basically plays their own thing."

Instead of splintering off in tangents, the songs like "Funky Ceili" and "James Connolly" hold together tightly, a direct result of "playing the songs every Wednesday and Saturday night for the past two years."

As an attempt to bring the whole Black '47 experience alive in Boston, EMI are busing up a pack of *Paddy Reilly's* regulars to their show on Sunday, January 24 at *The Kells* in Allston. "You'd think that there was a set group of people who knew all the songs and came all the time,' says Kirwan, "but we've played over six hundred gigs now and all different types show up. And the next time they show up, they bring their friends." He pauses, and searches for an appropriate comparison, which he chooses with perfection. "It's kind of like the Rolling Stones. It gets bigger all the time." ❑

ALBUM REVIEWS

Leonard Cohen
"The Future"
Columbia

With a voice like rusty blue velvet well-soaked in Napoleon brandy, Leonard Cohen has been drifting around since his folk heyday in the sixties when he sang such weary and irresistible love songs as "Suzanne" and "So Long, Marianne." He sank below the surface at the end of the seventies, reappearing in '88 when he released the acclaimed, **I'm Your Man**. Now that he's surfaced again with **The Future** , he's still writing quietly burning, hopelessly romantic songs, and it's that same rich, faintly threatening deadpan that slides through them. But he's also turning his formidable word manipulations outwards, casually intertwining personal melancholia with a view of the world beyond his own heart that sways softly between anger and affection. These mixed feelings run through most of the record, from the title track's bitter epitaph for the earth ("I've seen the future, baby: it is murder"), to "Democracy"'s checkered portrait of America. Having long out-grown his folk origins, Cohen's never looked for any particular category to fit his music into; on **The Future** the arrangements are smooth and slippery, filled out with synths and strings, reined in by precise rhythms and swept along from behind by the female heavenly choir that seems to have been following him around since the late sixties. Yet combined with his voice and lyrics, neither of these effects sound cheesy or overly commercial; they color songs like "Closing Time" and "Be For Real" -- and in fact Cohen's whole vision of the future — with an extravagant romanticism that makes it all seem just a little brighter.

Polly Campbell

Le Mystére Des Voix Bulgares
"From Bulgaria With Love"
Hukapan/Rhino

In probably the most ambitious marriage of musics, Le Mystére Des Voix Bulgares combines centuries old tradition with Nineties beats. Unlike the faux blends like 1990's "Sadeness" by Enigma who blended hypno-house with Gregorian chants, The Bulgarian State Vocal Choir set traditional folk to techno and disco beats with mesmerizing results. "Pipppero" mixes C&C Music Factory's hard-edged house beats with the choir's multi-layered harmonies and Tanja Andreeva's Italian/English raps, adding a human element to an otherwise cold, machinistic sound. "The Balcanic" melts Middle Eastern vocalizations with a Spanish-tinged jazz fusion that sounds both otherworldly and natural. The blend doesn't always work which is demonstrated in "Plovdiv," an unsuccessful plunge into industrial art-house. Using the ubiquitous rave siren as a centralizing device, this track tries too hard to make an impact with its otherwise bizarre concoction. The rest of the album, fortunately, creates a fascinating amalgamate of Old World and New World characteristics that transcend language barriers. In this case, strange bedfellows make perfect partners.

Louis Cardace

Nirvana
"Incesticide"
David Geffen Company

This is not Nirvana's new album. **Incesticide** is a fans-only rag-bag of flipsides, outtakes and rarities, and it seems likely that if Nirvana weren't the Northwest's biggest cash crop, none of it would ever have seen the light of day. And the world wouldn't really be worse off. But since grunge equals gold these days and Nirvana are the original alchemists, we get to hear the edited-out steps on the road to **Nevermind**, and some of them are actually enjoyable.

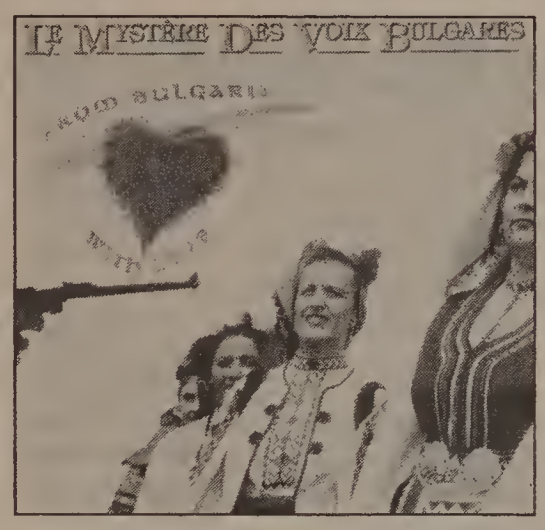
Incesticide opens with a whole bunch of sing-a-long punk tunes, notably "Been a Son," "Molly's Lips" and "Sliver," in which Kurt Cobain combines angst *and* family values with the line, "Grandma take me home/I wanna be alone." There's also a sped-up, spat-out version of "Polly," helpfully tagged by the band as ""new wave."

But around the halfway mark the lights go out and Cobain and Co. descend into the primordial grunge soup, yelling, distorting and waving frustration around like a plug without a socket. "Beeswax" sounds like the whole band falling painfully and slowly down a very long flight of stairs. In "Hairspray Queen," Cobain yowls queasily about disco and Crisco and other unrelated things. This goes on for a long time too. **Incesticide** ends with a final energized blast of distortion over Cobain's charming invitation, "Come on over and do the twist/Love you so much it makes me sick." The song's called "Aneurysm." Love you too, Kurt.

Polly Campbell

Soul Asylum
"Grave Dancers Union"
Columbia

Halfway through Soul Asylum's third major label release, singer Dave Pirner's still worrying: "Will I be on the streets tomorrow/Will I have to beg and borrow/Will I have to go back to the job I left behind." Rumored to be on the verge of breaking up last year due to Pirner's hearing troubles, this is the album not many people expected Soul Asylum to make. But here it is, a nailed-down, pumped-out record by a band who, having fully grown into their music, can't quite seem to decide if it fits them. The big rock sound is kept so firmly in and neatly in place by producer Michael Beinhorn that occasionally one misses the ruts and bumps of their early Twin/Tone records. And Pirner seems to have set aside his unnerving ability to turn stories into rock songs (at its best on 1990's **And The Horse They Rode In On**), instead tossing hints of yearning and boredom and bursts of joy into word-piles, and whipping catchy melodies through them. But they're good melodies and they're good word-piles, and shakey desperation still drives his voice through a lovely and useless line like "Standing in the sun with a possible/Everything is possible" (from "Without a Trace"). "Somebody To Shove" and "Black Gold" are laid out straight as arrows, Dan Murphy's Big steady chords loping alongside



Grant Young's low-riding beat. "Runaway Train" moves to the sad all-night sway of an unwritten Tom Petty song; "Keep It Up" is scrawled through with a chop-slop riff and eager, hanging-on-by-a-thread lyrics. These are the most lasting songs, but all of **Grave Dancers Union** is worthwhile, with the sole exception of the final track, "The Sun Maid." But as long as Pirner never writes another torpid, stoned and drooling song like that, I don't think anyone need hold a day job for him.

Polly Campbell

The Farm
"Love See No Colour"
Reprise

What made The Farm's U.S. debut *Spartacus* such a success was the spaciousness of the production. *Love See No Colour* is not so much a failure as a disappointment. Filling up every empty space with synth washes and excessive female backing vocals, there is hardly any room for creative exploration. Sporting a piss-poor remake of Human League's "Don't You Want Me" and a large amount of filler like "Words of Wisdom" and "Tooth Fairy," it's unfortunate that otherwise brilliant tracks like "Been a Long Time," "Mind" and "Hard Times" get bogged down with mediocrity. "Mind" especially stands out as what The Farm once stood for - creativity among the generic. While bands like Charlatans UK, Happy Mondays and Primal Scream wallowed in the clautrophobic psycho-delia, The Farm distanced themselves ever so slightly, but noticeably so, through concepts and space. *Love See No Colour*, with its lack of creative output, keeps The Farm from developing their potential and throws them back into the herd.

-Rey Roldan

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The Last Call Lady

Having a Ball at the House of Blues

BY LAUREN DARE

The House of Blues, Dan Akroyd and partners' tribute to the famous Blues Brothers, has already been open for more than a month, but judging from the size of the waiting crowd at 11 p.m. on a Saturday night, the novelty of this newest Cambridge night spot has yet to wear off. It was only with some slick maneuvering and throwing around of my "press credentials" that I managed to skip the line and head upstairs to the action. If you can't get your hot little mitts on some credentials of your own, then I suggest arriving *early* at the House of Blues for two reasons. First, you'll avoid frostbite in the five-degree weather; second, you can then exercise the option of eating some Texas ribs, buying your ticket at your table and missing the wait altogether.

Once you've "achieved" the second floor of the house, which plays host to live bands, you'll find yourself in a rather small space with a rather large number of people. When they say "House of Blues," the "House" part isn't just a figure of speech. It really is just a small house, with the walls and ceiling on the second floor ripped out, a bar and stage added, and about 100 people thrown in (including bartenders and cocktail waitresses). It's pretty intimate, and it gives the club a sort of warm and familiar feeling, and believe me, you can get pretty familiar with someone when you're squished backside to frontside with complete strangers.

The House of Blues

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Speaking of familiarity, I had every intention of making it to the bathroom to check out the availability of condoms, but on every attempt, there were at least 10 people waiting in line, crossing and re-crossing their legs, on the verge of yelling "This is an emergency!" I didn't see how I was going to get in there. (Another helpful hint: make sure you go *before* you leave home, but then again, I guess this won't help after you've consumed copious amounts of Absolut and tonic.)

The band, which on Saturday night was Texas Slim and the Jims, or maybe it was Texas Jim and the Slims — I couldn't keep it straight — is almost on the same level as the audience, which contributes to the intimate, just-having-a-good-time-jam-session-in-someone's-house feeling. The Slim Jims were really rocking the house, and the audience, which contained surprisingly few people with facial hair and cowboy hats, was sweating and dancing up a storm. The crowd was mid-twenties to mid-thirties; they ranged from funky to clean-cut, and they all looked like the type of people who might be bored with nightclubs and typical bars, but who still want to go out, swim their way through some shots, maybe meet Mr. or Ms. Right Now, and have a raucous good time.

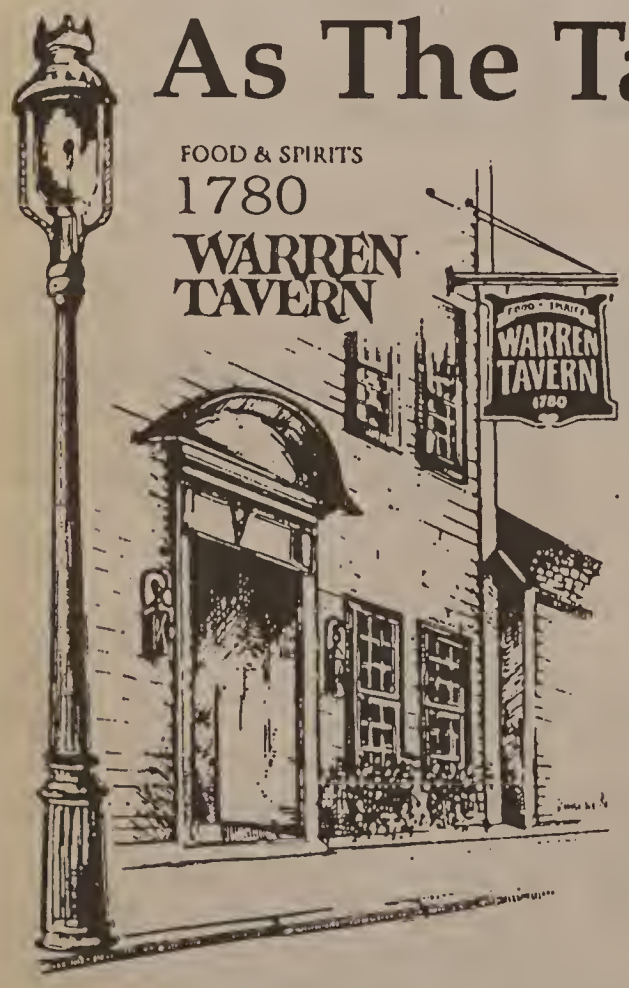
The only thing that might hurt you is the $12 cover on Saturday night (although it is less on other night, depending on the band) and the fact that the House of Blues, like the Olympics, doesn't take American Express. Despite these little drawbacks, the House of Blues is definitely worth the price of admission, so put on your Elwood Blues outfit and get ready to rock 'n roll, but remember my advice about getting there early. ❑



Mirn Michelove

Dan Akroyd and Governor Weld at theHouse of Blues opening

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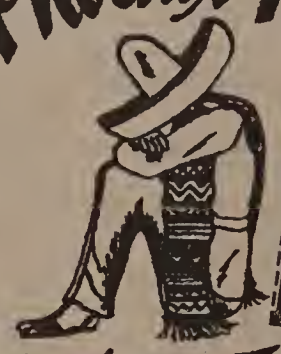
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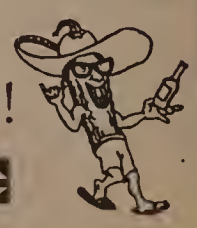
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BARS & CLUBS

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB**, 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BILL'S BAR** 421-9678, Lansdowne St., Boston. Located in the midst of Lansdowne St., Bill's can be a great alternative to the dance clubs. It caters to a crowd consisting anywhere from punk to preppie. Bill's reputedly has the best jukebox in the city, programed by Peter Wolf. It's loud, clean and showcases live music occasionally. Casual and very relaxed.

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE** 1960 Beacon St., Brookline 566-1002. A great place to relax and meet friends while watching your favorite sporting event. Stop by and pay us a visit. Conveniently located at the last stop on the C line, across from the Circle Cinema.

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featurng glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**CROSSROADS** 262-7371, 495 Beacon Street, Boston. Hailed as one of the last neighborhood pubs in Back Bay, this casual hotspot is frequented by locals, students and young professionals. Among its many attractions are three dart boards, cable sports, a loud jukebox and Guiness on tap. Open 7 days a week 'til 2.

•**DAISY BUCHANAN'S** 247-8516, 242 Newbury St., Bos. This Newbury St. late night hot spot packs up consistently with singles on the make. A dark and noisy place, where at least one anonymous source has protested the lack of condom dispensers at the bar. More action as the night wears on, this is a great place to be for last call. No cover. Casual dress.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. Attracts an older, quieter crowd. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**LUCKY JOHNNY'S** 731-6753, 1098 Comm. Ave., Boston. Classic Rock rhythms fill the air at this upbeat college bar frequented mostly by BU, BC and Pine Manor students. On weekends, it gets pretty crowded. So beat the lines and get there early. The barback grill is always open and the smaller underground lounge is a nice place to chat. Dress is a relaxed casual to somewhat dressy. Best of all, there's never a cover.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PERRY'S** 367-1297, 199 State St., Boston. Upstairs young professionals follow their favorite teams on six TV screens. While downstairs, college students and young professionals dance the night away Wed.-Sat. Located in the Faneuil Hall area, the dress is casual and the popcorn is excellent! Lunch and dinner served 11:30am-11pm.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

• **RED HAT** 523-2175, 9 Bowdoin St., Bos. You'll feel just like you're in a London pub. Dark and casual atmosphere. Attracts young professionals and Beacon Hill residents. No cover. Casual dress. One of the few places you can still get pitchers of mixed drinks.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WALLY'S** 424-1408, 427 Mass. Ave., Bos. Treat yourself to unadulterated Jazz nightly at Wally's. Neatly tucked away on Mass. Ave. not far from Northeastern U., Wally's is easy to miss. The only indication that you've arrived is a small white beer sign out front. The atmosphere is dark, smoky and crowded and above all authentic. Mon. is Blues night. No cover. Casual dress. Arrive early to get a seat.

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston. The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. No tank tops. Bring I.D. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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Axis 247 Spys, Naked Age, Stickmen
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Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Green Briar Karaoke
Harpers Ferry Apollo Talent Night
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's American Cafe Orchestra
Johnny D's American Cafe Orchestra
Kendall Cafe Jazz with Lester Parker and the Jazz All Stars
Kinvara Pub DJ Larry
Marketplace Cafe Street Magic
Middle East 3LB Universe, Universal Joint, 32-20, Frankly Scarlet
Midway Cafe Chuck Morris and the Sidewalk Blues Band
Purple Shamrock John Corcoran
Rathskeller Odds and Ends, Noise Gate, Throngs of Inequity
Regattabar Teka
Scullers Jazz Club Myanna
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters with guest Paul Rishell
Tam O'Shanter Sarah Laughs
Venus De Milo Gay Night
Warren Tavern Inquiring Minds
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Ron Savage Group

T 21ST

Avenue C O Positive
Axis Orangutang, Seka, Trojan Ponies
Barmuda Triangle Hip Hop with DJ Milo
Barmuda Triangle Rick Gold & The Blades
Bill's Bar College Night presented by Pak-It Productions with DJ Stew
Boston Beach Club Alternative Soundwaves with Morning Guy Tai
Bunratty's Black Salad, Sexploitation, 6L6
Christophers Rick Berlin & Kevin Connolly
Cityside Yvonne Taylor & the Prescriptions
Claddagh Karaoke Night
Club 3 Men In Trees, Section 8, King Friday
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields Mark Morris and CatTunes
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Darin Anquoe, Doug Hammerschmitt
Ed Burke's Groove Tubes
Edible Rex
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's The Candles
Green Briar Shivers
Grog The Search Party
Harpers Ferry Stub Junkman
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's 12I
Kendall Cafe Ken Clark
Kinvara Pub DJ Tom
Marketplace Cafe Brian Walkley Band
Middle East
Midway Cafe The Burning Sensations
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett
Rathskeller Beyond ID, Toast, Difference Engine and guests
Regattabar Marcus Roberts
Ryles Jazz Cafe Boston Drivers
Scullers Jazz Club Tenor Madness with Alex Elin, Billy Pierce, George Garzone
Sit 'n Bull Pub Eight to the Bar
Tam O'Shanter Kin Kane's Junko Partners, Mike Duke & the Soul Twisters
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quintet
Venus De Milo Groove-E Techno with DJ Debo & Tim Ryan
Warren Tavern The Kingslees
Western Front Hot Like Fire
Willow Jazz Club 4th Stream
Zachary's Dave Ware Group

F 22ND

Barmuda Triangle Crash Landing
Boston Beach Club Dance Party with DJ Al Perez
Bunratty's Mystery Jones, Johnny Groove, Signs of Life
Christophers Tricia Langlois
Cityside Swinging Johnsons
Claddagh Doe Brothers
Club 3 Tokyo Vibrations, The Gift, Madhouse
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields 5-0
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton, Lydia
Ed Burke's The Motivators with Mean Red Spiders
Four Seasons Hotel Susan Davis Jazz Trio
Great Scott's The Response
Green Briar Rhythm Acats
Grog Jump Street
Harpers Ferry Eight to the Bar
House of Blues Monster Mike & Band
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Joan Osbourne
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub Hot Tub Piranhas
Middle East Malachite, Mung, Blister, Smear
Middle East (downstairs) Green Magnet School, Fix Finger, Queer
Midway Cafe The Savages
Nightstage Concussion Ensemble, Cul de Sac, Opium Den
Paradise Chucklehead
Purple Shamrock Standing Hamptons
Rathskeller Squid, Thumper, Tinfish, Wiggleworm, Mutton Lane (balcony)
Regattabar Macus Roberts
Scullers Jazz Club Gloria Lynne
Sit 'n Bull Pub T.H. & the Wreckage
Tam O'Shanter Talking to Animals
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quintet
Venus De Milo Happy House with DJ Perry
Western Front I-Tones
Willow Jazz Club Tisziji Munoz with Bob Moses
Zachary's Burt Seger Trio

S 23RD

Barmuda Triangle Disoriented
Boston Beach Club Dance Party with DJ Al Perez
Bunratty's Crazy Alice, Grind
Cambridge Brewing Company Chuck Morris
Cecil's John Svetsky
Christophers Catherine David & Anne Clark
Cityside Swinging Johnsons
Claddagh Doe Brothers
Club 3 Foundation, Guy Smiley, Ultra Blue
Commonwealth Brewing Company Wilson Blue
Copperfields 5-0
Cricket's Uptown Acapella or North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Doug Hammerschmitt
Ed Burke's Darryl Nulish and Texas Heat with BJ Magoon
Edible Rex
Four Seasons Hotel Susan Davis Jazz Trio
Great Scott's The Response
Green Briar Rhythm Acats
Grog Madhouse
Harpers Ferry James Montgomery
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Rick Russel
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub Shivers
Middle East Lyres, Ukla Tu Muk, Pooka Stew
Middle East (downstairs) American Forefront of Punk featuring Fear, The Skatenigs, Upside Down Cross
Midway Cafe Ratt Rascal and the Sorrority House Horns
Purple Shamrock Standing Hamptons
Rathskeller Desade, Piss, Slow Club, Big Hot Sun, RPM's (balcony)
Regattabar Marcus Roberts
Ryles Jazz Cafe Herman Johnson Quintet
Scullers Jazz Club Gloria Lynne
Sit 'n Bull Pub Help!
Tam O'Shanter Search Party
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quintet
Venus De Milo Disco w. DJ Perry and Dave C.
Western Front I-Tones
Willow Jazz Club Tisziji Munoz with Bob Moses
Zachary's Burt Seger Trio

S 24TH

Barmuda Triangle Hip Hop Night/Eddie Q
Bill's Bar Jah Spirit
Boston Beach Club DJ Tony Tone
Bunratty's Vic Chestnutt
Christophers Dave Herlihy
Cityside Chad Lamarch, Kris Wales
Club 3 Little Joe Cooking Jam
Green Briar DJ Mike
Grog Blues Party 2nd Anniversary
Harpers Ferry Rhythm & Blues with Stovall Brown
Johnny D's Walk That Walk
Kinvara Pub DJ Colm
Middle East Chick Graining from Anastasia Screamed
Midway Cafe Blues Jam
Plough & Stars Hot Tamale Brass Band
Purple Shamrock Gordie Milne
Ryles Jazz Cafe Hot House 5
Scullers Jazz Club Lance Martin & the Flute & Friends Band
Tam O'Shanter Songwriter's Showcase - Benefit for Children's AIDS Program
Warren Tavern Jack Dalton
Willow Jazz Club 3rd Car

M 25TH

Amsterdam's Brian Walkley Band featuring Bob Gay & Scott Gilman
Barmuda Triangle Boston College Senior Night
Bill's Bar Movie Night
Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. and the Hot Ribs Blues Jam
Bunratty's Buns Country
Cityside Bruce Jacques
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Green Briar Irish Session
Harpers Ferry Uptown Revival
Kendall Cafe Boston's Improv Group
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw Darts
Middle East Gavin Friday
Scullers Jazz Club Stanley Jordan
Tam O'Shanter Tam Jam
Willow Jazz Club For Real Quartet

T 26TH

Barmuda Triangle House Dance Party
Bill's Bar Mr. Cranky, Iron Sausage, Phonebook, Ointment
Boston Beach Club DJ Al Perez
Bunratty's Furious George, Toybox, Minor Ninth
Cecil's Laticia
Cityside Johnny Secret
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Darin Anquoe, Michelle Currie
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Harpers Ferry Chance
Johnny D's Old Time Music Night
Kendall Cafe Open Mike
Kinvara Pub Free Juke Box
Middle East Gavin Friday
Middle East (downstairs) Unrest
Midway Cafe Clockwork
Purple Shamrock Pat Benti, Karaoke
Regattabar The Lello Molinari Quintet
Ryles Jazz Cafe Bruce Bartlett Trio



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BARS & CLUBS

continued from previous page

Scullers Jazz Club Stanley Jordan
Tam O'Shanter Fern & Rick Nichols
Venus De Milo See Bills Listing
Warren Tavern Sandy Martin
Willow Jazz Club Ralph Rosen & John Damien Quartet
Zachary's Jamie Saft Trio

W 27TH

Axis Flesh, Flash Addict, Valla
Barmuda Triangle Reggae/Jah Spirit
Bill's Bar Pipes CD Release Party also Random House of Soul
Boston Beach Club Live Reggae
Bunratty's Avatar Blue, Devil's Avocado, Bob
Cityside Alive & Picking
Claddagh Groovasauras
Club 3 The Davenport, Go Luckies, Red Light District
Copperfields Lounge 2000
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Darin Anquoe, Doug Hammerschmitt
Edible Rex
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's Randy & Mike
Green Briar Karaoke
Harpers Ferry Apollo Talent Night
House of Blues Apollo Talent Night
House of Blues Bar-B-Que & The Rhythm Aces
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's 8mm Film Festival
Kendall Cafe Jazz with Lester Parker and the Jazz All Stars
Kinvara Pub DJ Larry
Marketplace Cafe Street Magic
Middle East Gavin Friday
Middle East (downstairs) Shudder to Think
Midway Cafe Chuck Morris and the Sidewalk Blues Band
Purple Shamrock John Corcoran
Rathskeller Skifflehead, The Bones, Lateral Drift
Regattabar The Tito Puente Latin Jazz All-Stars
Scullers Jazz Club Steve Turre Sextet
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters with guest Paul Rishell
Tam O'Shanter Tornado Room
Venus De Milo Gay Night
Warren Tavern Inquiring Minds
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Karayorgis

t 28TH

Avenue C Riley's Field
Axis EBN, Powerman 5000, Blister
Barmuda Triangle Yoko Ono's Ass
Bill's Bar College Night presented by Pak-It Productions with DJ Stew
Boston Beach Club Alternative Soundwaves with Morning Guy DJ Tai
Bunratty's Benefit for Boston Archives - De Sade, Turbulent Daughters, The Balls
Christophers Ellyn Fleming & Doug Calais
Cityside Inquiring Minds
Claddagh Karaoke Night
Club 3 Benefit by Rock Angels: Asphalt Imagination, Braham Aura, Paradise Alley, Gracie
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields The Sense
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Doug Hammerschmitt, Jon Mansfield
Ed Burke's Fortunate Son with Acoustic Avacado
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's The Candles
Green Briar 5-0
Grog The Poussette-Dart Band
Harpers Ferry Slipknot
House of Blues New Year's Eve Party with many special guests
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Zen Tricksters
Kendall Cafe Kai Turnbull
Kinvara Pub DJ
Marketplace Cafe Brian Walkley Band
Middle East The Max Noise Awards
Middle East (downstairs) Mercury Row, Dambuilders
Midway Cafe The Savages
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett
Rathskeller Stompbox, Chinese Soul Christ, Canine Bastards, Shangrila, The Groove
Regattabar The Tito Puente Latin Jazz All-Stars
Ryles Jazz Cafe Chuck
Ryles Jazz Cafe (downstairs) Frank Wilkins Tribute to 1993
Scullers Jazz Club Steve Turre Sextet
Sit 'n Bull Pub The Bruce Marshall Group
Tam O'Shanter Darien Brahms, Great Atomic Power
Turner Fisheries Steve Soares Quartet
Venus De Milo Grove-E Techno
Warren Tavern The Kingslees
Western Front Solid Earth Band
Willow Jazz Club Tony Corelli Quartet
Zachary's Doug Houge Quartet
Zachary's New Year's Eve with Alfonso Vilallonga & Cabaret Rose

F 29TH

Barmuda Triangle Crash Landing
Boston Beach Club Dance Party with DJ Al Perez
Bunratty's Restless Souls, Hallowed Ground, Joe Stump, Brainthrust
Christophers The Innocents
Cityside Bag of Doughnuts
Claddagh John Corcoran
Club 3 Just Waters, The Wait, Farewell
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields Boys of Summer
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton, Lydia
Ed Burke's Unfinished Business with Cold Fusion
Edible Rex
Four Seasons Hotel Susan Davis Jazz Trio
Great Scott's Toad House
Green Briar Lounge 2000
Grog The Boston Baked Blues Band
Harpers Ferry Fat City
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Bobby Radcliff
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub The Doe Brothers
Middle East High Risk Group, Sexpod
Middle East (downstairs) Webb Wilder, John Lincoln Wright, Rag Iron
Midway Cafe King Kane's Junko Partners
Paradise Max Creek
Purple Shamrock Classic Trax
Rathskeller The Belle Isles, Black and Grey, Mind Over Matter, Dig This
Regattabar The Tito Puente Latin Jazz All-Stars
Sit 'n Bull Pub The Band That Time Forgot
Tam O'Shanter Universal Language featuring Ray Greene
Turner Fisheries Steve Soares Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House with DJ Perry
Western Front S.W.A.A.M.P.
Willow Jazz Club City Trees
Zachary's Burt Seger Trio

S 30TH

Barmuda Triangle Disoriented
Boston Beach Club Dance Party with DJ Al Perez
Bunratty's Letters to Cleo, Harmony Rockets, Sharks
Cambridge Brewing Company Agent 13
Cecil's Mili Bermejo, Dan Greenspan
Christophers Geoffrey Cary Sather & The Stockwell Bros.
Cityside Bag of Doughnuts
Claddagh John Corcoran
Club 3 Brazilian Dance Night with Som Brazil
Commonwealth Brewing Company Iration
Copperfields The Response
Cricket's Uptown Acapella or North Shore Acapalla
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton
Ed Burke's Swinging Steaks with Walk That Walk
Edible Rex
Four Seasons Hotel Susan Davis Jazz Trio
Great Scott's Toad House
Green Briar Shivers
Green Briar The Shivers
Grog The George Ley Band
Harpers Ferry Emil & the 11th Hour Band
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Hammerhead with Evil Gal
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub Dennis Healy Band
Middle East (downstairs) United States, X-15, Grind, Mindgrinder
Midway Cafe Little Frankie and the Premieres
Purple Shamrock Classic Trax
Rathskeller The Fighting Cocks, Digger, Stampede, Syzygy, Naked Savior, Small Town No Airport
Regattabar The Tito Puente Latin Jazz All-Stars
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters
Tam O'Shanter The Band the Time Forgot
Turner Fisheries Steve Soares Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco with DJ Perry and Dave C.
Western Front S.W.A.A.M.P.
Willow Jazz Club City Trees
Zachary's Burt Seger Trio

S 31ST

Barmuda Triangle Hip Hop with Eddie Q
Boston Beach Club DJ Tony Tone
Citside Chad Lamarch, Kris Wales
Club 3 Little Joe Cooking Jam
Green Briar DJ Mike
Grog Super Bowl Party
Kinvara Pub Super Bowl Party with DJ Edgar
Middle East Opium Den, Gile, Freeze Grief
Middle East (downstairs) Insane, Swirlies, Spore, Mad Box, Kudgel, Ambulance Driver, Queer
Midway Cafe Super Bowl Party and Blues Jam
Purple Shamrock Gordie Milne
Sit 'n Bull Pub The 7th Annual Super Bowl Party
Tam O'Shanter The Marlowes
Warren Tavern Jack Dalton
Willow Jazz Club Jeff Covell Trio

m 1ST

Amsterdam's Brian Walkley Band featuring Bob Gay & Scott Gilman
Bill's Bar Movie Night
Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. and the Hot Ribs Blues Jam
Cityside Hideaways
Green Briar Irish Session
Green Briar Irish Session
Kendall Cafe Boston's Improv Group
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw Darts
Willow Jazz Club Ray Valente

t 2ND

Boston Beach Club DJ Al Perez
Cecil's
Cityside Chuck Morris & the Sidewalk Bums
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Johnny D's Peter Morton
Kendall Cafe Open Mike
Kinvara Pub Free Juke Box
Purple Shamrock Pat Benti
Regattabar The Kenny Werner Trio
Willow Jazz Club Ray Valente

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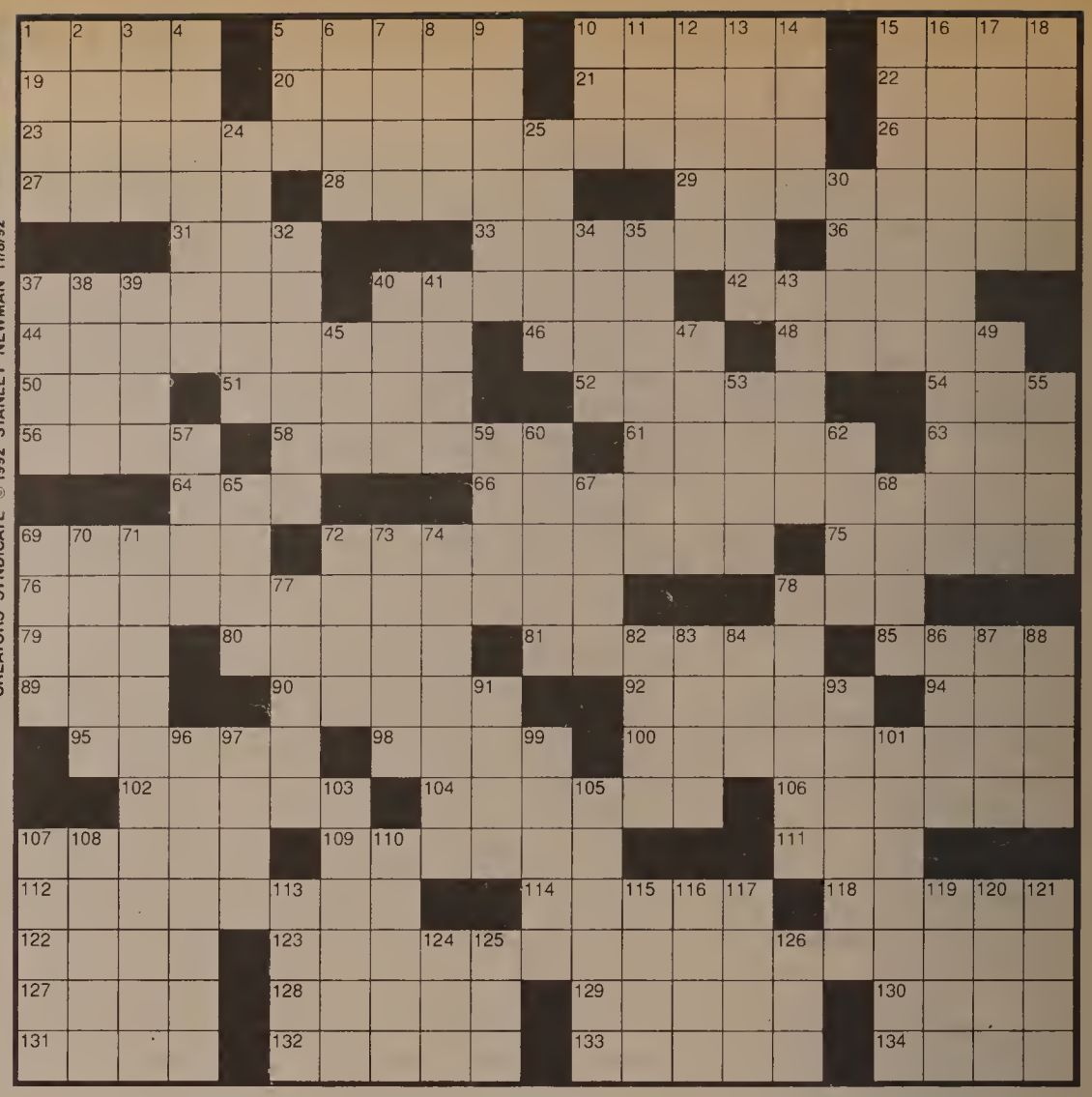
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

CLOTHWORD PUZZLE: Material wordplay

by Cathy Millhauser



ACROSS

1 Edifice complex
5 Some exams
10 Make off with
15 Cash dispensers, initially
19 Laos' locale
20 Sitcom demo
21 It comes from the heart
22 Insignificant one
23 Fabricated novel?
26 Green feature
27 Actress Berger
28 Praise highly
29 Ivan's epithet
31 Clark's *Mogambo* costar
33 Gauchos' gear
36 Thin as __
37 Come to light
40 *The Deep* star
42 Ankle bones
44 Fabricated city?
46 "The Galloping Gourmet"
48 Seder serving
50 Tack on
51 City of Light sight
52 "From __ shining . . ."
54 Vaudevillian Tanguay
56 Alvino and Alejandro
58 Dog star
61 ". . . __'clock scholar"
63 Warm greeting
64 Peeples of *Fame*
66 Fabricated film?
69 __ Joe (Twain character)
72 Fabricated loser?
75 Spud
76 Fabricated signs of corpulence?
78 Bklyn. or Qns.
79 UFO pilots
80 Desilu Studios co-owner
81 Treasure State capital
85 "Get lost!"
89 Bermuda clock setting: Abbr.
90 Tamper with odometers
92 Wear down
94 Pub quaff
95 Falstaffian
98 How floor models are sold
100 Fabricated camping gear?
102 Omit in pronunciation
104 Open, in a way
106 Squirrel snacks
107 Biblical verb
109 Pop up
111 Black Hawks' org.
112 Clear out
114 Solemn ceremonies
118 Comedienne Fields
122 Fully stretched
123 Fabricated soap opera?
127 Woodshaping tool
128 Makes an effort
129 Rope's slipknot
130 __ *Kleine Nachtmusik*
131 Planting-season purchase
132 Trinidad and Tobago
133 Church council
134 Ship pole

DOWN

1 Framing needs
2 '75 Wimbledon winner
3 Legal claim
4 Digestive enzyme
5 Unclose, poetically
6 In full flower
7 Author Haley
8 Not following
9 Bar furniture
10 Pipe cutter
11 Craggy peak
12 One of Calliope's sisters
13 Swear (to)
14 Cohort of Bolger and Haley
15 Keenly desirous
16 Fabricated double?
17 Metric prefix
18 Pittsburgh product
24 Black birds
25 Pocketful of rye?
30 __ avis
32 Ms. Lansbury
34 Gets the point
35 Like cheap mascara
37 Controversial tree spray
38 Sally in space
39 Henry Jones, Jr.'s nickname
40 Prohibitions
41 Midmonth day
43 *Love __ the Ruins*
45 Colorado creek
47 Odds numbers
49 Small egg
53 Part of TVA
55 Golden __ (senior citizen)
57 Cold-shoulder
59 *How __ the War* ('67 film)
60 Dry land
62 *Beetle Bailey* pooch
65 *To Live and Die* __
67 Loll about
68 Arm-powered propellers
69 Fancy
70 *"Au contraire!"*
71 Fabricated excuse?
72 Teen trauma
73 Tibet's capital
74 Looks over
77 Messed up
78 Villain
82 One of the jet set?
83 Composer Satie
84 Hide-hair link
86 "It Must Be Him" singer
87 Thicke of *Growing Pains*
88 Hardy heroine
91 Pitchfork part
93 "Our free hearts __ other": Shak.
96 Voted in
97 In __ (undisturbed)
99 Snowman's accessory
101 Actress Del Rio
103 Diner patrons
105 __ Hound (Canis Major)
107 Greek letters
108 Get around
110 Serious risk
113 __ spumante
115 Weight system
116 Cornwallis' alma mater
117 Just fair
119 Take a fall
120 One of the Hebrides
121 Washstand piece
124 Sound of amazement
125 Slalom curve
126 Shirt size: Abbr.

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APARTMENTS

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BRIGHTON Newton. 1 BR ht/hw , ac, ww, pkg, pool, on T, no fee, $750. 899-2349

CHELSEA Luxury 2 bedroom apt. 1 1/2 baths, w/d, parking, convenient to T, balcony, pool and health club $825 (617)648-8109

DORCHESTER Ashmont Hill, 5 rooms on Red line. 2 bedrooms, deck, laundrey, pantry, brick building. $800 heated Call 265-3203

DORCHESTER Jones Hill 2 bedrooms in 3 decker. 5 rooms near Savin Hill T. $550.00 call owner 282-1471

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BRIGHTON CENTER Looking for woman 25+ with group spirit and exp.to join household of 1 woman/ 2 men. 2 cats, sunny spacious victorian, T access, new kitchen and bath, fireplace $350 + util. Call 783-1931

BROOKLINE Seeking non-smoking roomate M/F to sublet in Chestnut Hill w/2F Profs. Washer/Dryer/ Porch, near T. 1 cat. Call Camy # 731-1714. Non-smoking.

CAMBRIDGE Central Square female seeks female to share apt. Conv. location, Drug/smoke free $325 avl. now 354-3792

NEWTON
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BEACON HILL Female grad student seeks female roomate for 2 bedroom apt. nonsmoking, $350 mo. heat water included Call Jill at 720-0511

BRIGHTON Non- smoking prof. seeks same to share huge sunny 2 bedroom apartment. Close to B line and buses. On street parking avl.. If your fun, responsible and sane please call 787-7974

BRIGHTON Seeking a female, non-smoker, kind, responsible. Great apartment area, washer, no pets. $400 includes everything 787-4237 or 380-4221

BRIGHTON Spac. room in large house. All hardwood floors, parking util. w/d included Artists/teachers preferred Semi-Coop. Call Nathan Lv. msg. 787-8797

CAMBRIDGE Near Galleria Prof. male seeking roomate for 2 bedroom apt. Light housekeeping. 864-0007

CAMBRIDGE North Cambridge. Free rent in exchange for light housekeeping and part time babysiting for 6 year old girl. 3 bedroom apt. 491-5809

CAMBRIDGE Professional female over 25, non-smoker, two bedroom house with hardwood floors, dining room, living room, sunroom, full kitchen with dishwasher and disposal, off street parking, 5 blocks from Harvard Sq. $600+ util. Call Joyce 876-1599 Avl. 12/1

DORCHESTER/ ASHMONT HILL 2 rooms for rent, bedroom and eat-in kitchen, shared bathroom in victorian home on a quiet tree lined street, two blocks from Ashmont red line station $360 includes all util. female pref. 288-3697

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APT. SHARES

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JAMAICA PLAIN Prof. 43, Non-smoker, pianist activists seeks m/f roomate for large 2 bedroom in Summer Mill. Near T $325+ 1/2 Util. avl. 8/1 522-4420 evenings or 267-2949 days

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JAMAICA PLAIN Quiet well kept 2 bedroom apt. with off St. parking for GM or GF. You can have bedroom furnished or unfurnished for $325, all util. included. Call Ed after 6 pm. 524-0421

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MALDEN Male or Female for 2 bedroom house. Wall to wall carpeting, washer/dryer, off street parking. Non-smoker No drugs. $375+ Util. Available Now 324-3509

MALDEN Professional M/F to share luxury 2 bedroom. Parking, view, health club, dishwasher, w/d, no smoking/pets, near T and route 1, $535+ 322-9449

MALDEN Seeking female nonsmoker for 3BR townhouse with 1 1/2 bath. Off street parking, garage, storage, pool, no pets. Walk to T $333 utilities, avl. now Call 321-6996

MEDFORD 1 Disc. GWM seeks 1 GWM/F to share 7 room house. Chrs. near shopping, T, Tufts W/D CBL. deck, must be disc. no pet, drugs, alch. $495 mo. no util. 396-0187 lv. msg.

NEWTON 2M seeks 2 M/F to share 4 bedroom. Great yard, garden, w/d. Near Watertown Square & T Avl NOW!!! $350+ Smoking OK 965-7805

NEWTON 40 Yr. old health care professional seeks to share quiet home in quiet neighborhood condusive to studying. Must be convenient to Cambridge and in the $400 range each. On or before Sept. 1 Call 547-6058

NEWTON CENTRE Housemate, m/f, 30+ for large bedroom with parking, washer/ dryer, storage in lovely 4 bedroom house with view of Crystal Lake 969-7124

NEWTON CENTRE Near T. Nice room. $335/month plus. John or Linda, 965-0930 or 332-4800

NEWTONVILLE Female 25+ wanted for 2 bedroom. Yard, parking, storage, close to shopping $415+ Util. 244-4573

NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utilities. Steven (508)664-4443

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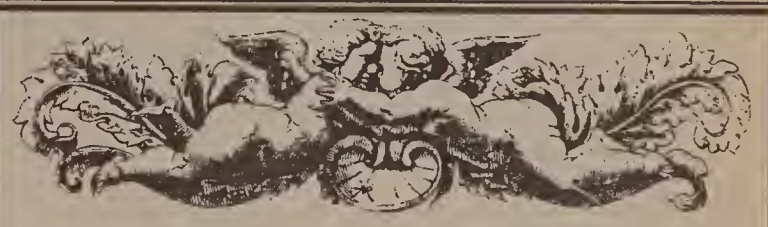
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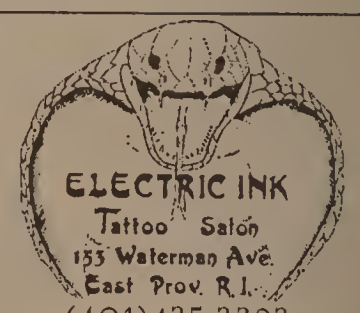
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Tom C.,
You may think you're a sensation at the Park Plaza, but everyone knows you're nothing but a reject from the Thunderhead Club. Don't you think it's about time you got a life, and stopped you incessant weeping? Please go back to Ohio, you disgusting, crab-infested Baby Huey look-alike.

To our new dictator Kathleen,
This is an official warning: Do not overstep your bounds, honey. We find your treatment of the workers to be "totally unacceptable." If you don't shape up, we'll ship you back to Digital. BUMS

Chrissy,
YOU DRIVE ME NUTS! Get over Les before I die or else I'll remain fond of you and never fondle you.
The recent graduate
P.S. Wanna start a relationship?

Maddy,
I don't know what I did to offend you, but whatever it was, I'm sorry.You know that my loyalites run with the A.U.'s. Put the hat pin away and go find out what that crazy uncle of yours is up to.
-Agent T.

Christian,
Welcome back to Boston!
Love, Sarah

Someone please make the woman who runs R's Promise to put on some clothes! Whenever I go in she's in a bathing suit that reminds me of a dairy farm (because her hips look like cottage cheese). And when you pan up this shapely (and sit-around-the-house) figure, be cautious of her flailing, tentacle-like pubes that jet out in all directions like a sea urchin trying to catch a fish.
If she were ever to be with a man it would have to be a Dominican banana farmer: they're they only ones with enough machete skill to cut through that Hellish Nightmare of a pubic forest.
The Evil I

Jeanne,
I hope you can still recall our encounter on Martha's Graveyard. Where are you now? Fat and ugly? Fifteen kid? Five years of hell with me shoulda made you ready for anything. What's so sad about the past is it's passed. Yeah, tho' I walk thru Rudy Vallee, I will fear no Evil Knievel.
Hans Jobber

Dearest Bill,
Thank you ever so much for the Gucci watch you gave me the night before we broke up. It is the perfect representation of our relationship and will be a constant reminder of what it really was: FAKE.
Forever your ex,
Carla

To Chief Editor TS,
The spoons seemed to work – perhaps next time you could bring along a bohran. Keep those tourist dollars in Erin and leave the "U"nited "K"ingdom to what it is - "UK"ie.
Irish American and A Brit's Ex Wife

Carol,
If you haven't noticed yet, someone who sits next to you at work has a crush on you. Just look at his seat the next time he gets up to go to the copier. Oh yeah, and don't touch it, your hand may stick to the seat.
An Associate

Katey,
Let's "do" inventory every friday.
F.R.

Jane,
When, oh when do I get a look at the real you? Tight red dresses and black p-hose make me hotter than a buffalo in the African sun.
Guess

Bahahhhbry,
Rye ron't ruu tell me how to schpell my name az gooood as ru do?
P.T.

Laurie,
When I got to work this morning, I was told that I'd lost thousands on the market, my family died in a plane crash, my test came back positive and that it was going to rain tonight. I can handle everything, except for the rain. Can you help?
Lonely, Confused and weather-beaten

Ms. Power Hungry,
Next time you steal a marketing idea and disguise it as your own, you'll be a dead woman. Four years in this company does not give you the right to screw over your friends. By the way, we all know you're sleeping with Steve. Are you screwing your way to the top, or just on top?
You know

To the Captain,
Why don't you be realistic and make a New Years's resolution you can stick to? How about resolving to keep warmer during the winter with a sheep?

S,
Don't bother trying to beat me at all those games. You don't stand a chance. It's all just a trivial pursuit.

Begs,
Sorry I left the dynamite lying on the wood stove. It was just a tiny explosion. I wont do it again. Now forgive me and let me eat the Poodle.

M,
Seems to be taking fewer and fewer beers to get affectionalte. Or maybe you were lying about it in the first place, and you are a fuzzy lust puppy by nature. Next time you can go bottomless

OOOGO,
Where's that ad copy!? Being north of the border is still no excuse.
-Dave

Parovich,
You smelly rat. Try and double cross us again and you'll get a sunburn you'll never forget. -Dr. A and Friends

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February 3–February 10, 1983

(newsstand price 50 cents)

The Improper Bostonian

Smitten with a Whip



Uncovering Boston's undercover sex scene

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Waiter! I'd Like Four of These Plates.

Going to Lou Lou's Lost And Found is an amusing adventure, because it seems more like an ocean liner in a musical comedy than a regular shop. And the gleeful grabbers figuratively on deck are having away at stuff you usually can't have (unless you're an unscrupulous diner who carries a giant purse), namely hotel and restaurant plates, glassware, chafing dishes, thick, silver-plated coffee pots, toast racks, champagne coolers, and the like (some new, some used). It all spells fancy dining, or room service, and the pieces are, accordingly, generously large and gorgeous. The huge dinner plates and escargot holders and cafe cups with their distinctive shape, the kind you never see on "civilian" cups come from such ritzy venues as Maxim's in Paris, Lasserre, Cafe De La Paix and The Grand Hotel (they may be here because the gold-leafed insignia was slightly wrong for the hotel). The English and American plates often have a rolled edge and a certain — though pleasing — solidity; the French plates tend to be thinner and finer. The plates sport any number of refined patterns or the snob-fluffery of the restaurant's famous name. Josephine Baker, Piaf, and music of the 20's, 30's and 40's floats in the air.



Lou Lou's Lost And Found
121 Newbury Street
Boston, Mass.
859-8593

The Long Journey to Serenity

To address the problem that "people in recovery" may have in safely transporting the spirit of sobriety into that realm of the unpredictable known as vacation, George Waterman, formerly a recovery-bookshop owner, has devised Serenity Trips. These are weekend trips as well as extended vacations for people in any of the vast networks devoted to these "clean" principles — AA, Al-Anon, AlaTeen, ACOA, CODA, and people with addictions other than alcohol. It's not only a way for soberniks to bring their meetings with them (these are conducted on the cruise ship, or in the local library or church) but also a way to have a sort of cross-fertilizing connection with people from other related organizations. A man from AA can have a newfound chance to hear the Al-Anon side and, as Waterman says, "get a sense of what his wife has gone through," for instance. The trips include a ski weekend in Vermont (with the chance to visit the house of AA's founder Bill Wilson, also his gravesite on which the grateful have lavished a little mountain of sobriety medallions), a trip to Cancun and a Caribbean cruise. And, providing urgent contrast to the intoxication norms of the occasion, Serenity Trips also offer Sober Spring Breaks — often filled with the children, yea the roommates, of alcoholics.

Serenity Trips For People In Recovery And Their Friends
Sponsored by Uniglobe Strategic Travel
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Everywhere, Everywhere, Water

Speaking of liquids, this is a great "occasional book" to read in the bathroom. Someone allegedly named D.A. Rain has compiled this quirky compendium of "Facts and Fables for the Modern Reader" — about water. It turns out to be the active ingredient in many a thing — the filler, the squisher, the symbolic player, the refreshment, the mystery and the liquid muscle within things that seem to be other than wet. Take trees: they have to move water up from their roots to their tops. Some are almost 400 feet high. A column of water 34 feet high takes one "atmosphere" (about 15 pounds per sq. in.) to hold it up. The water not only has to be supported, but pushed upward, against the friction of the tree. So a force of almost 30 atmospheres is needed to do the job. Trees are awesome.
Then there is a Buddhist tale about a people conquered by a king who agreed to let many people escape while a prince named Mahanama stayed underwater. But since he tied his hair to the underwater root of a willow tree, everyone escaped. And then, did you know that "Hippo" comes from the Greek for hippos (or horse) and "potamus," meaning river: hence the word means "river horse." Or, did you ever think about the fact, given that the flip side of water's flowing allure is its tendency to produce rust, that water "serves a spiritual purpose" when it causes things to rust? Claims Rabbi Sol Bernstein of Brooklyn N.Y., "It corrodes the glitter that tempts us to lay up our treasures on earth. Water not only rusts; it rots, molds, mildews, and decays. It floods, it hurricanes, it tidal waves, and even throws out the occasional devastating hailstorm." How many words can be found in the little word "Water?"



Twenty two. One hundred and thirty six towns are listed whose names connote water. H, 2 Oh! There's a lot in this notion to swim around in.

The Water Book
Branden Publishing Co.
Boston
734-2045

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Chioice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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Deviant sex? Something dangerous, perhaps even unsafe going on all around us in this proper and conservative city that we call home? Next door, around the corner and maybe even in your office, Bostonians are up to some sexual mischief and some of the players just may surprise you. Grab your boots and take a walk on the wild side of Boston's underground sex scene. BY GARY S. KADET

10 1-900-Sex Call



Are you missing that special someone on Valentine's day? Like many others, you may want to call a 1-900 or 1-800 sex line for some companionship. If you're nervous about calling, eavesdrop on this conversation with "Tina," owner and operator of one of Boston's own Fantasy Sex lines.by Tobin A. Streett BY TOBIN STREETT

27 The Missing Linkup: Cyber Sex in New England



Linkup to one or many of New England's most popular "Computer Sex" lines. All it takes is a modem, your imagination and the ability to type to travel into the world of Cyber Sex.

BY GARY S. KADET



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581A Tremont St.

Makeup: Jeffrey — Born 2B Wild

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COMEDY

Of Comedians and Platypus Men

An Interview With Richard Jeni

BY SUSANNE SCHANTZ

One of the keys to surviving in the hyper-competitive world of standup comedy is keeping your material fresh; in other words, always keep evolving. Standup master Richard Jeni has taken this credo to heart. He has been "Crazy From the Heat" during his 1991 Showtime special, that wacky Mr. Party Guy you see in the actually-worth-catching Certs television campaign and is the current host of the Arts and Entertainment Network's Caroline's Comedy Hour show.

But all of this is piddle next to Jeni's most recent evolution, because this time, he's become more; he's become...Platypus Man.

"I was watching a National Geographic show," he explains with his still-detectable NYC cadence. "They had on this animal called a platypus. This is a very strange animal. It lives alone, has very short legs, feeds at night. I said 'Wow – this is me.'"

At that moment, Platypus Man was born. But to Jeni, a thinking-man's comedian, that confused little mammal with reptilian habits was more than just a funny word to add to his routine. "It was a symbol," he says, "for any being that's contradicted in a comical way. It looks weird. It has these feature that make it look like one creature, but it's not."

It's obvious that Jeni has philosophically warmed up to his new character. "I thought it was a pretty good metaphor," he says. "We're all platypussian, if you will. The old rules don't work any more and the new rules don't work yet, so we're all wandering around caught between what used to be and what is. I've always been obsessed with all these things that are irreconcilable."

Just when you're beginning to wonder about this unexpected serious bent, Jeni slips back into the comedian role. "For example," he continues, "why is it that we're drawn to have a hamburger when the salad is the thing that's not going to kill you."

Jeni explains that he finds the platypus thing appealing because it has a little philosophy behind it. "I you're thinking person, you have to walk a fine line between trying to be funny and trying to say something. You always have the imperative of the joke. Comedy is like a steam valve that people have. Comedians are like professional deflector of people's emotions. That's why people have sense of humor; it's a coping mechanism.'

But seriously, folks. In spite of his ability to give dissertations, or maybe because



of it, Jeni is very funny. His bad boy attitude, in hibernation when he waxes philosophical, comes cruising right out again when he describes his Bensonhurst background.

"It was like Good Fellas. I sat watching (the movie), saying 'I know that guy; I know that guy.' I think the first guy I used to do was Jackie Gleason, because that show was set in Brooklyn, so it was huge where I was."

You can catch Jeni at Nick's Comedy Stop on February 5 and 6 or on his "Richard Jeni, Platypus Man" special airing on HBO in February. Or maybe you'll see him on prime time: "I have a sitcom deal with ABC," Jeni laughs, "I'm working to make a pilot in March. It's a combination of Roseanne and Home Improvement. Every Thursday at 8 I drill a fat woman. Just kidding." Always leave 'em laughing. ❑

HOT TICKET

PARADISE

February 5, *O-Positive*
8:00 doors, $7.50/$8.50
d.o.s.

ORPHEUM THEATRE

February 12, *Keith Richards and the X-Pensive Winos*
7:30, $23.50

CENTRUM

February 19, *Bon Jovi*
7:30, $20.00

ADVANCE TICKET TIP

Suzanne Vega at Avalon on March 15

• Comedy Listings •

Catch a Rising Star 30B JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-0167. This legendary comedy club in the heart of Harvard Square is celebrating five years in business. Local and national acts. Sandwiches and cold appetizers served. Cover varies. Casual dress. For tickets and showtimes, call 661-0167 or 720-3450. Fri and Sat is Midnight Madness: Only $1 gets you in to see 4-6 comedians at midnight. Every Tue and Sun is Boston's Brightest Comedy Talent Search.

Thu 4th thru Sat 6th.-Rick Corso, Colin Blake, Dave Weinberg. Sun 7th.-Club Boonoononos. Thur 11th thru Sat 13th.-Rich Ceisler, Danny Scannell, Dave Barend.

Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. This is the only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Fri 5th.- Emo Philips. Sun 7th and Mon. 8th 1st Anniversary Celebration featuring Damon Wayans Fri. 19th.- Mark DeCarlo, host of "Studs." Fri. 26th.- Michael Winslow, sound effects maniac from "Police Academy." Many other daily shows- call for the latest information!

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, which features both national celebs and local favorites. Show times: Fri at 9pm, Sat at 8pm and 10:30pm. Cover $8. Always packed and second-hand smoky. Casual dress.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See above. Show times: Fri and Sat at 10pm. Cover $9.

Guilty Children on Fri and ImprovBoston on Sat at the Back Alley Theatre, 1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge. Call 576-1253 for times and ticket prices.

Nick's Comedy Stop 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. This comedy club is one of Boston's most popular attractions when it comes to local and national acts. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

Mon 8th.- Open mike night with Billy Martin.

Stand-up Comedy Cafe (formerly The Original Connection) at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. Named by USA Today as the Number One comedy club in the country. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Rated by Rolling Stone and Vanity Fair as the nation's top comedy club. Noteworthy headliners have included Roseanne Arnold, Robin Williams and Steven Wright. Shows are Sun-Thu at 8:30pm, Fri and Sat at 8:30pm & 10:30pm. Tickets are Sun-Wed $6, Thu $8 and Fri & Sat $10.

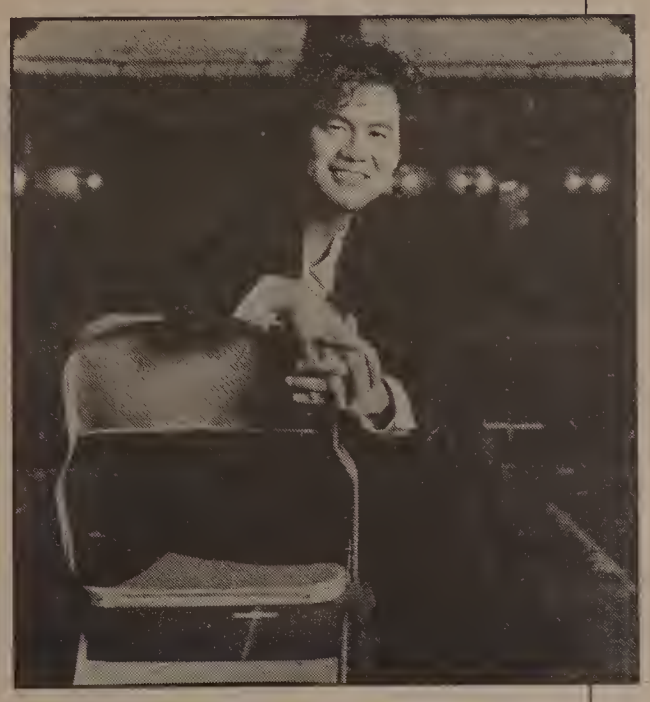
Wed 3rd.- Steve Kimbrough. Thu 4th thru Sat 6th.- Jonathan Katz. Sun 7th.- Billy Martin. Mon 8th.- Chance Langton. Tue 9th.- Open mike night with Vinnie Favorito. Wed 10th.- Steve Kimbrough. Thu 11th.- The Grant Taylor Show. Fri 12th & Sat 13th.- Kevin Knox and Bill Braudis. Sun 14th.- Billy Martin. Mon 15th.- Chance Langton. Tue 16th.- Open mike night with Vinnie Favorito. Look for the new "Boston Unplugged" series - local bands giving acoustic performances - every Wed. at 10pm. Feb. 3 it's Mark Sandman of Morphine; Feb. 10 see Joel Gramolini of the Subterraneans.

Stitches 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Every Tue at 9pm and Fri at 10:30pm: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu: Cross Comedy. Prices vary from $6-$10; no dress code.

Wed 3rd.- Greg Fitzsimmons. Thu 4th.- Cross Comedy. Fri 5th.- Margaret Smith, Chuck Sklar, Steve Cato; Frank Santos at 10:30. Sat 6th.- Margaret Smith, Chuck Sklar, Steve Cato. Sun 7th.- Open mike night with Vinnie Favorito. Tue 9th.- Frank "The R-rated Hypnotist" Santos. Wed 10th.- Greg Fitzsimmons. Thu 11th.- Cross Comedy. Fri 12th.- Ron Lynch, Brian Frazier, Tom Agna; Frank Santos at 10:30. Sat 13th.- Ron Lynch, Brian Frazier, Tom Agna. Sun 14th.- Open mike night with Vinnie Favorito. Tue 16th.- Frank "The R-rated Hypnotist" Santos.

T.T. the Bear's Place 10 Brookline Ave., Central Square, Cambridge. "Oyster Cove, the Soap," a completely improvised comedy-drama, follows the fortunes and fears of a group of colorful characters on a Massachusetts island, coping with the '90s and each other. A new episode each week; runs indefinitely. Sundays 4-5:30pm.

AROUND TOWN



Ever wanted to see what you hear on the radio? Well, here's your chance. The New England Theatres on the Air series debuts on Monday, February 15 at 8 PM with the ART's production of Robert Brustein's Demons. The performance of this modernized Faust play, set in the Harvard Divinity school, will hit the "stage" in Waltham, at the Guest Quarters Suite Hotel. The performance features actors Richard Benjamin and Paula Prentiss, and will later be broadcast on WGBH 89.7 FM. This performance kicks off a series of productions by a variety of New England stage companies with guest stars ranging from Ed Asner to Marsha Mason. Tickets are $12 per play or $66 for the entire six play series. Call 496-2000 for tickets or details.



We'd like to suggest that this Friday night, you eat out at Anthony's Pier 4, Cornucopia, Pappa Razzi, Union Oyster House, Jimmy's Harborside, The Hard Rock Café, Weylu's, Sweet Endings and over sixty other premier Boston restaurants. Not enough cab fare you say? Then enjoy food from all of them at the **8th Annual Anthony Spinazzola Gala**: "A festival of food and wine." This benefit, named for the late Boston Globe restaurant and wine critic, takes place at Boston's World Trade Center on February 5 from 7 PM until midnight. Featured will be a barrage of food and wine, accompanied by vintners who can suggest the appropriate wine for your meal (or meals). Hosted by Boston TV news anchors Liz Walker, Susan Wornick, and local pol/radio personality Marjorie Clapprood, the Gala features dancing, an auction, a raffle, and the presentation of the 1993 Spinazzola Celebrity Chef of the Year Award. Nominated for the award are chefs from Community Servings, New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans, Pine Street Inn, Rosie's Place, and St. Francis House. The Spinazzola Foundation will present awards and contributions to each of these organizations. Tickets for this creative black tie affair are $100. Call 344-4413 for tickets, raffle tickets, and information.

The creator of M. Butterfly and the Tony-award-winning director of such theater hits as Guys & Dolls and Six Degrees of Separation are bringing a brand new play to Boston. *Face Value*, **David Henry Hwang's** new fairy-tale farce about true love and mistaken racial identity will begin its pre-Broadway run at the Colonial Theatre on February 9. Produced by Stuart Ostrow, this production will run through the 28th with eight performances a week, including three matinees. Tickets range from $42.50 to $17.50. Call 426-9366 for information and 931-2787 to charge tickets.

Starting Tuesday, February 16, you can begin to expect more from the **Boston Ballet company** than just a song and dance. It's called Informance, and it's their new Tuesday night series. *"Informance"* refers to a pre-performance lecture and demonstration which goes on just before the evening's performance. Held at the Wang Center, the first Informance lecture, titled "From the Beginning," takes place in conjunction with the Ballet's performance of Don Quixote and will be hosted by Artistic Director Bruce Marks. Two other Informance sessions will be held on April 29 and June 8, corresponding with performances of Cinderella and Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet, respectively. Admission is free with a ticket to the Tuesday evening performance. For tickets and information, call 695-6955.





Wine lovers and experts from all over the region are gathering into Boston to experience an all-out celebration dedicated to the fruit of the vine. The **1993 Boston Wine Expo**, taking place on February 6 and 7 at the World Trade Center, will feature numerous events including lectures, seminars, and tastings. Among these will be a discussion describing how the taste of a wine can be determined by the shape of the glass, a pre-auction tasting and auction of hard-to-find premium vintages by the Chicago Wine Company, and an ongoing presentation of premier vintages from 150 domestic and international wineries. Saturday evening will host a Special Vintner's Dinner at which host vintners will provide specially selected wines throughout the meal. Tickets are $25 for one day and $40 for both days. These prices do not include the Vintner's Dinner or the auction. Call 931-3100 for tickets. Various hotels offer special Expo packages. Call 439-5110 for more information.



Smitten with

New England's Kinky Sex Scene Comes Out of the Closet

by Gary S. Kadet

The sybarites have descended. What was just an hour ago a dark and relatively subdued alternative music club is now packed with a pulsing throng of urgent bodies of all shapes and sizes. The music is the low industrial throb of a band called "Sleep Chamber." The lights are dim, and people are pouring in at the door.

It's the usual crowd. A plain woman — decked out in red leather from her stiletto heel boots to her vermilion trench coat — purrs as men service her feet with darting tongues, one for each boot. A dapper man in a suit walks about wearing a sign around his neck that reads "property of Mistress Luesha." A dark figure encased entirely in black latex known in the scene as "Rubber" stands amid the crowd, wrists and ankles handcuffed to a pillar. He can see nothing, and one wonders how he can breathe — his head completely sheathed in a jet black latex hood as permeable as a condom. Mistress Kimberly, a petite, auburn haired woman bedecked in a chrome and leather harness stands by him holding a riding crop in her hand. She looks at Rubber as if she owns him — and she does.

Dressed in a black catsuit, a knockout woman known as Variatio straddles the lap of a woman seated on a curved couch and kisses her undulously, while holding a leash around the neck of an obedient man standing by. The woman beneath Variatio also holds a leash attached to a man. Lantern-jawed and stately blonde transvestite Mistress Jennifer English accepts compliments on a new bustier, towering over most of the men there. Taller still and moving across the dance floor in a tight, leather cutaway skirt and signature smoke-tinted hose is Mistress Diana, a transsexual and former professional dominant who is this evening's mistress of ceremonies.

Mistress Diana, a shrewd businesswoman, systems operator (sysop) of the Fantasy Realization computer bulletin board, and a participant in the international scene for five years (in such B&D publications as Dominant Directory International and Latent Image) doesn't need to announce it. The gilt throne that club management has set up for her on stage and the rapt attention of the crowd hanging on her every word says it all: she is clearly queen of "the scene."

And what is "the scene?" Alternative, kinky sex, of course: bondage, dominance and submission, sadomasochistic role-playing, gender-bending — all of which, despite the glacial plague of AIDS and the subzero moral climate is alive and well and kicking up its booted heels, not just in New York, and LA, but here in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The above scenario describes "Fantasy Night" at Man Ray, a twice-monthly event dedicated to B&D, S&M, D&S (dominance and submission) and all their adjuncts that is so successful, club owner Don Holland has devoted two Friday nights out of four a month to it (as well as the Sundays that fall before Monday holidays). New Years Eve, certainly a big night for all clubs, if not the biggest, pulled in a crowd of about 600 people at Man Ray



Dean, one of the revelers at Man Ray's Fantasy Night, pays homage to Mistress Diana's boot.



By Chris Francescani et al

The Sextionary

Out of the loop about the right sexual poop? Need a review on the 90s screw? (All right, all right, I'll stop.) A short guide to sexual terminology in the 90s:

Auto-Erotic Asphyxiation - n. - Practice wherin the flow of oxygen to the brain is cut off, heightening sensation.

B&D and D&S - n. - bondage & domination; dominance & submission. The two together equal the passé term S&M.

Ben-Wa Balls - n. - Chinese balls intended for insertion into the vaginal cavity to promote muscle tone and excitement.

Blue Balls - n. - Fictional compromising male genital condition, usually associated with coitus interruptus.

a Whip

this year. Mistress Diana's Annual B&D Fetish Ball brought in 900 — and now, she and her business partner Bianca have to find a bigger venue because Man Ray simply cannot house the capacity crowd.

For those who think that this is a momentary fad observable in the megalopolises and secondary urban pockets, guess again. It's on TV, in magazines, newspapers and on the backs of some of the best-dressed people in town. In the 60s we had radical chic. Now, in the 90s, we have S&M chic.

A recent LA Law episode included a segment dealing with a professional mistress whose submissive client died of a heart attack during a session or "scene." According to Mistress Diana, this is extremely rare. But yet, the show did tell some truths. Sessions or scenes do not as a rule include sex, but instead may focus on whipping, in various degrees of severity, spanking, or other forms of "play," such as foot-worship. The show had its mistress cite the dropping of a ping-pong ball from the hand of a submissive as the signal for time-out. And while this is a dramatic device, the rule in any "scene" is safety, most often expressed by a code or "safe" word.

The national image of "the scene" is with us: Phil Donahue being dominated by the world-renown Mistress Antoinette of LA to wear a dress on his show, Spy Magazine running Hillary Clinton in black, patent-leather fetish-wear (who a visit-to-the-white-house lottery winner from Cambridge recently described as "The First Attorney") — even prim little Mademoiselle has devoted a grudging column-cum-article to S&M in its February 1993 issue called "Hurting the One You Love." Mademoiselle does not approve, but for the enlightenment (read titillation) of its readers, it did include a rundown of professional dominance sessions; piercing and haute couturier Gianni Versace's S&M evening wear (Sylvester Stallone is a client). And of course, there is always the omnipresent Madonna, whom the article describes as "an idiot...breezy as spring about other people's pain."

Mistress Diana pointed out that three of the heaviest rubber, latex and PVC fetish magazines "Rubberist," "Skin Two" and "<<O>>" can be ordered from the back of current issues of Cosmopolitan Magazine.

"Phil Donohue has done more for the B&D scene than anybody I can think of," observes Lady Bianca wryly.

Even local celebrity DJ Oedipus of mainstream rock station WBCN and its "Nocturnal Emissions" show has taken part in the scene. He was emcee for the first B&D fetish ball held last May, where the local emergence of "the scene" as public event began.

"It was fun. It was so much fun that I will be emceeing the Second Annual B&D Fetish Ball," Oedipus commented from the offices of WBCN. "There is so much sameness going on in bands and music, when they asked me to do this, it was the opportunity to explore something that was entirely different. When they tied Slave Ian up at the very beginning of the fashion show and the rest of the models proceeded to use him as a prop, that was quite interesting. And I've been involved with Suzy over at Hubba Hubba since my show at WTBS, now WMBR, was the first punk rock show in the country back in the 70s. It's my favorite store in Boston. The fashion is my style. So, I had the opportunity not only to emcee the show, but present the fashions that I love and have an affiliation with them." According to Oedipus, B&D-related is the logical outgrowth of punk rock.

And the ball was the logical outgrowth of Mistress Diana's computer BBS, which has so galvanized New England's emerging D&S community. Lady Bianca, an equal partner with Diana in their growing business, F.R. Communications, and a well-regarded dominatrix in her own right, put it succinctly: "The D&S community is where the gay community was maybe 30-years ago. People are beginning to come out of the closet.

"There's just such a big need for it," says Mistress Diana of her Fantasy



The Missing Linkup

Cybersex In New England

by Gary S. Kadet

If there must be a singles bar equivalent for each decade past the 70s, then for the 90s it has to be the computer BBS and its electronic meeting place, teleconference link-up. It's a simple concept: a user hooks his/her computer up to a phone line via modem. After the user selects a "handle" (a nickname for broadcast purposes, a la CB) and a memorable password to allow only exclusive access to the account, the user is ready to comingle and slosh around in an electronic hot tub of sorts with an entire society of people who might otherwise never have met.

There are local BBSs strictly for the purpose of downloading files. These range from Channel 1 (354-2505) to the various extensions of the Boston Computer Society. Cybersex BBSs, however, are not as many but are multiplying fast.

The best in the area would have to be **F.R. Communications Fantasy Realization BBS**, the operative nucleus of the D&S/kinky sexy community in New England (397-8844). It isn't so much the boiler-plate Galacticomm software that the board runs, as the people who frequent it that makes it so good. Imagine a bar that you can open at virtually anytime in your own home, fraternize with interesting and sometimes dangerously exciting characters at no personal risk whatsoever — as long as you remember to keep your password and other such information to yourself. Unlike phone sex trunklines, you don't hear the same droning questions "What do you look like?" and "What are you into?" An area of the system called "The Registry of Users" takes care of all basic questions. A user is encouraged to fill out a "reg" (registry form) first thing, which then can be accessed for perusal from almost anywhere in the system with a simple "/r username" command.

With a simple "chat" command, you can break off into privacy for an intimate conversation between you and one other partner, from the general hubbub of the teleconference channel. You can even commandeer one of 50,000 odd channels for yourself, designate a topic and invite a few chosen play partners in with you.

And should there be no fascinating personages on-line with whom you wish to talk, there are little corners of the system called SIGs (special interest groups) with correspondence and related textfiles easily downloaded to your computer by a variety of protocols — either to disk or direct to screen on such matters as B&D, Raunch, Catfights or even Acronyms (to help new users with "tele-speak" — keyboard shorthand for common phrases such as LOL (laughing out loud, afk (away from keyboard), BTW (by the way) and re

continued next page

Female Supremacy- n. adj. - arrangement where a submissive male surrenders completely to one or more females.

Fetishism - n.. - Erotic focus on particular object, eg. boot or foot.

Golden Shower (GS) - n. - the act of urinating upon ones' partner as a sexual activity.

Kleptolagnia - n. - sexual arousal through stealing.



Smitten

Realization Bulletin Board "I found out about the English Palacer a B&D BBS based in New Jersey about three years ago. And I had a submissive from Florida, who was also a member of the bulletin board, and he wanted desperately for me to come to Florida. But I said, 'I really can't go down to Florida to just to see one person, I'd like to come down and see five or six at a time and get a lot of clients for my weekend, my flight and my time.' So, together, we came up with the idea of starting a bulletin. He asked me if he could use my name, and that way I could drum up clients in Florida, and then I could fly down there. He would be the sysop. It was called 'Mistress Diana's Web of Desire.' In my old dungeon I had a big web on the wall, you see.

Diana was quick to point out that, though she did indeed have a dungeon, she had to close it down. "You can't have it here. It's the law. If I were to have a dungeon in there, they would come in here and tag everything, the computers and the modems, as evidence. They would impound everything and in a couple of years I might get it back. I no longer do professional sessions. If you were to say, 'Please spank me right now,' and I were to start spanking you and a cop walked in, I could be arrested for assault and battery, assault with a deadly weapon, even if you didn't want to press charges, the state would press charges — as it has many times. What I do now is way more important than being a professional dominant."

Sitting in the offices of FR Communications, the nerve-center of the area "scene" in a bedroom community just outside Boston, one could be in the office of any start-up company run out of a home: housecleaning, catering, nanny referral. Lady Bianca handles some business over the phone and monitors the various computers. In addition to tending to F.R. business, Bianca is also a new mother.

Diana, who is dressed in a red blouse and slacks with rimless glasses, is chain-smoking a bit — presumably due to the stress of a long interview added to her business day. The only thing that sets this office apart is a morgue library of B&D publications and national directories of mistresses, masters, fetishes and the "scenes" of other regions. That and the photos on the walls.

"There are all these different avenues within the B&D city, and I'm just on a different avenue," Diana explains. "There's the avenue of people who do it for play, people who do it to get things, like their lawn mowed and their house painted — there's a big barter system that goes on in the B&D world. There are professionals and I've just moved on to the promotional end."

Those who make their living professionally within "the scene" are a privileged few, according to Slave Heather, sysop of the "Bound For Pleasure" BBS. Heather, a submissive whose proclivities find their expression in silk and white leather, likens "the scene" to a pyramid where those at the top make their living from it, "And the majority of us at the base are just the enthusiasts." Heather is a medical professional on the North Shore, and is emblematic of "scene" participants: a dweller in a bedroom community on the outskirts of the city who is extremely guarded about her private life.

Paranoia runs deep among the D&S community, just as it has and still does among the gay community. People are afraid of being revealed or "outed," ridiculed, summarily fired from their jobs, and causing friends and family who have nothing to do with the scene injury from the fallout of moral judgment that comes so easily when one is publicly pilloried as sadist, masochist or that tried and true chestnut pervert. Not even Diana was willing to provide her full name, noting that she has family elsewhere who might be affected by it. People in the scene are known primarily by the handles they use while on the BBS, even when they are off the system.

"People don't even spank their children anymore, much less their lovers," says Jaclyn, a full-time housewife and mother who lives in the metrowest area, "much less admit to spanking the person that they love most in the whole world. When people talk about sex, they talk about vanilla sex — but sometimes it's nice to have rocky road. Some people are afraid of being fired, because they are spending time on a B&D BBS at work. Have you ever heard of the Quaker practice called "shunning." Well, every one

The Missing Linkup, continued from previous page

(for "rehi"). New England's Most Regal Mistress, (as her own registry proclaims) Diana, the FR Sysop, maintains a well-stocked downloadable file library with erotica of all flavors, from the most "vanilla" to the rockingest of rocky roads. Newcomers can browse the system for 15 minutes at a clip for free, with $79 a year for unlimited access or $35 a quarter. For those who have been running up enormous phone bills, charged by the minute on the 1-550 sex lines, Fantasy Realization is the answer.

Bound For Pleasure (374-9255) according to its Sysop, Slave Heather, "was started to give another side, another view of the scene — a softer approach to it." Heather, with her partner and co-sysop, Blackhawk, has been running **Executive Connection** (621-6090), a non-sexual adult chat BBBs for seven years. "Users wanted another D&S and related fetish board, but they just didn't have the money, the time or the experience." So, together with partners Sir Laurence and Lady Tanya, BFP was started just a few months ago. In addition to offering some of the same features as FR, BFP has a telegram function (sort of a global shorthand marriage of a system page and e-mail) and "action words," where a keyword such as "comfort" put before a username reads out as "Username is offering Username his comfort and sympathy." And it doesn't take much imagination to apply this to erotic purposes. Rates are $25 for 3 mos., $45 for 6 mos., and 65 per year, and can also be paid on-line via credit card (as in the case of the Fantasy Realization BBS). As BFP is new, it is currently offering a generous period of free browsing time for new users.

Fantasy Realization and Bound For Pleasure both require verification through signed, downloadable applications for prospective members.

On the other hand, **Argus** (674-2345), a free BBS with even more pursuitable lines (65, as opposed to FR and BFP's respective 12 and 14) does not. Simply fax or mail proof of name, address and age for adult access, and you're in. Argus is populated with a lot teenage hackers and would-be cyberpunks, but the adult Jungle SIG or section is large.

Teleconference may be slow — most members preferring to branch off into their own channels, but the file library of erotic material and GIFS (graphic information files) is generous. Argus is an excellent way to cut your teeth in the realm of Cybersex and BBSing in general. From the privacy of your own home (or office, for that matter), safe, anonymous sex has never been this much fun or, for that matter, addictive.



Knobgobblin' - adv. - fellatio.

Necrophilia - n. - sexual activity with the deceased (see Lousy Lay.)

Pearl Necklace - n. - ejaculation onto the neck area of the partner.

Satyriasis/nymphomania - n. - excessive sexual desire in male or female.



Above, Fantasy Night revelers in their finery.
Opposite, a contestant in the Most Dominant Dominatrix contest

wants to be liked, and nobody wants to be shunned."

Jaclyn, whose name in fact is a handle for a handle, related a story where she was logged on to a BBS for three weeks and a man with a handle she recognized while on line showed up on a her doorstep. "He was dressed as policeman, and I of course did not let him in. There are programs that can allow you to log in and access someone's password, and from there, all the account information: address, telephone number, so you should change your password every week. All the boards have forums or SIGS (special interest groups) outlining safety precautions. There are those for whom risk is essential, but they won't be in the "scene" very long. They will leave by attrition."

A dominant, Jaclyn is in an open marriage where her husband is well-aware that she is seeing a submissive lover. "I'm not worried about my marriage. I don't openly announce to my husband that I had such and such a time with my lover, and how wonderful my lover is.

My husband has the availability of information if he asks. There are very few things I wont tell him. And the only things I won't tell him are because my lover has specifically asked me not to."

As far as her pre-teen son knowing, Jaclyn says, "I don't think that he knows, and I'd rather have him go into sex in the "normal" way — to find his own way. I don't think one's sexual orientation should be affected by one's parents."

Jaclyn's situation is not uncommon to "the scene," and underscores an interesting point: that far from "the scene's" being based in the city and radiating out toward the suburbs, the reverse is true. And there are just as many, if not more, closed "faithful" marriages where husband and wife are dominant and submissive, where they either switch roles, or where one has absolute supremacy over the other. As the Combat Zone dwindles down to its last few shops and clubs, snuffed out by the moralism of the tourist industry, B&D practitioners and "scene" acolytes in the outlying communities are on the increase. Slave Heather's comment is well on point: "For every hundred people who go to Fantasy Night, there are a thousand who are afraid to — but want to."

The question "why" occurs almost as much as "where" concerning "the scene." To some, it is a psychological problem the way homosexuality is sometimes viewed as an obsessive compulsive disorder, to others it is an all-consuming life-style and emerging "third sexuality." Either way, S&M and related practices have been with us for thousands of years, outlined in the writings of Suetonius chronicling such voluptuary classical tyrants as Tiberius, Caligula and Nero through TV mini-series like

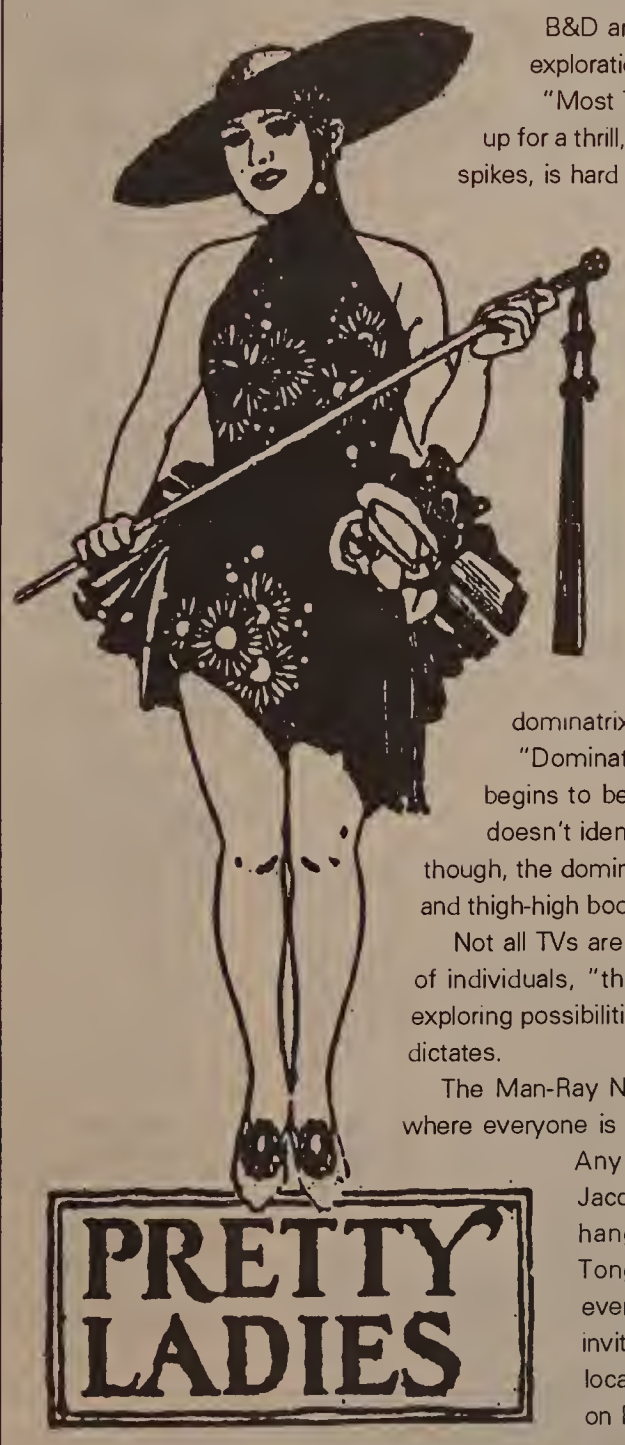
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Don't Dream It, Be It

by Leslie Ross

The Boston cross-dressing/Bondage & Domination scene is growing all the time. According to Mistress Diana and Lady Bianca, who together host the bi-monthly Fantasy Night at Club Man-Ray, the crowds (usually comprised of 500 or more decked-out dancers) always contain new faces .

"It's a safe place to explore your fetish," says Lady Bianca, stressing at the same time that it is not a wild orgy scene. "You wouldn't believe the stories that get back to me," she laughs. "It's unreal what people want to believe about the scene."



"The scene" is, in fact, hard to generalize. While cross-dressing and B&D are visible parts, the possibilities are endless for trans-gender exploration, and not all of it is sexual.

"Most TVs (transvestites) are heterosexual men who enjoy dressing up for a thrill," says "Jennifer" English, a 6-foot plus male who, in five-inch spikes, is hard to miss. "I used to dress up for an erotic rush, but it's more than that now. I just feel comfortable in my feminine person. It's something I've finally come to grips with."

Jennifer's philosophy of cross-dressing has its roots in contemporary popular psychology. "I believe that people have both a male and a female personality," she explains. "To define the balance between them is the ultimate in self-discovery."

It was about a year ago that Jennifer came out as a transvestite. (It's important to differentiate between transvestites [TVs], who enjoy cross-dressing, and transsexuals [TS], who identify with BEING the opposite sex.) Jennifer enjoys the male side of her personality, too, working and living as a man with a heterosexual, monogamous relationship. But a few nights a week, Jennifer puts on her dominatrix outfit and goes out.

"Dominatrix outfit?" you say? Yes. And this is where "the scene" begins to become difficult to generalize. The man who is also Jennifer doesn't identify with being either dominant or submissive. As a woman, though, the dominant side of him emerges, expressing itself in a black bustier and thigh-high boots .

Not all TVs are dominatrixes, and not all dominatrixes are TVs. Comprised of individuals, "the scene" is as difficult to generalize as individuals, each exploring possibilities of self-expression, unhindered by genitalia-based societal dictates.

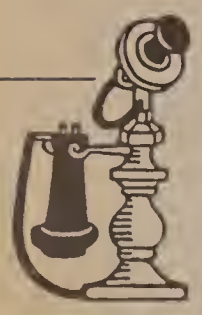
The Man-Ray Nights, like the up-coming one on February 5, are events where everyone is welcome. (The only rule is you don't hassle anyone else.) Any night of the week, however, cross-dressers gather at Jacques, a downtown bar. Another popular place to meet and hang out are the frequent "Night Life" parties hosted by Tongue. Much smaller than the Man-Ray events, Tongue's evenings are usually comprised of 20 or 30 people who were invited by word of mouth or heard about it through one of the local B&D BBS's (see this issue's article on cyber-sex for more on BBS's).

Tea Bag - v. (inf.) to tea bag; rhythmic insertion and withdrawal of the scrotum from the supine partner's mouth.

Toys - n. - Acoutrements of the scene, eg. dildoes, dressage whips, riding crops, nipple clamps, etc..

Technical Virgin - n. - one who has not engaged in intercourse for the past six months.

Undinism - n. - Moisture fetishism. Includes **water sports, golden showers (GS), enemas.**



1-900 Sex Call

A Conversation with One of Boston's Phone Sex Madames

Who calls 1-900-Sex Lines? Who runs the lines and what are the people you speak with really like? We spoke with an owner and operator of a 1-800 "Call-Back Fantasy Sex Line" and discovered the reasons for involvement for some of the people behind — and in the middle of — the scene. Tina owns such a service and what follows is an enlightening lesson on the ins and outs of phone sex.

Improper Bostonian.: Tell me about your company

Ms. Phone Sex: It's a 1-800 call back, and everything is charged. Our clients could send a money order with a note of their number and name so when we call and ask for 'Mr. or Ms. Something,' we'll know it's the same people who called us.

I.B.: So they'll send payment to you in advance?

SEX: Yeah, it kind of ruins the spontaneity, but a lot of people send in enough for a few calls, and that way they know it's there, but it's not as common as charging. It's a lot safer to obviously send a bank check, because the banks can protect your identity.

I.B.: How did you become involved in the business?

SEX: Well, it's kind of an evolution thing. I had gone across country and when I came back, I didn't have a job, and a girlfriend of mine was working as a dispatcher and doing calls for one of the companies in Boston. She asked if I wanted to try it, and that's how I got involved. I was doing calls for other companies too.

I.B.: How did they hire you when you first started?

SEX: They just said, 'O.K., you're hired'

I.B.: You're hired?

SEX: Yeah. But, the way I do it is based on personality, because there are so many people who call up who don't even know their own name. I think that when someone has intelligence and a sense of humor and open attitude, they're fine. A lot of places won't hire people unless they're experienced. Some of the girls I ask say, 'Well, I have a girlfriend who does it,' though guys tend to say, 'Oh, yeah, I'm experienced.'

I.B.: Is it mainly women who work for you?

SEX: No, I have a lot of men working for me. Men will call up thinking that they're going to be getting free phone sex with women and there are so few straight women who call for straight men. I just got a call the other day, and I couldn't believe it was a straight woman. I said, 'You want to talk to a man?'[Laughter] So when I tell the guys, 'You will be speaking to men' they say, 'Oh no, I couldn't do that.'

I.B.: Is it hard to get into the role?

SEX: No, because it's work.

I.B.: How do you look at what you do? Do you ever start laughing?

SEX: I have had a smile on my face but have never actually burst out laughing, although a lot of the girls have said 'Thank God for a mute button.' There are some really weird fantasies that these guys have.

I.B.: Like?

SEX: I had to do a call to this guy in New York the other night, and this guy . . . he wanted a woman who had 12 hands, to do what he wanted them to do. He actually thinks that you're doing these things. He literally thinks that you are performing the acts that she's telling you to do and I said 'Listen, if I try to do these things that you're asking me to do, I'm going to fall on my face.' He said, 'Then fall on it' . . . Hello? If it wasn't four in the morning, I would have gotten a real good chuckle out of it.

I.B.: How do you get mentally prepared for these calls at that time of night?

SEX: I only do calls when I'm the only one around. Motivation, to me, is that it's my job. But I think a lot of these women really feel these men like them. You know, like 'Oh, he said he was going to call back. Has so and so called?' So, a lot of the women really take it to heart. A lot of them feel that there is an emotional tie there. I think there's a difference between using it as a business from your home, or using it as a crutch if you have nothing else in your life. These men really supply your ego, and at the same time, your pocketbook. I feel that I don't want them liking me. You know, a lot of people call over and over and over.

I.B.: So do you get repeat customers?

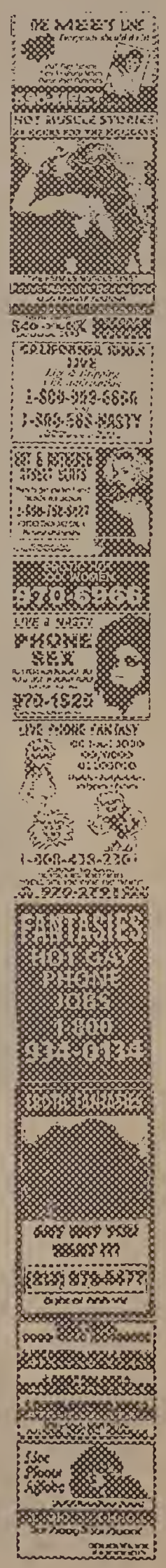
SEX: Oh yeah, half of the people who have called so far are regular customers.

I.B.: Do you have any kind of package deals?

SEX: Yeah, if they call between 3 and 8 a.m., it's $2 off. I'm cheaper than any one else in Massachusetts. It's $24.95 unlimited but you really have to try to get them 'off.'

I.B.: How did you hire people?

SEX: I put ads in papers in almost every state. I already had my phones installed with an answering machine, and every day for weeks that machine was filled. Some of it was people calling up and goofing, and some of it was sincere.



Whip

Favorite Son, with its infamous Linda Kozlowski bondage bedroom scene and Madonna's current Body of Evidence. (Oedipus refers to Madonna as the PG of B&D.)

An issue that goes some way toward explaining this is the so-called "behavioral sink," a term coined by Tom Wolfe in his Tangerine Metal Flake Streamlined Baby for modern overcrowding.

Psychologist John Calhoun observed that when rats are overcrowded, the dominant 5% become the "criminal" or aberrant 5%. Abraham Maslow, who did pioneering research on dominance in the 30s, and conducted surveys long before Kinsey, Masters and Johnson noted that sex among lower primates (monkeys at the Bronx zoo), which was almost constant in captivity, was a form of dominance behavior where the more dominant animals mounted the less dominant.

In 1936, Maslow interviewed female college students — he felt that male answers were tainted and distorted by concerns of self-esteem) and put forth in a paper that female sexuality was related to dominance. According to Maslow, higher dominance women experimented sexually, medium dominance women had romantic ideals attached to sex, and low dominance women tended to view sex as strictly for child-bearing. (Maslow cited one high-dominance woman who could self-induce orgasm merely by looking at a man.) With a man, a high-dominance woman could be either yielding, or overbearing. In any event, it is worth noting that dominant sex as social behavior seems to historically coincide with the advent of cities. And zoologist Desmond Morris likened the cities, and by extension the suburbs that surround them, to a "human zoo."

Apropos of this, the current "scene" abounds with a remnant sense of the sexual revolution of the sixties and seventies, where liaisons are often referred to as "play," conjuring up Norman O. Brown's "polymorphous perverse" and Herbert Marcuse's asserted civilized need for "desublimation." But this play is venturesome and not without risk, which is why mistress/master and slave find it almost essential to arrive at a contract defining the parameters of their relationship, their mutual expectations, even down what safeword or gesture will be used to call a session off should things seem to go too far.

In his book Unnatural Death, former Chief Medical Examiner for the City of New York Michael M. Baden noted a case where heavy playing led to a death that he signed out as "asphyxia during sexual bondage." When asked by the police why she had left the room as the submissive doctor was choking on a gag placed too far back in the throat, the dominant nurse in that case responded honestly, "because he looked like he was having such a good time."

"If you look on the bulletin board there's a B&D safety manual we got from a lesbian publication," Diana responded. "It's things that you've got to watch out for. I've had young men in their thirties start to hyperventilate because it's such an overload. They've dreamt about being tied up, dreamt about being at the foot of a mistress, dreamt about getting spanked, fantasized about it for years — and now it's a reality. They start going into overload, that's the only thing you could call it. I always really push safety — take your time.

"I see it on the board," Diana adds, "people saying, 'can we get together tonight, can we get together tonight? I want to tie you up!' You don't even know this person! The first thing I say, if you're going to meet someone off the board is meet in a restaurant or coffee shop. Talk for a while, get to know the person. Don't go anywhere with them the first time you meet. This, coming from me who used to call people up not even knowing anything about them and saying "Hi can you come pick me up?' I was lucky — I could be in Arabia right now being some little harem girl. I could have been kidnapped and sold. It happens you know.

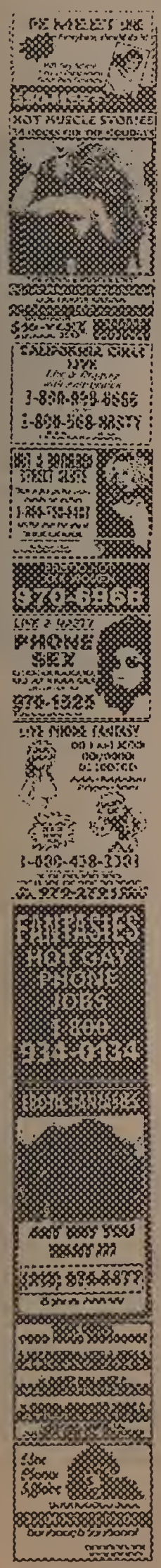
"When I was dealing with this probably ten years ago," she concludes, "I was wondering, 'What am I doing? B&D? People are going to think I'm weird!' Well, Mistress Antoinette had a quote in her magazine "Reflections," and it was the greatest quote I've ever heard in my life: 'What you think of me is none of my business.' If you think I'm crazy or a weirdo, or whatever, It's none of my business. It's your business. That really changed it within me. I said: "That's right — it's nobody's business but my own."

Vanilla - n. adj. - straight heterosexual activity, up to and including light recreational bondage.

Voyeurism - n. - sexual arousal from viewing the bodies or sexual activities of others.

Zoophilia - n. - sexual intercourse with animals.

And finally, as if you weren't "sated" already, some ever-popular slangs for sexual intercourse:



I.B.: When you hire someone, do you meet them face to face?

SEX: No, because first of all, some of them are halfway across the country. No, I didn't meet anybody. I got the information from what I sent out, which was kind of like a questionnaire and the bottom part was asking 'what exactly would you be willing to do over the phone?' — which doesn't exactly mean 'what do you do in reality,' because what I do over the phone definitely does not reflect what I would ever do in reality. When I was talking to that person, I knew right away whether or not I was going to consider him or her anyway, from their voice and attitude; I don't like liars or people who are condescending. I don't want anyone in my office that I don't like, or anyone working for me that I don't like. It's not worth the aggravation.

I.B.: Do you have people in your office?

SEX: Yes, they dispatch phone calls, but no person who works in my office does phone calls. That's not a pre-requisite. I am the only one who 'does calls.' I work ovemight, so I do the calls. There's nobody around.

I.B.: So do most of your operators work out of their homes?

SEX: Every single person. Nobody comes in and does calls. If there was something special, or a client likes something in particular, we'll tell them.

I.B.: What's the most bizarre request you've had?

SEX: I like the 'big breasted woman who smokes a cigar' request, but there are a lot of men who have a fetish for women who smoke cigarettes. I don't know why, whether it's a Brenda Vaccaro voice or what. I don't know what that whole deal is. Maybe it's a phallic thing with having a cigarette in the mouth. I would say that if I were to take out my records and figure it out, I'd say that most men have a fantasy to be submissive. That's not to say that they are submissive. That's what they get into on the phone. Men are submissive. They want very dominant women. And when they want submissive women, they want really submissive women. We're not talking 'Yes sir, no sir.' We're talking *submissive*.

I.B.: Do you think that some of the role playing that goes on during these conversations can be dangerous and encourage deviant behavior?

SEX: Like a little girl?

I.B.: Yes. Do you think it's dangerous to have a guy call up and request those fantasies?

SEX: I've gone through that a million times in my head. For a lot of guys, there's a fantasy with little girls. Even though they know that the person has to be 18 legally, you have to pretend that you're 12 — or God forbid younger — and you think, 'Am I satisfying his urge by playing a little girl or creating a strong urge to see if it's really as good as it is on the phone,' but I don't think that would be the case. At that moment, that's what I would want to do. I don't think a rapist would call up and rape someone on the phone and say 'I want to do this in reality,' but I've thought of that. I had this guy a long time ago and his fantasy was five year-old girls. It was sick. It was sick! A the end of the conversation, he was like Doctor Jeckyl and Mr. Hyde. He would say 'Do you think I am crazy?' and I'd say, 'No, I don't think you're crazy,' and he'd ask, 'Do you approve?' and I'd say, 'Of course I don't approve. Do you approve of what you're doing?' and he'd say, 'I don't approve but it's my fantasy. And that's why I'm calling you. Are you going to call the police?' I said, 'No, I'm not going to call the police, but if I heard that two little five year-old girls in your hometown had been raped, then I'd call the police.' He knew I'd meant it. I don't think there's ever been a connection between living out a fantasy and acting one out.

I.B.: I think that if I had a fantasy for five year old girls and I called you, I'd probably work it out. But what about people who have called, and then at a future point may have gotten the 'urge' upon seeing a five year-old girl but can't make it to a phone?

SEX: I think the reason these people call up is because they don't want to act it out. I don't think that they would. I don't think that we've ever had any repercussions, but one of the things that I thought of is someone, maybe an older man or someone in ill health not making it through a phone call and having a heart attack. One of the guys I talk to said, 'This is like aerobics for the heart and the doctor told me it was good.' I said, 'But we've all heard of men dying after sex,' and he said, 'This is different. I'm not with someone.' But once he hung up in the middle of a call, and when I tried him back, the line was busy. He's 70 and I was worried. But he called back later and said that he was sorry he hung up. It was just U.P.S. at his door and he had to hang up real quick. People do hang up. A lot of them hang up immediately after they accomplish what they had called for.

I.B.: Do you see yourself doing this for a while?

SEX: Yeah. Even though I've never really had a problem getting a job. I worked one for 10 years in one situation.

I.B.: Were there a lot of costs involved in starting your own fantasy line?

SEX: Yes. Every single person in my life knows what I do. That's where the money is. I received part of my inheritance early, so my mother could see me do allright. I received it to start a life.

I.B.: Would you ever again work for somebody else now that you're your own boss?

SEX: I don't think anyone would have me. I left somewhere else, but long before I started planning this. I left the service where I was doing calls way before I opened up and did all of my own leg work. This man at one service in Boston has asked me to call him so I don't think there are any bad feelings.

I.B.: Do you ever do splits, in which I mean a situation where someone may call you with a specific fetish or fantasy and you'll refer them to an operator of another service?

SEX: No, but I did have this one woman call me who was referred by that nice guy I told you about.

I.B.: Do you have any limits to your operators for something like bondage?

SEX: I just call them homeworkers. You're not doing anything, although I think some of the women do some things, but most of them just sit at home. But there are a lot of them who 'get off' at home. I've had transsexuals or transvestites — they've all worked for me. I mean I've had props when they [men] tell me to slap my ass, I had leather slippers and I'd just slap them together. I don't care how realistic it sounds, I'm not slapping my butt.

Tina's name has been changed to protect her identity.

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TOUT LES MATINS DU MONDE

"A Sweet Lesson On Loss"

Alain Corneau's film is a somber, beautiful meditation on the nature of art versus commerce. The main character is Sainte Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle), a reclusive musician who lives the simple life in the French countryside, where he resists repeated offers to play in the court of King Louis XIV. His young protégé, the flashy, technically-accomplished Marin Marias (Guillame Depardieu, son of Gerard, who plays Marias as an older man), lacks his master's philosophy and joins the royal court. But he returns years later — bloated, bewigged, face heavily rouged — and wonders if it is not too late for him to become the musician he could have. A sense of loss pervades this sad and moving film, with special emphasis on the loss of those opportunities which we recognize only once they have passed us by. **A.L.**

LORENZO'S OIL

"A Brave and Daring Brew"

Based on the lives of Augusto and Michaela Odone, Lorenzo's Oil is the story of a couple's efforts to save the life of their son from adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). In this gritty, painful and brilliant picture, the parents (Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon) not only push the medical establishment for answers, but take up ALD research on their own. while keeping their marriage and their son alive. This triumphant film, which features a truly outstanding performance by Ms. Sarandon, addresses its medical issues and "docu-drama" format with a high level of craft. Nolte's Italian accent is annoying for a while, but it is the only false note in an otherwise important film about the power of determination in the face of helplessness. **B.C.**

CHAPLIN

"Portrait of a Genius"

Richard Attenborough's *Chaplin* is daring in its scope, attempting to follow Chaplin's life from his Dickensian childhood and training in British vaudeville through his meteoric film career, ending with the famous comedien's final years. While Robert Downey, Jr. is up to the task, not just imitating Chaplin but emulating the Little Tramp and the young mogul, the film bites off a bit more than it can handle. At more than two hours, the film could have ended with Chaplin's deportation: what follows is fodder, bordering on the sentimental. Still, Kevin Kline hands in a good performance as Douglas Fairbanks, and the supporting cast of Charlie's family and friends is tapped from a fine well of talent. More might have been made of Chaplin's creative genius and innovation, but the movie remains entertaining and uplifting. **T.S.L.**

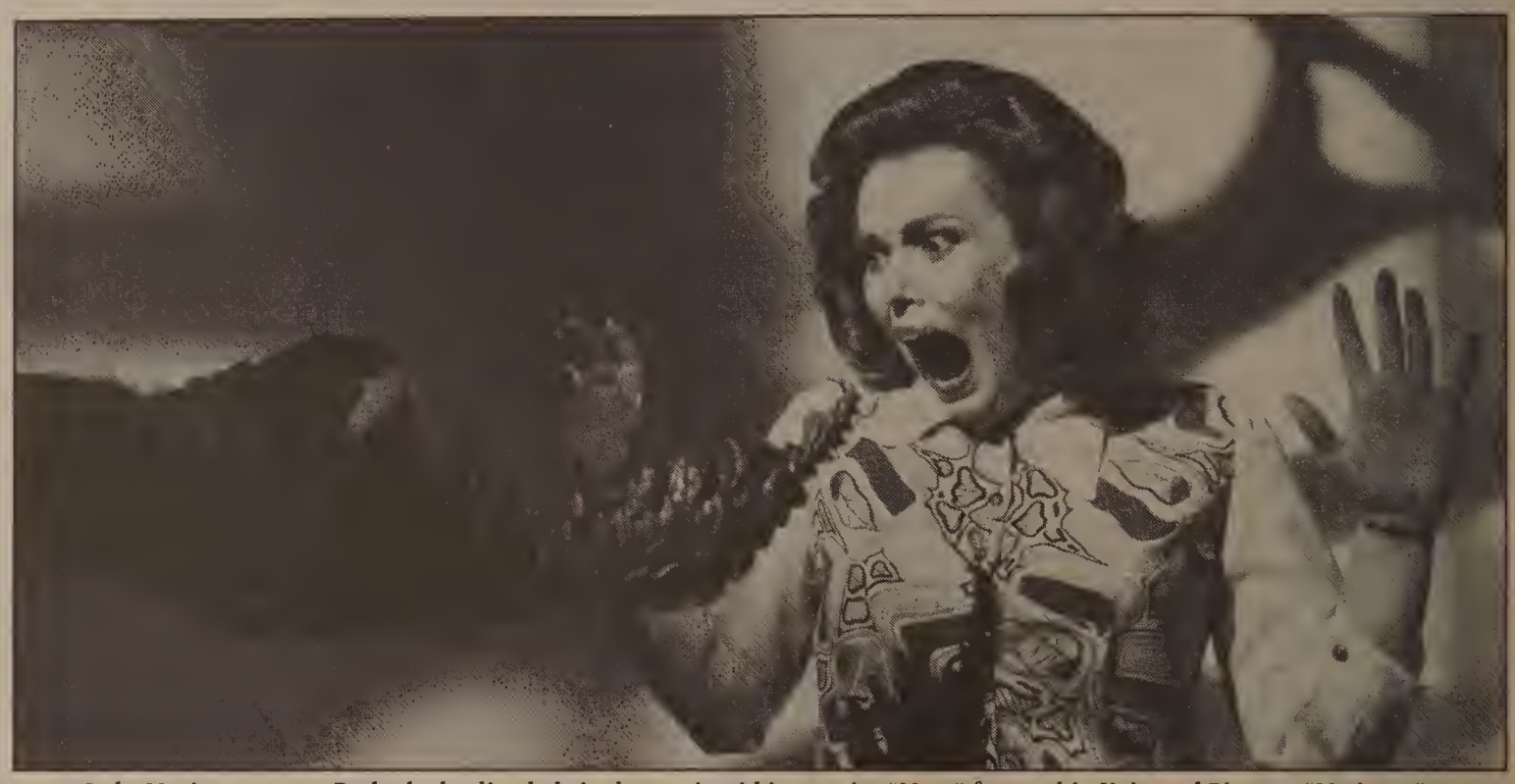
A FEW GOOD MEN

"Exciting, Moving, and Funny"

Rob Reiner hits on a fail-safe formula for his latest picture: big stars In a politically-relevant drama, climaxing in riveting courtroom exchanges in *A Few Good Men*, a film in whlch two Marines are on trial for murdering one of their own. Lawyers Tom Cruise and Demi Moore try to prove the death was accidental as a result of secret disciplinary orders from above. Tom Cruise reprises his usual hot shot character role wlth élan, while Demi Moore hands In a respectable and dignified performance as an internal affalrs officer. Jack Nicholson, while convincing as a hard-nosed colonel, tends to lapse Into Nicholson-ese, playing the sly, smart-mouthed speechmaker. *A Few Good Men* contains decent comedy as well as moving actlon, and winning lines are equally distributed. **T.S.L.**

MATINEE

A B-Movie That Earns a B-Plus



Cathy Moriarty stars as Ruth, the leading lady in the movie within a moive "Mant" featured in Universal Pictures "Matineee"

BY TIM LEMIRE

The scene is Key West, 1962, and the latest B-movie thriller from "Shock Expert" Lawrence Woosley is coming to town: "*MANT*!: Half man! Half Ant! All Terror!" Woosley himself (John Goodman) will attend the premiere, and as he says, the timing is perfect: the Cuban Missile Crisis has just begun, and in Key West, 90 miles away from Castro, the tension is running high; people are primed to be scared to death.

Matinee, a paean to B-movie disasters, tends to overreach itself by trying to fit in romance, drama, and comedy in one nostalgic package, but for entertainment value and laughs, the movie earns a strong B plus. *MANT*!, the story of a man who mutates into an ant after radiation exposure, harkens to flicks like *Them*! and *The Amazing Colossal Man*, which today enjoy cult classic status. As the faux Hitchcock horror director Woosley, John Goodman is perfectly cast, carrying the movie along with avuncular charm and presence.

"It's getting harder to scare people these days," says Woosley. "Too much competition." Indeed, the Cuban Missile Crisis outside the theater mirrors the melodrama inside: fear of nuclear holocaust and its radioactive aftermath, adults panicking in the supermarket, bizarre stories abounding, as when the young girl Sandra tells her classmates (all in duck and cover position) that if the bomb fell and they survived, they'd be puking up their organs. "Eww," says one girl.

The movie's protagonist, Gene, is played by Simon Fenton (*The Power of One*), who resembles a young Doogie Howser. His father is on one of the blockade ships, and as a Navy brat, he makes few friends as he moves from town to town. His only friends are horror characters, and so Woosley befriends him. The climax of the *MANT!* premiere coincides with the zenith of Cuban Missile Crisis paranoia, with results that are comedic and dramatic.

Director Joe Dante recreates 1962 in excruciating detail, and while verisimilitude is achieved, the props oftentimes seem forced, as when a woman gestures with a copy of *Doctor Sax* by Jack Kerouac. Dante makes sure to include Davy Crockett, Art Linkletter, authentic movie posters from *Day of the Triffids*, etc., and any other period prop he can lay his hands on. It makes a convincing picture, but it looks paint-by-the numbers.

Writer Charlie Haas (*Gremlins*) provides us with a fair enough script, replete with irony (in nutrition class, kids are encouraged to eat three servings of red meat a day), some romance, sentiment, and of course humor. It's all a bit much for under two hours, and the exaggeration factor might have been higher, but the "B" grade passes muster.

The jokes work best coming from Goodman, whose character in Woosley is an affable shyster. When Goodman spies a stuffed lizard on a shelf, he immediately brainstorms for his next B movie: *Mani-gator! Ali-man! She-gator! Gal-i-gator!* Goodman is never disappointing, and regrettably Haas takes too long to secure him mainstage where he can enjoy him.

The remaining members of the cast, in terms of characterization and performance, are on the level of The Wonder Years: Lisa Jakub plays Sandra, a pre-pubescent Joan Baez, who upon receiving a week of detention, comments, "They put Ghandi away for a year." Kellie Martin is Sherry, the pouffy teen kitten; and Omri Katz is Stan, a cocky advisor to Gene. None of the adults are especially believable, except for Goodman. As if to reinforce this point, Goodman advises Gene, "Adults are no different from kids, son, they're making things up as they go along, just like you."

Matinee does better in the with the easier task of recreating bad B-movie humor than recreating the real horror of the Cuban Missile Crisis. As everything wraps up nicely at the end, moviegoers are left to mull on their own how the ending in real life isn't happy: the crisis isn't over, but it has initiated the '60s, with assassinations, Vietnam, and nightmares on TV instead of in the theater. ❑

MATINEE

Universal Pictures
Directed by Joe Dante
Starring John Goodman
Cathy Moriarty
Simon Fenton
Omri Katz

Rated PG-13

EIGHT IS NO LONGER ENOUGH

An Interview with Betty Buckley

BY TONY LEIBS

Singer/actress Betty Buckley was recently in town to promote *Rain Without Thunder*, a new independent film which opens in Boston on February 12. We met at Dakota's restaurant during a press luncheon, where she talked at length about her varied career.

For those of us who know Betty Buckley mainly as Abbey Bradford, the incredibly nice mom on the television show *Eight Is Enough* (and dimly remember her as the sympathetic gym teacher in *Carrie*), a little background is in order. For starters, Buckley sees herself more as a stage actress and singer than a television or movie star. She won a Tony award for *Cats*, has appeared in numerous Broadway plays and was twice nominated for an Emmy. She currently lives in New York, where she sings in small clubs such as the Bottom Line and the Russian Tea Room. She has a new album due out in March, which is a collection of Broadway standards and obscurities, recorded with a small jazz ensemble. *Rain Without Thunder* is her first theatrical film in quite some time.

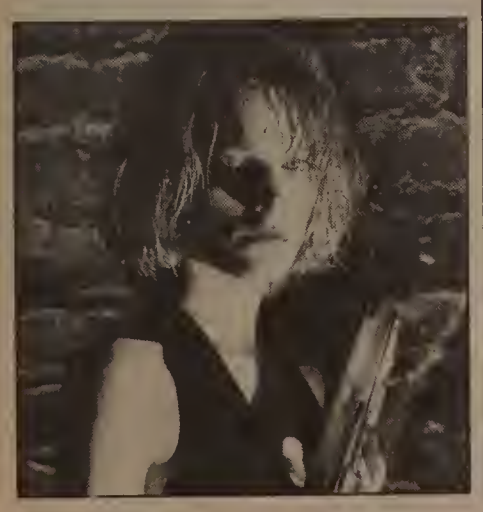
Since the film has such a pro-life message, she was asked if she was worried that *Rain Without Thunder* might be seen as being too anti-abortion. On the contrary, she feared while shooting the film that it might be seen as "too soft." "No need to worry about that," she was told. Ms. Buckley seemed to believe, apparently more than anyone else in the room, that the film is even-handed and designed to engender debate, and not to propagandize the abortion issue. "It's about being vigilant about human rights, regardless of your own views on abortion," she said. Though that may be the position assumed by the context of the film, Buckley was kind enough to share her own views as well. She's pro-choice, but quick to point out that pro-choice is "an important distinction from pro-abortion." She is not even sure which side writer/director Gary Bennett falls on, saying he "likes to stir things up," rather than shove his own opinions in the audience's face.



Betty Buckley stars in "Rain Without Thunder" opening in Boston on February 12

Buckley describes herself as "apolitical, but feminist in nature," and was attracted to this project not because of the message, but because of what she considers to be a good script. "I'm just your basic working-class actress," she says modestly. She is currently looking at more independent scripts, but says, with a disarming laugh, "My basic desire is to hang out and drink cappuccino with my friends." It's hard to take issue with anyone whose personal ambitions so closely match one's own. ❑

Coming Attractions



Bridget Fonda stars as Maggie, a convicted killer offered a chance to live if she joins a covert agency specializing in high-level assassinations in Warner Bros.' psychological thriller, "Point of No Return".

CRITICS CHOICE

KEY
- A Winner
- A Toss Up
- For the Birds

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Nowhere to Run	Toss Up	Bird	Bird	Bird	Winner	—	—	—	—
Scent of a Woman	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Bird	Toss Up	Winner	Bird
Body of Evidence	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Toss Up	Bird	Bird
Chaplin	Winner	Toss Up	Toss Up	Bird	Toss Up	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird
A Few Good Men	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Bird	Toss Up	Toss Up	Winner
Aladdin	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner
Forever Young	Bird	Toss Up	Winner	Toss Up	Bird	Bird	Bird	Winner	Winner
Home Alone 2	Bird	Bird	Bird	Toss Up	Toss Up	Toss Up	Winner	Bird	Winner
Alive	Winner	Toss Up	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Toss Up	Bird
The Bodyguard	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Toss Up	Bird	Toss Up	Toss Up	Toss Up

FLICKS IN A FLASH

ALIVE

"A Survivor's Tale of Strength and Spirit"

When a plane carrying a South American rugby team crashes in the Andes mountains en route to Chile, the surviving team of athletes find themselves marooned with little food, shelter or method of communicating with the outside world. Based on a true story, Alive is as much a tale of spiritual discovery as of physical endurance. The men who comprise the bulk of the cast are mostly new faces, with the exception of Ethan Hawke (Dead Poets Society) and Vincent Spano (Rumble Fish). Alive is a moving film — a story of strength and even humor. We follow the survivors daily struggles, and though the cannibalism scenes are not for the squeamish, Alive is a reminder of the fragility of our life on earth. T.S.L.

BODY OF EVIDENCE

"Sex and Fury Signifying Nothing"

Central to any lawyer's case is motive; yet, this simple fact has somehow escaped the creators of Body of Evidence. This latest, Basic Instinct-like sex thriller involves a lawyer named Frank Dulaney (Willem DaFoe) who is defending one Rebecca Carlson (Madonna), a woman accused of killing her rich lover with sex (he had a bad heart) after having worked her way into his will. DaFoe's performance is tepid at best; he gives us no idea who his character is, how he feels about his wife (Anne Archer) or how he feels about himself. As for Madonna, her performance is as one note as her monotone rap in "Vogue." When the film fails to deliver on any wavelength, we end up feeling like the victim of a tease — and in this case, it's a sexual tease of the worst kind. T.S.L.

NOWHERE TO RUN

"Damme Good"

This rewrite of Shane is, indeed, the best Van Damme yet, but that's still no recommendation. There is one insurmountable problem: Jean Claude himself. He's the opposite of magnetic; he's more like a black hole at the center of the film, into which every last particle of credibility disappears. Other parts of the movie work: the stunts and fights are well-choreographed, and there are a couple of major-league heavies, Joss Ackland from Lethal Weapon 2 and Ted Levine from The Silence of the Lambs, who add a good sense of menace. Levine is an especially impressive bad guy, possessing in abundance a quality that Van Damme will never develop as fully as his muscles: true screen presence.

PETER'S FRIENDS

"With Friends Like These"

Kenneth Brannagh's latest, about the tenth-year reunion of a disparate group of college friends in England, is an absolute stiff. The reason: Rita Rudner's glib and shallow screenplay, which she co-wrote with her husband, Martin Bregman. Lineslike "If there is a God, he takes awfully long lunch breaks," bear the indelible stamp of Rudner's crummy one-liner sensibility. Worse yet, this film also marks her acting debut, making it a one-two combination that floors Brannagh early and often. His acting is fine, but his direction seems mired in the script's banality. The one bright spot is Emma Thompson, Branagh's wife, who looks radiant, and displays a genuine flair for comedy. A. L.

SCENT OF A WOMAN

"Pacino Reeks of Hoffman"

A blind, grouchy, former military officer (Pacino) takes his new prep school "babysitter" (Chris O'Donnell) on a Thanksgiving weekend extravaganza in New York City. While the youth frets for Pacino's safety (and about his own problems at school), Pacino overtips waiters, dances the Tango and correctly identifies the perfume (not to mention the hair and eye color) of every woman he meets. He carries the film, but his performance has a "let me show you that I can do it the way Dustin Hoffman would do it" quality which is too self-conscious. If you want a dose of Pacino, see Glengarry Glen Ross. B.C.

CONTEMPORARILY YOURS

Yankel Ginzburg Brings Russia To Boston



Artist Yankel Ginzburg is world renowned for his masterful use of acrylic elements.

BY TOBIN STREETT

Born in the former Soviet Union and given an alias to escape the anti-Semitic plague that at the time blanketed his homeland, artist Yankel Ginzburg is today considered to be one of the most respected and innovative artists on the planet. After immigrating to Israel with his family at the age of 12, Ginzburg pursued one of his favorite pastimes — writing. It was due to his passion for writing that he first encountered an elder's encouragement to study art. One of Yankel's editors noticed an illustration drawn by him when he was a teenage writer for a Tel Aviv newspaper. He had been asked to draw an illustration to accompany one of his articles when his editor, and Yankel himself discovered where his true talents lay.

"I did not really think about the art too much back then."

Today, he is forced to think about his art, particularly his acrylic sculpture designs. Though Ginzburg has worked with many mediums which include oils, acrylics, tapestries, silkscreens and lithographs, his most recent passion is directed toward acrylic sculpture.

"It's work and it is often frustrating" says Ginzburg from his Washington D.C. residence. He appears, at least over the phone, to be hesitant in describing the process of developing his magnificently colored creations. As if deep in the middle of the design process, Ginzburg described the tasks involved in heating and bending the acrylic elements as a long undertaking which, if mistakes are made in the bending or heating process, becomes quite an expensive one. Representative of Ginzburg's commitment to working with such an expensive medium, are his high-priced finished products. Ranging in the low thousands for some of his silkscreens and boards to figures as high as $40 thousand, Ginzburg's art is nothing short of hot, hot, hot! In fact, his work is in such demand that he was commissioned to design a clock encased in acrylic which it currently resides down the road from Yankel — in the White House.

YANKEL GINZBURG

Mediums: Acrylic, Oils, Silkscreens, Tapestries and lithographs
Gallery of Exclusive Display:
Bronte Contemporary Arts
32 Newbury Street
236-0058

His Boston home is at the Bronte Contemporary Gallery at 32 Newbury Street, where founder and owner Dean G. Corsones says the decision to exclusively feature Ginzburg in the gallery came from both artistic and business origins. "Today's art market has seen drastic changes, making it in many ways more difficult than ever. We decided to take a fresh look, making an artistic and economic decision to go in an entirely new direction."

That direction is named Yankel Ginzburg and his art is not to be missed.❑



Ginzburg at work on a new design

STAGE NOTES

Face Value, by David Henry Hwang, author of *M. Butterfly*, will have its world premiere at the Colonial Theatre February 9 - 28. Directed by Jerry Zaks, this romantic comedy is about mistaken racial identity and true love. It takes place on the opening night of a controversial new Broadway musical, *The Real Manchu*. Hwang's name surfaced in connection with the casting dispute over *Miss Saigon*, so maybe that experience was put to creative use. To charge tickets, call (617) 931-2787.

The revival of *Guys and Dolls*, which won numerous awards in 1992, will be at the Colonial Theatre for a one-month engagement, March 11 - April 11. The National Company is under the direction of 1992 Tony winner Jerry Zaks. It stars Lorna Luft as brassy Miss Adelaide, Lewis Stadlen as Nathan Detroit, Richard Muenz as high-rolling Sky Masterson, and Patricia Ben Peterson as Save-a-Soul missionary Sarah Brown. The opening night performance will benefit The Salvation Army. For benefit tickets, call them at (617) 5425420.

The 1993 International Cultural Festival at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, which runs from January 11 through April 4, with weekly events focusing on different countries, has a theatrical note this year. On March 4, as part of the week devoted to England, Tina Packer, Artistic Director of Shakespeare & Company in Lenox, will speak to The World Affairs Council. The event, beginning at 6 p.m., includes reception, discussion and dessert. Admission is $22 for nonmembers, $18 for members. For reservations and information, call (617) 5. 6-5700.

Mating Habits of the Urban Martmal, a musical revue about romance and dating in the '90's, is having its world premiere at Chiswick Park Theatre in Sudbury, January 22 - February 14. The five-character show was developed and written by Michael Leeds, Peggy Gordon, and Brian Lasser. Leeds is director and choreographer for the production. For information and tickets, call (508) 443-5550.

Nunsense has added a 7 p.m. performance on Tuesday to its weekly schedule at Theatre Lobby in the North End. Evening performances now are Tuesday - Saturday, with matinees on Wednesday and Sunday. There are early and late shows on Saturday evening. Times vary. Call (617) 227-9872 for information.

A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline

Nothing But Toe Tapping, Crowd Pleasing Musical Entertainment



Sandy Martin stars as the legendary country western singer in "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline" at the Charles Playhouse through February 14

BY NANCY LEONARD

Though it's awfully shy on theatricality, A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline is downright pleasing musical entertainment. This vibrant, toe-tapping revue could be the show the Charles Playhouse has been waiting for to fill its seats after the long-running Nunsense closed last year.

Billed as a musical concert retrospective, Dean Regan's script imagines a deejay at WKLM in Winchester, Virginia, paying tribute to a local girl, born Virginia Hensley in 1932. From her start in his studio 15 years ago, she grew into one of country music's great stars, Patsy Cline. The broadcast takes place on March 5, 1963 - the night her plane crashed in a snow storm outside Nashville, ending her short career, and creating a legend in the musical world.

But the evening is really about music, not biography. The popular Boston-based country singer Sandy Martin impersonates Patsy Cline in concert backed by her own band. With some costume changes, reflecting increasing fortunes, she gives us Cline's famous hits, such as "Walkin' After Midnight," "Crazy," "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," "Sweet Dreams," and "I Fall to Pieces."

Whether or not Martin resembles the original singer will be for fans to determine. She brings little sense of particular personality, and virtually no commentary, to the role. Yet, there's real appeal in her numbers. Her voice is strong, colorful, and confidant, with rich interpretive artistry and a practiced country sound. Twangy highs and sultry lows - and near yodeling at one point - enliven the proceedings even more. The best song of the night is Hank Williams' "Your Cheatin' Heart." Apart from the hits, she does wonders with Gogi Grant's "The Wayward Wind" and "Blue Moon of Kentucky," an Elvis Presley recording.

The evening is filled with the infectious country, soul, rock, and gospel sounds Cline brought to mainstream recording. Unfortunately, Regan's script keeps interrupting the music every two or three songs with extraneous and lesser material. As "The Silver Streak," who spins the records, Larry Blamire's accompanying recollections provide virtually no more information than appears in the short program note. His on-air tribute is also saddled with commercial jingles and a news reading, self-consciously designed to evoke the era.

Most detrimental, though, are the stand-up comedy routines he performs in each act. These do not pass so quickly. In the guise of a hayseed clown or a hungover Vegas comic, he trots out old vaudeville jokes and audience participation schemes. The dated diversions only rob the evening of its focus and vitality. If one thought the blue-green initials "P.C.," scripted on the rear curtain, could not possibly stand for political correctness in the country atmosphere, these tacky interruptions certainly reinforce that view.

The five-piece band - Patsy's "Rhythmaires" led by Randy Hughes, who also went down in that plane crash - gives the evening a big, polished sound.

Bob Gifford designed the elaborate, multi-colored proscenium arch, beneath which they play; it's more fitting for the later Las Vegas and Carnegie Hall settings than the early engagements. Steven Rosen's lighting adds to the mood of advancing fame. Troy Siegfreid's costumes include a snazzy red and white satin cowgirl outfit, and some urban dress-up attire.

You don't have to be a Patsy Cline fan to enjoy this show - but maybe a simple retrospective of 20 or so songs wasn't considered enough to draw a wider audience. The script, though, could be scrapped without any harm. Just concentrate on the vibrant music and forget the rest. The toe-tapping evening is a real crowd-pleaser when Sandy Martin sings. ❑

A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline

Playing Through February 14 at the Charles Playhouse 54 Charles St., Boston Starring Sandy Martin 720-0082

New Grill in Town.



Discover the great food and lively bistro atmosphere at Foster's Bar & Grill, located right in the heart of downtown Boston. Foster's offers a menu to suit every taste — from pastas and gourmet pizzas to salads, seafood, and grilled specialties. With its friendly, efficient service, Foster's is perfect for a hearty breakfast, workday lunch or a leisurely dinner.

It just might be the grill of your dreams.



Foster's Bar & Grill

Bistro With A Boston Accent

5 Blossom Street, Government Center, Boston (at the newly renovated Holiday Inn Hotel) 742-7630

THE ARTS CALENDAR

DANCE

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for *Don Quixote*, which runs Feb. 11-21. Noted for its drama, roaring comedy, colorful folk sequences and virtuoso passages, this ballet will charm with its tempestuous Spanish flair. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Boston Ballet Benefit
125 High St., Boston
On Feb. 6 at 8:30pm, spirits will be soaring at the gala "Up Up and Away." The event benefits Boston Ballet and Boston Ballet II, a talented young company of professional dancers. Enjoy an evening complete with a raffle, dancing and dining for only $35 - and for a good cause. Call 695-6950 for details or tickets.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St.
Harvard Square, Cambridge
From ancient times, the mask has had the power to thrill, delight and surprise onlookers. *Behind the Mask Dance Theatre* will celebrate the magic of the mask in dance, theater and storytelling Feb 5 & 6 at 8pm. Tickets are $10; call 547-6789 for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

Hungry i



Fine dining nightly

and Sunday Brunch.

Reservations Suggested.

71½ Charles Street
Beacon Hill, 227-3524

On view Feb. 12-Mar. 14 is the work of color photographers who were honored with the 1993 Leopold Godowsky Awards. (Godowsky was the co-inventor of Kodachrome film.) Subjects range from the religious clashes in Ireland to medieval walls.

CLASSICAL

Berklee Performance Center
136 Mass. Ave., Boston
Enjoy a salute to "Black Divas" with a tribute to the music of Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington, Aretha Franklin and many others on Feb. 16 at 8:15pm. Tickets are $4.

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Pianist Paul Bempechat will perform a program of Chopin on Feb. 16 at 6:15pm. A reception will follow. Admission is $8. Call 266-4351 for reservations.

Gospel Jubilee
at United Parish
210 Harvard St., Brookline
Celebrate Black History Month at the fourth annual Gospel Jubilee, featuring three renowned gospel ensembles. Tickets are $12 for this event on Feb. 5 at 7:30pm. Call 730-2700.

Historic Concerts
at Christ Church
Zero Garden St., Cambridge
Old Post Road Historic Concerts presents "Music at the Court of Frederick the Great" on Feb. 12 at 8pm. All musicians will perform on period instruments or replicas. Tickets are $12.

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Enjoy the music of Beethoven in a performance by violinist Daniel Stepner and fortepianist John Gibbons on Feb. 4 at 8pm in Remis Auditorium. Tickets are $16. Call 267-9300 x300 for more details.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
John Finney conducts an ensemble of the Haydn & Handel chorus and period orchestra in a performance of "Three Centuries of Love in Music." Program features works by Monteverdi, Brahms and Haydn. Feb. 12 at 8pm. Call 266-3605 for more infomation.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
Often considered the world's finest symphony orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic will perform a program including Mendelssohn and Beethoven on Feb. 12 at 8pm. Part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series. Call 931-ARTS for tickets.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Take advantage of the Valentine's month special: $125 per couple for half an hour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at noon.

Mass. Brewing Company, Inc.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1pm. For more information call 455-1935.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Samuel Adams Brewery
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2pm and Saturdays at noon and 2pm, the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

Harvard Film Archive
at Harvard's Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge
The HFA presents *Marquis*, based on the writings of the Marquis de Sade, from Feb. 5-14. It's a bizarre tale of sex, lust and the French Revolution. Also, come see *Man Without a World*, running Feb. 12-21.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents the films of Polish director Andrzej Wajda on Feb.5. At 6pm it's *A Generation* and at 8pm come see *Kanal*, which won a directing prize at Cannes and world-wide recognition. All films are screened in Remis Auditorium; admission is $6.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
Beginning Feb. 12, the world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Films start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Apr. 1, you can design your own bicycle at a cutting-edge interactive computer station, featuring spectacular 3-D color graphics. The Computer Museum is the only museum in the world devoted solely to educating the public about computers and their impact on society. Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Through Mar. 28, the Sackler is showing "First Under Heaven: The Henderson Collection of Korean Ceramics." Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Feb. 21, see "Performing Objects" - where artists create an arena for interaction between the viewer and the work of art. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5-9pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

by Leslie Semonian

"What is your favorite quote?"



Paul, 29, Watertown
"Just do it."



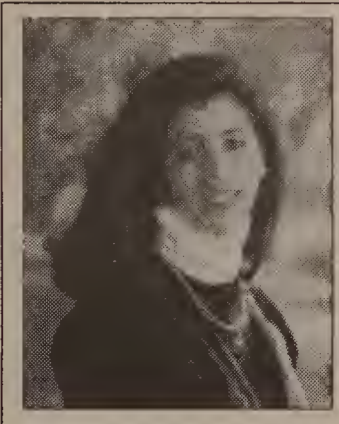
Bert, 28, South Boston
"You should never regret the things you have done, only the things you haven't done."



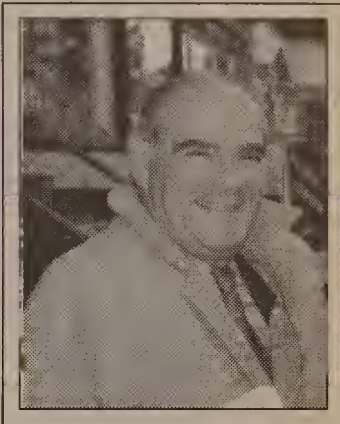
Karen, 31, Brighton
"What goes around, comes around."



Ron, 40, Beacon Hill
"Shoes don't make the man, but they often reveal him."



Ilyse, 23, Newton
"It's not enough that I must win, it's that everyone around me must lose."



Michel, 52, New York
"I never promised you I would never lie."

This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
"Master European Paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Mantegna to Goya" is on view through Mar. 28. This collection, which has rarely been outside Ireland, includes works by David, Gainsborough and Poussin. Also, come see "Leonardo da Vinci: The Anatomy of Man - Drawings from the Collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II." The exhibit includes more than 30 drawings, which chart da Vinci's evolution of style and his exacting investigation of human anatomy. Through Feb. 21.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit that until May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures!

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Hours are Mon.-Fri., 9am-4pm and Sun., 9am-5pm.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
at Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Through Mar. 3, the A.R.T. performs George Bernard Shaw's ***Heartbreak House***, about Britain's aristocracy on the eve of World War I. Beginning Feb. 10, see ***Dream of the Red Spider***, about plots to overthrow Paranoid Dictators. Call 547-8300 for times and ticket information.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Anthropological storyteller Guy Peartree presents a one-man show in the role of the great abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass (1817-1895). The story begins in 1859, with John Brown at Harper's Ferry. Don't miss this on Feb. 12 at 7pm. Tickets are $8.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, ***Shear Madness*** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, ***Shear Madness*** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

Chekhov Theater
at 949 Comm. Ave., Boston
Chekhov Theater presents Anton Chekhov's ***The Seagull***, the tragic farce of rivalry between generations for leadership in art, society and personal relationships. Performances are Feb. 5 & 19 at 8pm.

Chiswick Park Theatre
Rte. 20, Sudbury
Come see the new musical ***Mating Habits of the Urban Mammal*** and find out why romance these days is more difficult (and funnier) than ever. It runs through Valentine's Day (how appropriate!). Call 508-443-5550 for times and ticket information.

Colonial Theatre
106 Boylston St., Boston
David Henry Hwang (***M. Butterfly***) presents his new play, ***Face Value***, from Feb. 9-28. This hilarious, fairy-tale farce is about mistaken racial identity and true love. Call 931-2787 for times and ticket prices.

Double Edge Theatre
5 St. Luke's Rd., Allston
DET presents ***Song of Songs*** Feb. 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 8pm. Drawn from Solomon's biblical ode of divine and human love and faith, the performance moves in and out of the world of the Muslim, Christian and Jewish cultures of medieval Spain, the Rabbinic period of the early common era, and modern times. Tickets are $10.

French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
Riverside Theare Works presents the classic musical ***Annie*** through Mar. 21. Call 361-7024 for times and ticket prices.

Huntington Theatre
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
The HTC presents the first major American production of ***My Mother Said I Never Should***, a humorous account of the relationships within one British family's four generations of mothers and daughters. The production runs until Feb. 7. Call 266-0800 for times and ticket prices.

Leland Center
Boston Center for the Arts
Bloody Poetry, a play which focuses on the relationship between Byron, Shelley, Mary Shelley and Claire Clairmont, runs through Feb. 6. Call 983-5330 for times and ticket information.

Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St., Boston
Running through Feb. 7, ***The Mystery of Irma Vep*** is a wonderfully funny comedy which features a sympathetic werewolf, a vampire and an Egyptian princess brought to life when her tomb is opened. Beginning Feb. 10, see ***The Liar***, a classic French comedy about a young man who cannot stop telling lies. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket prices.

Milton Players
90 Reedsdale Rd., Milton
The Milton players will perform the hilarious ***I Hate Hamlet***, with laughs and swords galore, Feb. 11-13. Call 698-7469 for times and ticket prices.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
The Mystery Cafe presents ***Let's Kill the Boss*** every Thur. at 7:30pm, Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6 and 9pm and Sun. at 7pm. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
The New Rep. presents George Bernard Shaw's ***Arms and the Man*** until Feb. 14. Magical, irreverent and deliciously witty, this play explodes myths about heroism, manhood and love. Call 332-1646 for times and ticket information.

Robsham Theater
at Boston College, Chestnut Hill
The Broadway Singers perform the musical revue ***Red Hot and Cole***, a mixture of mood, music and biography that celebrates one of the great masters of melody and lyric line - Cole

(continued on following page)

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ARTS

(Theater Continued)

Porter. The show is one night only, Feb. 4 at 8pm. Call 552-4000 for ticket reservations.

Speakeasy Stage Co.
at the Black Box Theatre
Boston Center for the Arts
The SSC presents ***Closer Than Ever***, a wonderful new musical that takes you on an emotional journey through the anguish, amazement and human comedy of contemporary living. It runs Thu-Sun from Jan. 21- Feb. 14.

Studebaker Theater
at The Performance Place
277 Broadway, Somerville
Studebaker Theater inaugurates its 15th anniversary with a collaborative evening of short plays: ***A Clean Slate*** and ***The Man Himself***. The show runs Jan. 27- Feb. 6, Weds-Suns at 8pm.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from ***Nunsense*** have suddenly taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

Theatre Redux
at First Parish Church
3 Church St., Harvard Square
Theatre Redux presents the New England premiere of ***Pokey***, the comic journey of a man who sets out to find the past he abandoned. See it Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm through Feb. 6. Tickets are $15; call 547-2302.

LECTURES/READINGS

Berklee College of Music
at Mass. Ave. & Boylston St., Boston
Faculty member Earl Stewart lectures on "The Vision of Scott Joplin" Feb. 4; student Angie Payne speaks on "The Music Business and the Black European" Feb. 8; and student DeAlan Mann addresses "Black Dance in America" on Feb. 12. Lectures are at 1pm in Recital Hall 1W.

Brookline Community Education
at Brookline High School
115 Greenough St., Brookline
Listen to a panel of highly-respected scholars debate "The Legacy of Malcolm X." Was he a racist, a martyr, a saint, a socialist? The event takes place Feb. 10 at 7pm; tickets are $5.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Hear the Rev. Jeffrey Brown detail the fascinating work of developing Cambridge's African-American History Trail. The talk will be followed by a 22-minute video tape that has been produced about the project. Tickets for the lecture are $2. Call 547-6789.

Java Caffe
558 Tremont St., Boston
Every other Tuesday at 8pm come to Bad Poetry Night! Neophytes are encouraged to attend this "neo-beat-expressionist-rant-n-rave-pop-speak that puts a snappy spin on the SLAM." Call 426-8246 for more information.

JFK Library
Columbia Point, Dorchester
The library's spring forum opens Feb. 16 at 5:30pm with a new look at the public life of George Washington. Noted presidential scholar Richard Norton Smith undertakes a major reappraisal of Washington's life in his new book, *Patriarch: George Washington and the New American Nation*. Admission is free.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The celebration of Black History Month continues Feb. 7 at 3pm with the lecture "Milestones in Black Dance: Talley Beatty." A conversation with one of the towering figures in 20th-century black dance, celebrated choreographer Beatty, is conducted by NCAAA artistic director Elma Lewis. Admission is free.

Pine Manor College
The Founders' Room
400 Heath St., Chestnut Hill
On Feb. 3 at 7:30pm, Dr. Michele Paludi discusses "Ivory Power: Sexual Harassment on Campus." Dr. Paludi is the director of the Women's Studies Program at Hunter College (C.U.N.Y.) in New York.

GALLERIES

Ashuah-Irving Gallery
286 Congress St., Boston
Israeli artist Elie Shamir exhibits his new works on canvas as well as B&W photographic prints through Mar. 6. Shamir's work involves classical myths and symbols put into today's context and culture.

Ben Kupferman Gallery
115 Atlantic Ave., Boston
Unique workshop featuring original hand-wrought silver and gold jewelry. Sculptures in broze, concrete and 'found' objects are alos featured.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston
The annual Winter Members show, a juried show featuring recent works in all media, style and genre, runs through Feb. 6.

Levinson Kane Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston
Through Mar. 14, Stephen Huneck will transform this gallery into a studio apartment, complete with furniture that he made. Gallery patrons are encouraged to "experience *his* work as if in *your* home."

SPECIAL EVENTS

Hard Rock Cafe
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The Hard Rock Cafe continues its popular Signature Series program with a Megadeth T-shirt: "Peace for Sale ... But Who's Buying?" Money from the shirts will be donated to outstanding charities around the world who aggressively set out to make a difference in today's society.

Spinazzola Foundation
at the World Trade Center
Over 1,500 guests are expected to attend the 8th annual Anthony Spinazzola Gala: A Festival of Food and Wine for a fabulous evening of fine foods, vintage wines and great entertainment on Feb. 5. Call 720-1122 for details.

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¿Se Habla Petunias?

Exploring the Power of Flowers



BY CHAD L. SANBORN

When it comes to appreciating flowers, there are two kinds of people; women and men. Nature, with its affinity for chaotic order, delineated the human view of flowers along this clear-cut line. Women adore flowers for their beauty, covet them for their odoriferous pleasure, desire them for the life and passion they represent. Men, however, like flowers simply because they get them out of trouble.

Granted this disparity runs contrary to modern thinking. After centuries of inequality, we've got most people believing the sexes are on par—or at least mulling over the possibility. This is hardly a small accomplishment, given it means swaying people such as my mother, who views such parity as an insult to women—one which drags them down to the same piggish level as men.

But flowers have been around longer than both modern thinking and my mother. I think it was Socrates who said, "Nature waits for no sociological thesis on bi-gender issues." Then again, maybe it wasn't. But proper attribution isn't the issue here; we're dealing in motivations.

Men, in the stereotypical sense—that is, the only sense in which men are ever examined—so not grasp the minute details that render flowers, these living, breathing, oxygen-producing creatures, so desirable to women. However, men fully grasp the implications of the opposite sex's fondness of daffodils, tiger lilies and, of course, roses. You might even say men have a burly choke hold on the implications.

Stay out a little too late with the boys? That's nothing a half dozen orchids surrounded by green twigs with purple leaves won't fix. Just now remember today is your anniversary? ("I mean really, dear, it only comes once a year so it's kinda easy to forget.") Bring out the heavy artillery. A dozen long-stem red roses ought to keep her from remembering what an insensitive slob you are.

This heathen view of flowers stems from, like everything else nasty in the human character, childhood. As young boys, the males of our species don't spend their idle time smelling flowers. They trample them during miniature re-enactments of the Normandy invasion. Rather than picking flowers to arrange a sweet bouquet, boys tend to accidentally burn them while undergoing the tribal rite of manhood known as "playing with matches." Boys are apt to play "loves me/ loves me not" but find the game more satisfying when played with bug legs.

A general lack of appreciation for flowers reveals itself later in life, much to the chagrin of men. It is not unusual for a man, under pressure to appear interested, to bend over and deeply inhale the nonexistent odors of unscented flowers. After straightening, and with a goofy approximation of a nurturing look firmly entrenched on his face, he says something sensitive like "Hey, these small nice!" Most women simply stand by in quiet awe, watching idiocy in action.

Given this ignorance, men have proven themselves adept at manipulating flowers for their own ends. They had to. The health consciousness of the times have rendered candy obsolete, and the connotations that go along with a gift of tofu and wheat germ are more along the lines of "your butt's too big" rather than "love me do."

Another effective love bribe from years gone by, nylons, is merely a commodity rather than a pay-off in today's economic model of love. A man could leverage the power of jewelry but he runs the risk of the recipient inferring much more than an apology. Besides, if a man coughs up expensive trinkets every time he's in trouble, he will be flat broke in a matter of days.

As it stands, flowers are the only remaining practical legal tender for reconstructing debts of love. But there are rules to giving these love bribes. Break one and a man's true motivation for giving flowers is exposed.

A "happiness" bouquet smells like a rat. Typically, happiness bouquets consist of a bunch of furry sticks served up in a straw basket garnished with tacky plastic drink stirrers and helium-filled balloons. These bouquets are strictly for mothers. Give one to a significant other and everything you've ever done wrong will come trickling back into the foreground of her memory. Besides, they're ugly.

A sing rose is cliché. This one can be used, but rarely. Usually when a woman sniffs a single rose, all she smells is the pungent odor of cheapness. The monobud technique works best as a surprise and should be reserved for laying groundwork when you know you'll be in trouble in the near future. "I'm glad you like it, punk'in. Oh by the way honey, the boys and I have designated Tuesdays as poker night and..."

A dozen red roses is a cliché for a reason. This one is common, but it's also a universal classic because it works. Like say, hotdogs, there is nothing new here, but it satisfies just the same. Unless your crime is something unbearable like philandering with her sister or a politically incorrect positioning of the toilet seat, a dozen red roses work every time. You may have to sleep on the pit group, but a t least you'll be sleeping on the streets.

Variety ensures success. Occasionally sending purple irises or yellow daffodils will make her think you're sensitive and know more about flowers than just the rose cliché. Also, variety lends the act a personal touch. If you can actually make her believe you are thoughtful, you're in. And best of all, irises and daffodils are cheaper than roses.

Never give flowers in person. Having asserted the redemptive powers of flowers, it should be noted there is a brief incubation period before the gift begins to take full affect. There is old saying that hell hath no fury like a woman who recognizes when she is being manipulated. Let some unsuspecting delivery boy risk scurrying away with thorn scratches all over his face. It's his job.

Incidentally, it also should be noted that—on those rare instances when women's actions are misunderstood as transgressions—men like to receive flowers just as much as women do. Sure we do. Really. Why, men like flowers so much we sometimes let them stand in a vase filled with slowly evaporating water until the petals are withered and crunchy.

Occasionally, you'll run up against a seemingly exceptional woman who maintains that, although if, she enjoys flowers, there exists little practicality for them— a classic case of "listen not to what I say but rather what I'm saying." Despite the thought behind the gift, she will decree, the ephemeral nature of cut flowers renders them a waste of good money. She's lying. She's merely testing the measure of your feelings for her, cynically daring you to prove you care so much that you'll cast aside all common sense and spend blindly on useless items. So ignore her by paying attention to her.

These few rules will aid in mending any breach your loutishness may have created. Most of all, simply keep in mind that flowers speak to women in a language men can't comprehend., But then, if men could *par lay voo* the tongue of tulips, there would be little need for flowers in the first place. ❑

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TRATTORIA IL PANINO

A Culinary Cinderella

BY R. E. BRUNSON

By day, Trattoria Il Panino serves Italian subs and sandwiches. A passerby on Parmenter street in the North End would see the small storefront with six tables and conclude that this must be yet another Italian sub shop. However, after nightfall, a transformation occurs, and a line of eager diners forms on the street outside.

In Italy, a trattoria is a place to go for fresh food in an informal setting. Upon entering Il Panino, we felt right at home in the casual atmosphere imparted by the simple wooden tables and chairs, stucco walls and vintage photos of Italy. To get to our table, we were directed past the busy open kitchen down a narrow stairway. This dining area had the added charm of wine racks overhead and a corner area filled with a wide selection of antipasti. Our waiter, a native Italian, wore the simple house uniform of shirt, tie, and a white apron.

Once presented with the menu and wine list, we couldn't help but listen intently to the selection of specials including the option of veal or chicken prepared in any manner wished — picatta, saltimbocca or milanese. We ordered the 1990 Montepulciano D'Abruzzo Castello Dell'Abate ($15.95),a full-bodied red from the extensive list of Italian wines. We also chose two of the antipasti to begin. One was the homemade vegetable antipasto, Casarecci di Vegetali ($9.95), a specialty of the house, and the other was Bresaola ($9.95), an aged beef cured in cognac (both selections were pleasing).

The vegetable antipasto plate had a selection of nine grilled, roasted or marinated vegetables in portions large enough for everyone in our party to have more than just a sample. The antipasti were simply (yet expertly) prepared from the sliced eggplant marinated in marinara sauce to the broccoli rabe in herbal olive oil to the escarole with pine nuts, raisins and capers. There was not a scrap left on the plate. The bresaola was also inspiring in its artful presentation (prepared by our waiter) of paper thin slices of ruby red bresaola arranged around a mound of arugula drizzled with extra virgin olive oil, lemon juice, and freshly ground pepper. The taste was sharper but a little more delicate than prosciutto, and was nicely complimented by the tartness of the arugula and cheese. Garnishes were thin wedges of imported parmigiano reggiano cheese.

After such a strong beginning, we hungrily anticipated the main course. For entrees, we chose Porcini Mushroom ravioli ($10.95), Chicken Picatta ($11.95), and the Grilled Shrimp special ($11.95). The ravioli that arrived were round pillows of pasta stuffed with finely chopped porcini mushrooms accompanied by a rich porcini cream sauce flavored with a touch of marcapone and nutmeg. Every bite released an intense burst of flavor. On the lighter side, the chicken came with a generous portion of two perfectly done split chicken breasts. The plump, tender chicken was coated in a tart lemon and parsley sauce and sprinkled with large capers. However, as wonderful as these two dishes were, the real star of the evening was the Grilled Shrimp special. This deceptively simple dish contained eight fresh jumbo shrimp that had been marinated in olive oil, garlic, parsley and then grilled to perfection. They were skillfully arranged on a sea of arugula, radicchio, sorrely, and endive dressed with extra virgin olive oil and balsamic vinegar.

TRATTORIA IL PANINO

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We turned our attention towards dessert and discovered that there was only one option — tiramisu ($3.95). Though it rarely lives up to expectations in the North End, we hesitantly ordered one, only to be very pleased with the pie-shaped wedge that we received. It had two layers of sponge, flavored with espresso and Tia Maria and topped by a rich layer of delicious marscapone. We happily ordered another slice, though equally delicious, could have been larger.

After the meal, we spoke to Frank DePasquale, owner and mastermind behind the restaurant. He said that because of the restaurant's small size and resulting lack of freezer and storage space, they must buy their evening ingredients *that* morning. This makes for truly fresh ingredients and explains the constantly changing specials at the restaurant. We also learned that the restaurant has three other area locations: Harvard Square, Malden and Norwell.

With the table cleared and the conversation reaching its end, we lingered at our table, reluctant to leave Trattoria Il Panino — a culinary Cinderella . ❑

DINING

APPETEASERS

By Peter McNamara

Masters and Dodge

The **Cambridge School of Culinary Arts'** new *Celebrity Chef Series* has just been announced by Roberta Dowling, President/Founder. This year's guest chefs include Jim Dodge, author of *The American Baker* and *Baking with Jim Dodge*; Chris Schlesinger, chef/co-owner of the East Coast Grill and The Blue Room; and Hugh Carpenter, author of *Pacific Flavors* and *Chopsticks*. Also new classes are starting up and include *Flavors of Italy* (five sessions), and a four session series, *Regional American Cooking* commencing April 8. For information, call 354-3836.

Fruit of the Vine

If you have never been to Watertown's **On the Square**, then you've been depriving yourself of some super food. The wine tasting dinners there provide an unequaled opportunity to try food and wine that have been matched together with a great deal of skill. The next wine vintner dinner series, entitled "Food and Wine to Warm the Spirit," begins Wednesday, February 3, when Herr Docktor Wilhelm Friedberg, owner of the Boston Wine Co. will be the featured guest. Cost of the dinner, including wine, is $55. For details about this and the other dinners in the series call 923-1522.

Be my Valentne

John Harvard's Brew House in Harvard Square is celebrating Valentine's Day with Saint Valentine's Passion Ale, a special brew which they say goes well with one of their many specials. Those wishing to celebrate Valentine's Day Mexican style can check out the **Armadillo Cafe** in Allston. Their eight-course fiesta menu ($25 per person) includes shrimp salad tortas, shredded beef salad with queso blanco and cabbage. Serving from their new location on the Boston waterfront **Cornucopia on the Wharf** is planning a special $50 per person menu with all courses prepared by chef Stuart Cameron. Diners and lovers alike can romance each other while enjoying selections ranging from cold terrine of wild mushrooms and prosciutto with grilled red pepper vinagrette, a vodka-cured salmon gravlox with assorted garnishes , or roasted duck breast and confit leg with three-grain pilaf and a berry-currant wine sauce.

Extra Virgin Only

A noteworthy addition to the local dining scene is **David's Restaurant**, 123 Stuart Street, Boston. David Wainwright and Ross Cameron, both formerly of the Back Bay Bistro have teamed up and created a most innovative menu. "Tastes of the Mediterranean" is the theme with entrees such as Grille Salmon with spanakopita (a Greek pie with Feta cheese, eggs, spinach, and seasonings), Turkish Baked Stuffed Eggplant, and Bouillabaisse. Main Courses are starting at $10 and the restaurant is open for both lunch and dinner. For more information call 367-8405.

The 8th Ball

One of the gastronomic highlights of the year is the *8th Annual Gala Festival of Food and Wine*, held to benefit the **Anthony Spinazzola Foundation**. This prestigious event, featuring food from 75 of New England's best restaurants and wines from 70 Nationally and internationally acclaimed vineyards, honors the late *Boston Globe* food critic, Anthony Spinazzola, and has become one of the largest events of its kind in the country. The Black-tie gala takes place at the World Trade Center on February 5. And this year's good news from the IRS, the total $100 ticket price is tax deductible. For more information call 344-4413.

Fame but no Fortune

A local chef/author is writing a cookbook on ethnic baking. Is there a favorite old-world family recipe and its origins that you would like to share? Send your name and telephone number, and best time to call to: Peter McNamara, *Improper Bostonian* 17 Station Street, Brookline Village 02146.

Values

If you have sometime to spare, **Community Servings** would love to hear from you. this organization provides hot, nutritionally balanced meals delivered to people with AIDS, their families and their caregivers in the Boston area. To date, 50,000 such meals have been provided, and the need for volunteers continues to grow. Help is needed in just about all departments, including the office, the kitchen, the delivery service, and at the Wednesday night supper. Call *Ernia Hughes*, the Volunteer Services Manager, at 287-1605 for more information.

. . . Tremont St. Take Over

If **Geoffrey's Cafe** at 651 Boylston Street, Boston is one of your favorite places, you just might be in for a treat this spring. Owners Geoffrey Seline and Michael Aplin have not been saying much, but rumor has it they will be opening a second restaurant in the South End. (Hammersleys' old location, perhaps?) ❑





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In Vino Veritas

Boston Wine Weekend

BY JONATHON ALSOP

Wine culture is a slow-growing vine. Wine lovers everywhere tend and contribute to it, none more positively than the late Anthony Spinazzola, legendary food and wine writer. This year's 8th annual Gala to benefit the Spinazzola Foundation, Friday, February 5 at the World Trade Center, continues to grow as one of Boston's premiere cultural events. This year, the Gala immediately precedes the Boston Wine Expo, also at the World Trade Center Saturday and Sunday, February 6-7, and together they form a mega-weekend of food and wine.

The Spinazzola Gala will feature food from 75 New England restaurants and the wines of 70 vineyards from around the world, as well as a donation and tribute to Boston's hunger relief organizations and their chefs. The list of participating vineyards is daunting, but there are some highlights. Callaway and Culbertson, both from the Temecula Valley region in southern California, will be very interesting to taste. Jepson and Morgan, also from California, and Rex Hill from Oregon are all relatively rare and precious. From the Atlantic northeast, there's Sakonnet of Rhode Island, Westport Rivers from Mass., and Williamsburg in Virginia. Tickets are available at 617-344-4413 for $100 a person.

The Boston Wine Expo is open both days from 1-5 pm, $25 a day or $40 for two days. A dozen celebrity chefs will do food demonstrations, and there are ten complimentary seminars and seven paid tastings for $15-$35. Saturday night is the Vintners Dinner for $75 a person. If you did it all at the Expo, you'd have a pretty comprehensive crash-course in food and wine for about $200. Especially valuable, from an educational perspective, are the paid tastings of rare wines. Again, the list of Expo vineyards is huge, but Arrowood is a favorite. Bonny Doon is always good for stylish new waves in wine, while others to look for include McGuigan Bros. from Australia, and Chamard, Mellea, Sakonnet, Stonington, Westport Rivers and Williamsburg from the east coast. Although it's hard to imagine anything lively in the dead of this winter, wine culture will be alive and kicking the weekend of February 5-7, and Boston's wine lovers will be giving it all they've got. Boston Wine Expo tickets are on sale at wine shops all over town. For more information call 617-439-5110.

Tastings Around Town

Brookline Liquor Mart, Allston: Saturdays, 2-4 pm. 2/6: 1990 Burgundy, nice wines and prices are way down. 2/13: Wines for Valentines, bring a date. Blanchard's in Allston, tastings every Friday, 5-8 pm and every Saturday, 2-5 pm. Winecellar of Silene, Copley and Waltham, Fridays, 4-6:30 pm and Saturdays, 2-4:30 pm. Marty's in Allston, Saturdays 1-3 pm. Bauer on Newbury Street, Saturdays, 4-7 pm. Kappy's in Sudbury and Mall Wines at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, Saturdays, noon-6 pm. Chestnut Hill Wine Cellar, in the old Chestnut Hill Mall by Star Market, every Saturday, 4-6 pm. Gordon's in Waltham, Saturdays, 1-4 pm.

Fine Wine On A Tight Budget

1988 Sterling Vineyards "Diamond Mountain Ranch" Chardonnay ($9) and 1989 Sterling Vineyards "Diamond Mountain Ranch" Cabernet Sauvignon ($9) at Beacon Beverage in Brookline. MSRP: $20. These two California diamonds are in completely different places in their lives. The 1988 Chard is just now crossing the finish line, and crossing strong with mellow fruit, sweet buttered toast flavors, softened oak and nice acidity, a beautiful wine in its total maturity: drink tomorrow at the latest. The 1989 Cab, on the other hand, is brand new, very tightly wound, and not giving up much flavor. After five days in the glass on the window sill, it did begin to show fruit, so there probably is hope. We won't know about this wine for at least another three to five years, but I recommend a mixed case of Chard to drink now and Cab to tuck away till 1996. A tip: be on the look-out for 1990 CdB Cabernet Sauvignon, under $10 starting around the first part of February, could be as low as $7-$8 in spots, although I haven't tasted it yet.

Pinot Envy

Bumper crops of California pinot noir and floods of French red Burgundy have left the wine world with more delicious and affordable pinot noir than any time in history. 1989 Gavilan Pinot Noir ($11), made by Chalone in California, is exquisite in every way: big ripe fruit, no rough edges, creamy and rich, available at Brookline Liquor Mart. 1990 Jadot Pinot Noir ($8) and 1990 Latour Pinot Noir ($7) are both excellent buys on the French side. Normally around $10, last year about $13-$15, the red Burgundies have become very affordable, if you can ever really afford to fall in love with wine.

Tasting Notes

From January 19 Mall-Kappy's-Beacon Bev/Clos du Bois wine dinner at the Mill Falls Restaurant in Newton. 1991 CdB Barrel Fermented Sauvignon Blanc ($7): huge tropical fruit flavors, even pineapple and kiwi, beautifully smooth, rich in toasted wood, very pretty. 1990 CdB Barrel Fermented Chardonnay ($10): served much too cold, very reigned in and tight everywhere, scant aromas, thin flavors, previous bottles have been much better, but I think I still prefer the Sauvignon Blanc. 1990 CdB Flintwood Chardonnay ($16): big, beautiful wine with great body, super vanilla and butterscotch flavors, lovely roasted grain, a real winner. 1990 CdB Merlot ($15): very smooth and creamy, good bright fruit, simple and round, personality reminiscent of some recent California red Zins, very good merlot but not a bargain. 1989 CdB Marlstone ($20): super blend of cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc, merlot and malbec, great fruit and spice. 1989 CdB Late Harvest Gewurz ($20/half): nice aromas of fresh flowers and super-ripe fruit in this dessert wine, one dominating flavor of dried apricot, little acidity, very short sweet finish. ❑

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FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE WINE EXPO, CALL (617) 439-5110.

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DINING

BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ

1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, .232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sun 12-3p.m

CAFE MONAGENE

1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303
A unique restaurant with a fun and colorful atmosphere, serving brunch on Sundays 11:00-4:00 p.m.. You may not be able to write on our tabledoths anymore, but you can enjoy our funky new tabletops as you sip your mimosas and kir royales on Sunday mornings. Try our famous Chicago eggs with Pierogis, Eggs Benedict or house smoked fish platters. Cappuccino, Espresso and a full bar.

BOSTON DOWNTOWN CAFE

210 Washington St., Boston 338-7037
Serving breakfast from 8am to 3pm.Boston Downtown Cafe offers homemade delights ranging from poached eggs on english muffins with lox and Mornay sauce to carrot gingerbread and raisin pancakes. Housed in the formmer WRKO movie lobby, the cafe also features a Disaster Tour of Boston on Saturdays at noon. For $10 get a 45 min tour of the city's most famous disasters and a fabulous lunch.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline 566-1002. Start your Sunday off at Cityside at the Circle. Brunch served 11AM–3:00PM. Menu: A la Carte includes Breakfast and Lunch dishes—prices range from $3.95–$9.95

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standarAmerican breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accptd.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and a traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY III

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Also listen to jazz by local artists. Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Outdoor seating available.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped with poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, approximately 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

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ANOTHER SEASON
97 Mount Vernon St., Boston 367-0880
A, MC, V, $$
A classic restaurant with a modern menu served in style is what you will find at Another Season. Luncheon is served Tuesday-Friday, featuring light, fresh fare. Dinner is served Monday through Saturday from 5:45 to 10:00pm. The diverse menu offers wonderful specials and a creative three-course prix fixe menu for $22.00 (Mon. - Thurs.) Private rooms are available for parties, meeting and weddings. For these special events all menus are custom designed to suit the needs and tastes of the client. For reservations, information or a copy of the prix fixe menu for Fall please call 367-0880.

AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am - 11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303 M, V, A $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383 A, MC, V, DC $$
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo Wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that *feels* like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. All around you are floor to ceiling windows that look out over the streets of Boston's North End. The English-style ales are all robust top fermented, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30AM to 12 midnight Sun.- Thurs. and until 1:00AM Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA
15 West St., Bos. 338-4600
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

DURGIN PARK
340 Faneuil Hall, Bos. 227-2038
MC, V, A $$
Famous for ample portions and brusque and burly waitresses, this Boston institution serves up New England clam chowder, succulent lobster and thick prime rib for cheap. Eat at long, family-style tables

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1280
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The 1280 Mexican and American Restaurant is located at 1280 Beacon St., Brookline on the Green Line. 232-1280

DINING

with other patrons. Indulge in oysters at the newly refurbished raw bar. Lunch is also served at the piano bar. Reserve for parties of 15 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

El Phoenix Room
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50. With their new renovations excellent prices and large portions El Phoenix should thrive in the future.

Foster's Bar & Grill
5 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

Four Winds
266 Commercial St., Bos. 742-3922
A, MC, DC, V $$
This casual seafood grille sits across from Boston Harbor and though not claiming to have barnicles on the back door step, the Four Winds can claim a nice water view and some great fresh seafood and salad dishes. Stop by for the Cajun swordfish, broiled yellowfin tuna or one of their tasty sirloin steaks. Open daily from noon to 3:30p.m. for lunch and 5:30 to 10:30 dinner.

Harvard Street Grill
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

Hungry I
71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

Icarus
3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

India Samraat
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties inclued Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super Buffet Special 12 - 4p.m. every day ($5.75). Take out/delivery and catering services available.

Jae's Cafe & Grill
520 Columbus Ave., Boston
421-9405 $$ MC/V/AMEX
Nestled in Boston's South End, this two-floor, charming restaurant offers quality food with a Korean accent. Whether you choose one of the curry dishes, vegetable entrees, or selections from Jae's complete sushi bar, the courteous service and very reasonable prices are the perfect complements to any of their delicious meals. Desserts are also not to be missed. Full take out service available.

Kashmir
279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$

AMSTERDAM'S
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American Bistro Dining
Grilled Pizza. Fried Wontons. Calamari Rings.
Rotisserie-cooked chicken, seafood and fine cuts of meat.
Ceasar Salad. Mediterranean Salad. Sweet Potato Fries.
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pizza





255 Hanover Street
Boston

349 Newbury Street
Boston

3 Water Street
Boston

1 Elliot Street
Cambridge

DINING

Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

Kebab'N'Kurry
30 Massachusetts Ave., Bos. 536-9835
A,D,MC,V $$
This small basement restaurant offers an extensive menu. The nan (Indian bread) is superb, often stuffed with potatoes and other goodies. Order a maharani thaali (Queen's platter) and sample a variety of dishes including; dal (lentils), paneer (cheese in a curried sauce) chickpeas and basmati rice. Open daily for lunch (except Sun.) and dinner.

Legal Sea Foods
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos. 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700
$$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal". One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod. Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch and dinner. Sat./Sun., dinner menu only in town; lunch available. in the suburbs.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	A	L	L		O	R	A	L	S		S	T	E	A	L		A	T	M	S
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Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2am.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

Moon Villa
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4am for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC
$
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's feature extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850
$(lunch) $$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the sunumertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pat's Pushcart
61 Endicott St., Boston, 523-9616
MC/V $$
Serving fine Italian cuisine for over twenty years, Pat's Pushcart is a mainstay in Boston's North End. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Don't forget to ask about their everchanging daily specialties—the highlights of their menu.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant and Bar
20 Clinton St. (adjacent to Faneuil Hall) 523-5722, Delivery Service542-2121
MC,V,AMEX,D $$
Voted Boston's "Best Pizza" by Boston Magazine and voted the "Best Deep Dish Pizza in Chicago". Come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches..Huge $1.50 drafts always on special, Open 11am to late night.

Pronto
464 Thames St., Newport, R.I. (401) 847-5251
MC/V $$$
Enjoy Italian and continental cuisine among fresh flowers and great music in charming Newport. This elegant European-style bistro serves lunch daily 11:30 - 4 p.m.. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5:30 -11 p.m. on weekends. Fine wines are available by the glass and for the months of August and September, breakfast will be served 8 am - 12 p.m. on weekends.

Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC,V
Located near downtown crossing, formerly Friar Tuck's, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick business lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment.

Sorento's
86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston 536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location, So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Warren Tavern,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
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FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 PHI 7:30	6
7 GS 1:00	8	9 MIL 7:30	10	11	12 DAL 7:30	13 SA 7:30
14	15	16 PHO 6:00	17	18 HOU 7:30	19	20
21	22	23 IND 7:30	24 NJ 7:30	25	26 ATL 7:30	27
28 POR 7:00						

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 DET 8:00	2	3 SA 7:30	4	5 DET 7:30	6
7 CLE 1:00	8	9	10 PHI 7:30	11	12 MIL 7:30	13
14 CHA 8:00	15	16 GS 5:00	17	18 DEN 7:00	19 LAL 7:30	20
21 POR 5:00	22	23	24 MIA 7:30	25	26 DAL 7:30	27
28 WSH 2:30	29 SAC 7:30	30	31 PHI 7:30			

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 PHO 8:00	3
4 CHI 1:30	5	6	7	8 NY 8:00	9 DET 7:30	10
11 NY 1:00	12	13 IND 7:30	14	15 NJ 7:30	16	17 MIA 3:30
18 ORL 12:30	19	20	21 ORL 7:30	22	23 CLE 7:30	24
25 WSH 1:00	26	27	28	29	30	

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From Strip Bars to Peace of Mind

Jeffrey Gaines Works Hard for the Money

BY ZACHARY SIMMONS

Jeffrey Gaines is as captivating as Bono is "live," deep as Neil Peart lyrically, and as regular as the guy next door.

Although the Pennsylvania native's album sounds like it was written completely focused inwards, it comes from a man exploding outwards. His sexy, rough, lion-like appearance hints at a covered past, his face bears a few scars and his songs are mined from the hard ore deep inside him.

"Lord knows man, the reason I did this record was to better myself, because my personality, David Lee Roth, as sick as it is, is probably the closest thing to who I've been. Some bad Matt Dillon character from some film has been closer to my life than this record."

Twenty-six year old Gaines lives in and is a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. While he worked for his father installing carpet, he played in cover bands with old high school friends. Eventually, in 1989, he got to the point of being asked to front New York's Maggie's Dream. Instead he stuck it out solo in Philly and before he knew it, he was signed to Chrysalis Records.

Gaines has come a long way from playing covers in strip bars, but he realizes that he could have gone either way.

"I tell you, a lot of my buddies were not as lucky, not as strong, not as focused. They ended up either dead, addicted, or in jail. A lot of them look up to what I'm doing as like 'Yo man, you made it out of here, you're the guy, we're all living vicariously through you.' And in that, again, is respect that I have to my past, to survive, to do the right thing." Jeffrey's interest in music comes from home and different artists that made special connections in him. "I started to sing along to everything, like seventies rock radio. You heard a lot of Elton John, a lot of Beatles and stuff. Those are serious singers. Plus around the house I heard Otis Reading, Aretha Franklin, and The Jackson Five."

Gaines continues, "The Jackson Five made a lot sense, because generally music is adults and you're a kid. Then you see kids and you say, 'Wow, I can do that, I can have that.' You end up just grabbing a tennis racket or a broom or something and start jamming in the basement. It's because of a thing you think and feel. The more and more artists that you see and make sense with your personality and stuff you say yeah, this is me. Like when I saw David Bowie the first time on television he was doing the Ziggy character. I remember him singing "My Death" and how dramatic it was and I said that makes so much sense."

Success in music leads to the disintegration of many artists, but Jeffrey Gaines is one of the other artists who coolly slid into refinement of himself.

"It's not a big deal. I kind of look at it as all passing. Kind of a day in the life. I document what's important to me. I reach my own goals that I've had in my head and make sure that I address them everyday."

Gaines adds, "In the writing, a lot of bands will try to glorify their decadence. They turn that into, 'I'm a shithead, I'm a chauvinist bastard, I'm lazy, I'm a this, I'm a that — so pay me for it.' Lord knows I put the headphones on tight and listen to every word. I looked at it (success) as my responsibility to try to better myself."

His new album is a piece of musical artwork that feels like it was pulled from Jeffrey's soul.

"When I write a song," says Gaines, "It's heavy and it's deep. It's talking about bettering yourself and trusting your instincts. It's talking about peace and being, those are all the things I need to nurture in myself and in the writing process. That's what I'm doing."

The song "Headmasters of Mine" shares the subject of Pink Floyd's "Another Brick in the Wall Part II" but goes miles deeper. A rock version has become a hit using Boston's "The



Neighborhoods" to add a hard edge to the song.

The band and Gaines got together through a friend of Jeffrey's who was studying at Berkley. The friend was the bassist in his first band and kept correspondence of what was going on in Boston's music scene. Eventually "The Neighborhoods" (now defunct) and Gaines met face to face.

"So basically," says Gaines, "when it came down to do this thing I just called Dave, the guitarist/singer, and said, 'Here's my plan, would you like to do this?' and he said, 'Yeah!'"

Either version of the song shows the greatness of his songwriting ability.

"'Headmasters of Mine' is probably my favorite song," he says. "Every time when you write a song you try to articulate your feeling as best as possible and in that song there's not a word wasted. When I hear the track it sounds like blood. A lot of the vocal things that I'm doing are very gospel."

The Jeffrey Gaines album is complete and is definitely not a one or two hit album.

Jeffrey explains that, "'I'm Sorry the Very Next Day' is the closest to me on the record. It's the most intimate song on the record. It's a song about resolving relationships. Often times there's that arrogance of youth where you think you know everything. You don't really know your parents aren't just parents, they're people first that ended up being parents."

On stage Gaines' overwhelming magnetism pull his audience into the air. Without the confines of a studio, his voice surges, and he outshines the spotlights as he presents his work.

"When I'm onstage, I feel that I haven't performed all night. I'm not hiding anything. I think it's more frightening to hide because of the fear of being found out. I'd be satisfied to almost talk on stage. When I do Peter Gabriel's 'In Your Eyes,' that's the only time I perform a song."

For now, Gaines is plowing through his music career. In a recent Rolling Stone interview, Gaines talked about his next album (no date yet) as being a physical one. "When I say I want it to be physical," he explains, "I want it to be something you'd react to. You won't have to sit down and take time with it. I feel that I've had that. Now I want to give something back. I don't want to go in the studio and be that critical of myself. Next time I Just want to say 'Here it is.'" ❑

Budweiser New Music Challenge

T.T.'s in Cambridge has been hosting the Budweiser New Music Challenge. Twenty local bands have been battling it out through five consecutive Wednesdays, with semi-finals on February 24 and 25, and finals at the Paradise on March 3. The criteria is similar to that of the WBCN Rumble: four bands per night, judged by members of the business end of music, on playing, stage presence, songwriting etc. Prizes include twenty-five hours of studio time for the first runner-up and a non-exclusive recording contract with the local Cherry Disc label for the winner. Not surprisingly, the contest was masterminded by Cherry Disc owner John Horton, who describes it as "designed to bring forward bands that are right on the edge and just need that extra boost to start them headlining." ❑

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Dinosaur Jr.

Unsettled and Unreal

BY SANDY MASUO

For the past eight years or so, Amherst's own Dinosaur Jr. have been leaving a consistently erratic trail of sonic footprints on the alternative music scene with an adamantly idiosyncratic sound that, like their moniker, embodies a combination of the tried 'n true and the young and restless, drawing as much on the groovy allure of Neil Young's acid-tinged melodic folk styling as it does on the finely articulated post-punk anxiety of Sonic Youth. It is a blissfully noisome sound that succeeds in transforming many of the more unfortunate ailments of life — insecurity, awkwardness, alienation and angst -- into music that is vital and at times quite beautiful.

At the heart of these transformations lurks guitarist and singer/songwriter J. Mascis who began to figure more and more prominently as the trio evolved, or rather de-evolved. When bassist Lou Barlow left the band in 1989 to pursue the art of noise with his own band, Sebadoh, Mascis and drummer Murph tried to fill the void with various personnel (including Don Fleming and Jay Spiegel of B.A.L.L.), but by the time *Green Mind* came out in 1991, Mascis had taken over most of the band's vital functions, writing, producing and playing virtually the whole album.

It's been two years since *Green Mind*. With their latest album, *Where You Been*, the band returns to power trio status, having signed on bassist Mike Johnson. Together they plow through yet another evocative montage of the ups and downs of being human. Not only do the songs create crisp vignettes of Mascis' murky, moody world, but the energetic repartee that transpires between his head and his hands goes right to the heart of things with vocals and guitar work that tells it like it is.

The album gusts into action with "Out There," a track laden with squalls of clamoring guitar that rollicks from sharp sheering blasts to choppy waves of distortion while Mascis' words soar above it all, following a course that veers from strangely detached soft spots to more self-absorbed low points that lusciously scrape bottom. "Start Choppin'" begin in the warm, lustrous glow of a mellow guitar intro, then lunges into a meaty but spry number that ends with Mascis meandering away from Johnson and drummer Murph to unwind a fascinating dialogue between himself and his axe which seems to spin its own slipstream story to match Mascis' frayed and chunky vocals.



Dinosaur Jr. - Murph, J. Mascis and Mike Johnson.

The mood shifts a bit with the ecstatically tuneful "What Else is New" in which the mushy moodiness of Mascis vocals creates a high contrast display against the precise emotional elocution of his guitar work. The song fades away dramatically with booming timpani pounding into the distance amid splashes of strings and a stream of strumming acoustic guitar. "On the Way" is built less on contrast and more on momentum with Murph's clattering percussion embellishing the cutting edge of a rough-and-tumble tune that rushes relentlessly onward. The orchestral interjections of "What Else is New" crop up again accented forlorn piano strains in "Not the Same," a song that is as rich in texture as it is bleak in sentiment.

A wave of what amounts to optimism surges through "Get Me." Mascis proto-drawl lingers lovingly over a gently tripping tune secured with swinging lines of sparkling guitar work which eventually ignite into a fiery display of gleaming noise before the end. "Drawerings" is both pluckier and more down to earth as it rambles through the thorny undergrowth of a relentless existential crisis. A craggy tune (elaborate) emerges out of "Hide's roaring, droning guitar intro; "Goin' Home" matches a crisp, clear stream of acoustic guitar with the warm bluster of a good ole' Hammond organ. The effect is very low-key yet upbeat, at times almost whimsical as we embark on a revisionist tour of psychedelia. The brief but sweet "I Ain't Sayin'" launches into action with a big dramatic opening, then settles into a lightly grooving musical saga.

Dinosaur Jr.'s is a paradox — simple yet complex, noisy but tuneful, evasive and clear, challenging to the listener without becoming overbearing. It cavorts around in clouds of intrigue that arise from all these contradictory elements. Let's hope they never settle down. ❑

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ALBUM REVIEWS

The Boxed Life
Henry Rollins
Imago Records

Whatever Henry Rollins does is intense. The former lead singer of Black Flag, one of punk's most influential bands, now fronts The Rollins Band, whose music is equally punishing and urgent. Rollins has also published several books of his writing, but beyond all of this, the man is definitely at his best as a "spoken word" performer.

The Boxed Life, more than two and a half hours on two compact discs, consists of Rollins' rantings about everything from condoms to lab rats. Rollins maintains a rage throughout his performance, frequently mentioning his hatred for cops, and emphasizing his alienation from society. But Rollins is also surprisingly funny.

The humor is far from subtle, but on target as he discusses airports and sleep deprivation, human nature and his biology class. He is as funny as he is frightening when he talks about reveling in depression: "When I'm depressed, when I've got the first six Black Sabbath albums playing in my head simultaneously, I'm at my most clear-headed, I'm so defined."

Rollins is a masterful storyteller, and his dysfunctional life makes for great stories. His delivery is often over the top, and he punctuates with screams and sound effects. Even Rollins' send-off – the spooky "I know you" – expresses his alienation as effectively as all of his past work combined.

- David Fenigsohn

Young at Heart
Cincinnati Pops
Erich Kunzel, conductor
Telarc

As would be expected from Kunzel and Cincinnati, this release delivers an imaginative program along with a few surprises thrown in for good measure — in this case, guest appearances by Patti Page, Mel Torme and Sesame Street's Bob McGrath. Page contributes the song for which she is probably best remembered, "The Doggie in the Window", while Torme, though impeccable as always, won't make anyone forget what Frank Sinatra and Nelson Riddle did for the album's title song. Elsewhere, McGrath does a pair of tunes from Sesame Street and the Cincinnati School for Creative & Performing Arts Children's Chorus joins in for a medley of familiar Mother Goose rhymes. Kellie McHugh, a family friend who is just about to turn three, auditioned this for us. She gives it an unqualified thumbs up.

- Steven Brown

Boneclub
"Beautiflu E.P."
Rocket Sound/Imago

Without being poppishly overbearing, this Minneapolis/St. Paul-based band confronts great pop melodies without falling into the Pearl Jam/commercialized trap. Sounding a lot like a heavier Heretix, Boneclub combines Tommy Rey's driving drum rhythms (love that last name) with Dacey Arishiba and John Hausman's dual guitars and pounds out probably the best new major label release so far in 1993 (it was independently released late last year).

Boneclub stirs up the old punk/loud guitar sound of SST instead of inciting the grunge of the West Coast. "Everything's on Fire" unearths Live Skull guitar solos and backs it up with a Nineties groove, making them less of a Black Sabbath tribute than a legit original rock band. Like Heretix, Ex-Skin Yard vocalist Andrew Arashiba's nasal whine perfectly complements brother Dacey's dark guitarwork with a sound that's so full and alive that proves that some bands benefit from an unpolished sound. Like its namesake, "Slo Mo" slows the aggressive attack to tell about a couple's reconciliation in the pouring rain. Arashiba sings, and, like that lingering memory, *Beautiflu* is a release that's pretty hard to forget.

-Rey Roldan

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Music Readers Survey

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The Improper Bostonian
Music Readers Survey
17 Station St., Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146

1) Please fill in your choice for the following music categories.

a) Best New Local Artist

b) Best New National Artist

c) Best Local Alternative Artist

d) Best National Alternative Artist

e) Best Local Rock Artist

f) Best National Rock Artist

g) Best Local Jazz Artist

h) Best National Jazz Artist

i) Best Local Country and Western Artist

j) Best National Country and Western Artist

k) Best Local World Music / Reggae Artist

l) Best National World Music / Reggae Artists

m) Best Local Metal Artist

n) Best National Metal Artist

o) Best Local Blues Artist

p) Best National Blues Artist

q) Best Rap/ Hip Hop Artist

r) Best Record of 1992

s) Song of The Year - Local

t) Song of The Year - National

u) Best Live Club

v) Best Dance Club

w) Musical Disappointment of The Year

2) Circle One:

A. Where do you buy most of your music?
a) Tower Records
b) Newbury Comics
c) Strawberries
d) HMV
e) Other (please specify)

B. Which radio station do you listen to most?
a) WBCN
b) WZLX
c) WFNX
d) WBOS
e) WZOU
f) WKSS
g) Other (Please specify)

3. What clubs do you attend for live rock?

4. What clubs do you attend for live jazz?

5. What clubs do you attend for live blues?

6. What clubs do you attend for dancing?

7. What's your favorite live music venue?

8. What's your favorite dance club?

9. Name the one thing you'd change about the live Boston music scene if you could?

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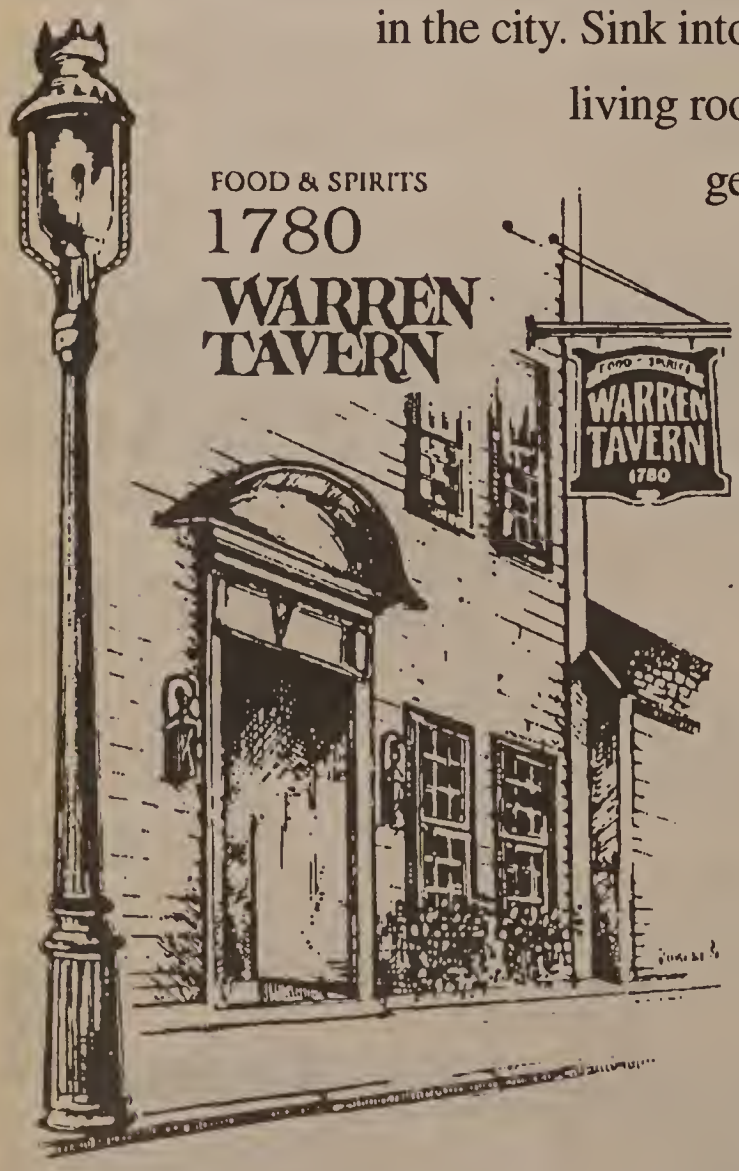
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2/18 Darrell Nulisch & Texas Heat w/ special guests Texas Flood (Stevie Ray Vaughn Tribute Band) also Driving Sideways	2/19 Duke Robillard Band w/ special guests 11th Hour Rhythym Kings	2/20 Bo Diddley w special guests The Rick Russell Band Tickets sold in advance Feb. 20-2 shows
2/25 James Cotton w/ special guests Shirley Lewis Show Tickets sold in advance Feb. 25	2/26 Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers w/ special guests Mike Welch Band & Walk that Walk	2/27 A.C. Reed & the Sparkplugs w special guests Stovall Brown

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A Snowy Night of Sledding and The Sevens

BY LAUREN DARE

The Sevens on Charles Street is a great place, and it completely kicks butt against other "neighborhood" bars. My most recent jaunt to the Sevens took place on the night of the "Blizzard of '93" when the entire city was blanketed in soft white and everyone was laying odds that they wouldn't have to go to school or work the next day — so they were out getting shellacked. We had devised a brilliant plan to go sledding down Beacon Hill, the streets of which had about a foot of snow on them (there's a rule in Boston that the road crews can't plow until five days after it's stopped snowing). We wouldn't want our municipal workers to get hurt driving in all that snow so we let it melt a little before we make them go out to plow. Anyway, we did a couple runs down the State House steps doing our best Home Alone impressions (except, of course, Macauley Culkin wasn't drinking 100 proof schnapps when he went down his front stairs). After our innocent merrymaking, we decided we'd best get ourselves into a bar quickly lest our systems be corrupted with all this fresh air and exercise. So we slid down Revere Street, flew around the corner onto Charles Street, and landed smack on a bar stool in the Sevens. It was truly something to see.

The Sevens
77 Charles Street
523-9074
Beer and wine only
$

For a Wednesday night, the Sevens was packed, full of the usual suspects: the college-plus crowd, the lock-jawed Beacon Hill contingent, State House groupies, Suffolk Law students, Kennedy wannabes, and me. All the steaming wet coats piled up everywhere made the place smell like a wet hairy dog but it didn't seem to dampen anyone's enthusiasm. After ordering our Amstels (the Sevens only serves beer and wine, but this helps preserve its pub-like atmosphere), we settled back to enjoy the game of darts which is eternally taking place in the back of the bar. It has always seemed a little strange to me that you would want to put sharp objects into the hands of people whose blood alcohol level is surely at the flammable point, but everyone looked like they were having a good time, and no one got hurt. It was sometimes hard to tell the dart players apart from the people waiting (also eternally) in line for the bathrooms, which are big enough to turn around in — if you suck in your stomach.

I have never really considered the Sevens to be a pick-up kind of place; it has always appealed to me as the kind of bar where you can go with your friends, hang out and just enjoy the simple pleasures in life such as beer, camaraderie, beer, darts, and beer. However, even in a place as civilized as the Sevens, there's always someone who has just one draft too many and is suddenly overcome by an army of hormones which take over the command centers in his brain and whisper seductively to him, "That's it, just keep following her around, and eventually she'll realize that she really wants you!"

So I had this grinning bozo who was drunker than a fish in a bathtub of gin standing right behind me every time I turned around. It was becoming a little bothersome, especially when he didn't respond to my subtle attempts to get rid of him. Finally, I had to lay it on the line: "I'd really love to go home with you, but I'm kind of worried about this little cold sore on my lip, and my husband just got out from serving his sentence for assault with a deadly weapon, and he's a little touchy about me talking to other guys, and I just stopped my Librium treatments yesterday so I'm a little JUMPY myself. But if you still want me, that's great, let me just get my coat and gun, I left it right over here someplace..." and what do you know, he was gone, just like that. And I had thought we were really going to start a meaningful relationship. Some people are just so shallow!

In true Last-Call style, I was able to finish out the evening without letting this little incident upset me and without getting hit by any darts, which is always a plus on any night out. If you happen to be sledding in the area, I highly recommend popping into the Sevens for some suds; it's a classy but unpretentious neighborhood bar. Oh, and if you see my friend there, tell him I was just kidding about the cold sore. ❑

BARS & CLUBS

Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, call our advertising department at 232-3507

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers. .

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BILL'S BAR** 421-9678, Lansdowne St., Boston. Located in the midst of Lansdowne St., Bill's can be a great alternative to the dance clubs. It caters to a crowd consisting anywhere from punk to preppie. Bill's reputedly has the best jukebox in the city, programed by Peter Wolf. It's loud, clean and showcases live music occasionally. Casual and very relaxed.

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

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•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**CROSSROADS** 262-7371, 495 Beacon Street, Boston. Hailed as one of the last neighborhood pubs in Back Bay, this casual hotspot is frequented by locals, students and young professionals. Among its many attractions are three dart boards, cable sports, a loud jukebox and Guiness on tap. Open 7 days a week 'til 2.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. Attracts an older, quieter crowd. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**LUCKY JOHNNY'S** 731-6753, 1098 Comm. Ave., Boston. Classic Rock rhythms fill the air at this upbeat college bar frequented mostly by BU, BC and Pine Manor students. On weekends, it gets pretty crowded. So beat the lines and get there early. The barback grill is always open and the smaller underground lounge is a nice place to chat. Dress is a relaxed casual to somewhat dressy. Best of all, there's never a cover.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S**
734-0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PERRY'S** 367-1297, 199 State St., Boston. Upstairs young professionals follow their favorite teams on six TV screens. While downstairs, college students and young professionals dance the night away Wed.-Sat. Located in the Faneuil Hall area, the dress is casual and the popcorn is excellent! Lunch and dinner served 11:30am-11pm.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. It's central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

• **RED HAT** 523-2175, 9 Bowdoin St., Bos. You'll feel just like you're in a London pub. Dark and casual atmosphere. Attracts young professionals and Beacon Hill residents. No cover. Casual dress. One of the few places you can still get pitchers of mixed drinks.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WALLY'S** 424-1408, 427 Mass. Ave., Bos. Treat yourself to unadulterated Jazz nightly at Wally's. Neatly tucked away on Mass. Ave. not far from Northeastern U., Wally's is easy to miss. The only indication that you've arrived is a small white beer sign out front. The atmosphere is dark, smoky and crowded and above all authentic. Mon. is Blues night. No cover. Casual dress. Arrive early to get a seat.

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. No tank tops. Bring I.D. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE CHILDREN OF ARMENIA



PHOTO BY DR. CAROLANN NAJARIAN

President Levon Ter Petrossian of the Republic of Armenia has declared Armenia a state of national disaster. He has appealed for assistance from the world "in order to secure the survival of the people through the harsh winter months." Independent studies by UN teams, the United States, the American Red Cross and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies corroborate the severity of the situation in Armenia.

You can help us get precious milk and baby formula to the children of Armenia, the most helpless victims of this crisis. Since 1989, The Armenian Children's Milk Fund has been airlifting supplies—helping to feed thousands of children in Armenia. Won't you help ease the suffering and save lives this winter? Please rush your checks to:

ARMENIAN CHILDREN'S MILK FUND

c/o The First Armenian Church
380 Concord Avenue • Belmont, MA 02178 • (617) 484-3561
All funds go directly toward the purchasing of supplies. Operating costs have been underwritten by Armenian Missionary Association of America
140 Forest Avenue • Paramus, NJ 07652 • (201) 265-2607 • FAX (201) 265-6015

BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

To have your clubs live acts listed in our 2/17 - 3/2 issue fax your listings to Christopher Francescani at 232-4305

W 3RD

Bill's Bar Heretix/ Speedy Tomato's/City This
Black Rose (downstairs) Eugene Byrne & Co.
Boston Beach Club D.J. Tony-Tone
Cityside Alive & Kicking
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Lydia, Ken Stanton
Edible Rex
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's Acoustic Night w/Randy & Mike
Green Briar karaoke
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Mickey Goodrick Band
Kendall Cafe Jazz with Lester Parker and the Jazz All Stars
Kinvara Pub DJ Larry
Marketplace Cafe Street Magic
Midway Cafe Chuck Morris and the Sidewalk Blues Band
Rathskeller Batmantis/ Planet I.F./ Dark Young
Regattabar Betty Carter & Her Trio
Scullers Jazz Club Fattburger
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie earl & The Broadcasters
Tam O'Shanter Oversoul 7
Warren Tavern Inquiring Minds
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Aaron Goldberg

T 4TH

Avenue C O Positive
Bill's Bar D.J. Stew & Perry
Black Rose (downstairs) Eugene Byrne & Co.
Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. and the Hot Ribs Blues Jam
Bunratty's The Slaves\ Vindicators\ The Mies\ Crisis of Faith
Christophers Late August
Cityside North\South Connection
Commonwealth Brewing Company Wilson Blue
Copperfields Mark Morris and CatTunes
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Darin Anquoe, Doug Hammerschmitt
Ed Burke's From Good Homes
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's The Candles
Green Briar Standing Hamptons
Grog Walker Brothers
Harpers Ferry Evil Gal w//Hammerhead & Special Guests: Groove Tubes
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's young Turks of Bango
Kendall Cafe Jazz w/ Steven Smith
Kinvara Pub DJ Tom
Linwood Grill Acousticity w/ Tom Young & Eric Ringstad
Marketplace Cafe Brian Walkley Band
Midway Cafe Men & Volts
Rathskeller Spanish Fly/ The Keep/ Frankly Scarlett/ Medicine Man/ The Groove
Regattabar Betty Carter& Her Trio
Ryles Jazz Cafe Mick Goodrich & Wolfgang Motaspiel Duo
Scullers Jazz Club Joey Calderazzo Trio
Sit 'n Bull Pub Loose Connection
Tam O'Shanter Beat Soup
Turner Fisheries Mary Hanson Quartet
Venus De Milo Groove-E Techno with DJ Debo & Tim Ryan
Warren Tavern The Kingslees
Western Front Hot Like Fire
Willow Jazz Club 4th Stream
Zachary's Alain Mallet

F 5TH

Black Rose (downstairs) Eugene Byrne & Co.
Black Rose (upstairs) Shannon
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's The Fleshtones\ The Voodoo Dolls\ Jay & Justine
Christophers Cathy Winter
Cityside Inquiring Minds
Claddagh Celtic Clan
Club 3 Alibi\ Next Tune
Club Oasis Chucklehead
Colonial Inn Steve Key
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields Sense
Cricket's Uptown Acapella
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton, Lydia
Ed Burke's Radio Kings w/ D.D. & The Road Kings
Four Seasons Hotel Susan Davis Jazz Trio
Great Scott's Living Proof
Green Briar Doe Brothers
Grog The Mystyx
Harpers Ferry Taylor made
House of Blues
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Del Fuegos
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub Screaming Cadillacs
Linwood Grill Mickey Bones & The Bones of Contention
Midway Cafe Harry's Blues Band
Nightstage The Tribulations
Paradise O-Positive
Purple Shamrock Shivers/ Jim Plunkett
Rathskeller The Great Escape/ Exit/ The Sky Dogs/ Visigoths
Regattabar Betty carter & Her Trio
Ryles Jazz Cafe Madhouse
Scullers Jazz Club Billy Stritch Trio
Silverado C-Jammers
Sit 'n Bull Pub James Montgomery
Tam O'Shanter Boston Baked Blues
Turner Fisheries Mary Hanson Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House with DJ Perry
Western Front I-Tones
Willow Jazz Club Tisziji Munoz with Bob Moses
Zachary's Andy Ezrin Trio

S 6TH

Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Eugene Byrne & Co./ Tom O'Carroll
Black Rose (upstairs) Shannon
Boston Beach Club Wilson Blue
Bunratty's Dogzilla\ Blister\ Piss\ Squid
Cambridge Brewing Company One Thin Dime
Cecil's Margo Hennebach
Christophers Don White & Jabbering Trout
Cityside Inquiring Minds
Claddagh Celtic Clan
Club 3 Acme Music Co.\ Johnny 1-Note\ Smitty On Skis
Club Oasis Kaos
Colonial Inn Paul Rishell
Copperfields Sense
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Doug Hammerschmitt
Durgin-Park Restaurant Rob Young & The Reckless
Ed Burke's Rick Russell w/Nine Below Zero
Four Seasons Hotel Susan Davis Jazz Trio
Great Scott's Living Proof
Green Briar Five Gone Mad
Grog Deb Houston Band
Harpers Ferry The Band That Time Forgot
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Lynn August
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub Shoot The Moon
Linwood Grill John Putnam & Used Blues
Midway Cafe The R.P.M.'s
Purple Shamrock Shivers/ John Corcoran
Rathskeller Turbulent Daughters/ Flubber/ Twin Barrels Burning/ Ukla The Mokk/ Mr. Downchild
Regattabar Betty carter & Her Trio
Ryle's Jazz Cafe Madhouse
Scullers Jazz Club Billy Stritch Trio
Silverado Swinging Steaks
Sit 'n Bull Pub The Movers
Tam O'Shanter Incredible Casuals
Turner Fisheries Mary Hanson Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco with DJ Perry and Dave C.
Western Front I-Tones
Willow Jazz Club Tisziji Munoz with Bob Moses
Zachary's Andy Ezrin Trio
Zanzibar 6th Annivrsary Party/ Reggae Night

S 7TH

Bill's Bar Hot Like Fire
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Tom O'Carroll
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Al Wilson
Boston Beach Club Alternative Sound Waves with Morning Guy D.J. Tai
Bunratty's Black Salad\ Scratch
Christophers Singer/Songwriter Night
Cityside Chad Lamarch, Kris Wales
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party
Johnny D's Bear Necessities
Kendall Cafe Sideband Jazz Group
Kinvara Pub DJ Colm
Linwood Grill Hot Cottage Band
Midway Cafe Blues Jam
Regattabar Betty Carter & Her Trio
Sit 'n Bull Pub Open Mike
Tam O'Shanter The Wait
Warren Tavern Jack Dalton
Willow Jazz Club 3rd Car
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

M 8TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Bun's Country
Cityside Bruce Jacques
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Green Briar Irish Session
Harpers Ferry Two Bones & A Pick
Kendall Cafe Boston Improv Group
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw Darts
Tam O'Shanter Tam Jam
Willow Jazz Club For Real Quartet
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

T 9TH

Black Rose (downstairs) John Corcoran/ Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's High Defiance\ Mr. Downchild\ Sticks & Stones
Cityside Disorientated
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Darin Anquoe, Michelle Currie
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Kendall Cafe Open Mike
Kinvara Pub Free Juke Box
Regattabar Donna Byrne Quintet
Scullers Jazz Club Leslie Letven
Tam O'Shanter Acoustic Night
Warren Tavern Sandy Martin
Willow Jazz Club Ralph Rosen & John Damien Quartet
Zachary's Paul Berringer Trio

W 10TH

Bill's Bar Tequila Mockingbird/ City This/ Digman
Black Rose (downstairs) Kevin Farley/ Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club D.J. Tony-Tone
Bunratty's Goodfoot\ Spittin' Magnets\ Universl Joint
Cityside Swinging Johnsons
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Darin Anquoe, Doug Hammerschmitt
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's Acoustic Night w/ Randy & Mike
Green Briar Karaoke
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Duke Levine
Kendall Cafe Jazz with Lester Parker and the Jazz All Stars
Kinvara Pub DJ Larry
Marketplace Cafe Street Magic
Midway Cafe Chuck Morris and the Sidewalk Blues Band
Regattabar Gandaya
Ryles Jazz Cafe Chris Speed Trio
Scullers Jazz Club Kenny Garrett Quartet
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
Tam O'Shanter Blackwell CD Party
Warren Tavern Inquiring Minds
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Jimmy Weinstein

T 11TH

Avenue C Riley's Field
Bill's Bar DJ Stew & Perry
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. and the Hot Ribs Blues Jam
Christophers Jona's Kahn SHowcase
Cityside Swinging Johnsons
Commonwealth Brewing Company Search Party
Copperfields Sense
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Doug Hammerschmitt, Jon Mansfield
Ed Burke's Groove Tubes w/ The Miss Yous
Four Seasons Hotel Bob Winter
Great Scott's The Candles
Green Briar Dennis Healey Band
Grog The Roads
Harpers Ferry Magic Dick & "J"erome Geils-Bluestime

T 11TH

Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Mark & Ann Savoy
Kendall Cafe Catherine Coleman & Shepley Metcalf
Kinvara Pub DJ Tom
LinwoodGrill Curt Shumate Band
Marketplace Cafe Brian Walkley Band
Midway Cafe The Burning Sensaticns
Paradise Bio-Hazard/ Wrecking Crew
Passim Jim Infantino
Purple Shamrock Pat Benti
Regattabar The Laszlo Gardony Sextet
Ryles Jazz Cafe Rumba Frica
Scullers Jazz Club Ricky Ford Ensemble
Sit 'n Bull Pub The Posse
Tam O'Shanter The Olives
Turner Fisheries Maggie Galloway Quartet
Venus De Milo Grove-E Techno
Warren Tavern The Kingslees
Western Front Solid Earth Band
Willow Jazz Club Tony Corelli Quartet
Zachary's Suzanna Sifter

F 12TH

Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Black Rose (upstairs) John Corcoran
Boston Beach Club Dance Party with DJ Al Perez
Bunratty's Orangutang\ Arson Garden\ Grind\ Toast
Christophers Nancy LeeSnyder/ David Barnes
Cityside Storm Dogs
Claddagh Shannon
Club 3 Knocking Boots\ 32 Twenties\ Alexander Fields
Colonial Inn John Lincoln Wright 7 The Sour Mash Boys
Commonwealth Brewing Company Search Party
Copperfields Living Proof
Cricket's Uptown Acapella
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton, Lydia
Durgin-Park Restaurant Blue Spurs
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Green Briar Standing Hamptons
Grog Henry Welch Band
Harpers Ferry Luther "Guitat Jr." Johnson
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Tony Lynn Washington Band
Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub D'Alter Boys
Linwood Grill Fogcutters
Midway Cafe The Part-Time Lovers Band
Nightstage Mark Curry & Halfway Home
Orpheum Theatre Keith Richards & The X-Pensive Winos
Paradise Urban Blight
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett/ Jim Bogus Crew
Regattabar the Ellen Rowe/Kenny Wheeler Quintet
Ryles Jazz Cafe Loose Shoes
Scullers Jazz Club Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes
Silverado Blue Heaven
Sit 'n Bull Pub Billy C. Farrow
Tam O'Shanter TBA
Turner Fisheries Maggie Galloway Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House with DJ Perry
Western Front S.W.A.A.M.P.
Willow Jazz Club City Trees
Zachary's Burt Seger Trio

S 13TH

Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Black Rose (upstairs) Shananagans
Boston Beach Club MOTION
Bunratty's Brave New World\ Mercybeat\ Dreams Made Flesh\ Gestalt
Cambridge Brewing Company Jennifer Trynan
Cecil's P B & J w/ TheArmstrong Brothers
Christophers Boston Womens Voice Release Party
Cityside Storm Dogs
Claddagh Shannon
Club 3 John Mellow\ Big Hot Sun\ Avatarp Blue
Colonial Inn Knots & Crosses
Commonwealth Brewing Company Wilson Blue
Copperfields 5-0
Cricket's North Shore Acapalla
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton
Durgin-Park Restaurant Rob Young & The Reckless
Ed Burke's Ray Green& Universal Language
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Green Briar Swinging Johnsons
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Kendall Cafe Paddy O'Keefe & Rick Demone
Kinvara Pub Classic Tracks
Linwood Grill Chris Brown & Friends
Midway Cafe John Putnam's Used Blues
Nightstage Trilogy
Orpheum Theatre Keith Richards & The X-Pensive Winos
Purple Shamrock Denis Healy/ Tom O'Carroll
Regattabar Didi Stewart & Friends
Ryle's Jazz Cafe Loose Shoes
Scullers Jazz Club Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes
Silverado Joey Ferra & Nightrider
Sit 'n Bull Pub The Alliance
Tam O'Shanter Harmony Rockets & The Subterraneans
Turner Fisheries Maggie Galloway Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco with DJ Perry and Dave C.
Western Front S.W.A.A.M.P.
Willow Jazz Club City Trees
Zachary's Burt Seger Trio
Zanzibar Reggae Night

S 14TH

Bill's Bar Mikey Dread
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Al Wilson
Boston Beach Club Alternative Sound Waves with Morning Guy D.J. Tai
Christopher's Two For The Show & Seth Connolly
Citside Chad Lamarch, Kris Wales
Copperfields Undercover
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party
Johnny D's Wildest Dreams
Kendall Cafe Karyn Levitt/Tim Leahy/Paddy O'Keefe
Kinvara Pub D.J. Colm
Linwood Grill Blues Jam
Midway Cafe Blues Jam
Orpheum Theatre Keith Richards & The X-Pensive Winos
Ryle's Jazz Cafe AIDS Benefit
Scullers Jazz Club Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes
Tam O'Shanter Calypso Hurricane
Warren Tavern Jack Dalton
Willow Jazz Club Jeff Covell Trio
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

m 15TH

D.D & The Road Kings
Bill's Bar Movie Night
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Gary Sargent
Boston Beach Club Cape Cod Traveling All-Stars
Bunratty's Bun's Country
Cityside Steve Caraway
Green Briar Irish Session
Kendall Cafe Open Mike
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw Darts
Tam O'Shanter Tam Jam
Willow Jazz Club Ray Valente
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

t 16TH

Bill's Bar X-15/ Scratch/ 40/ Soma Crush/ Hartwell
Black Rose (downstairs) John Corcoran/ Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's The Fish\ Oversoul Seven\ The Ideal Cage
Cityside The Hideaways
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Johnny D's Lou Collins
Kendall Cafe Open Mike
Kinvara Pub Free Juke Box
Paradise Jude Cole
Regattabar The Emery Davis Quartet
Scullers Jazz Club Peter Eldridge Band
Tam O'Shanter One Thin Dime/ The Pearls
Willow Jazz Club Ray Valente
Zachary's John Licata
Black Rose (downstairs) Kevin Farley/John Corcoran/ Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club D.J. Tony-Tone
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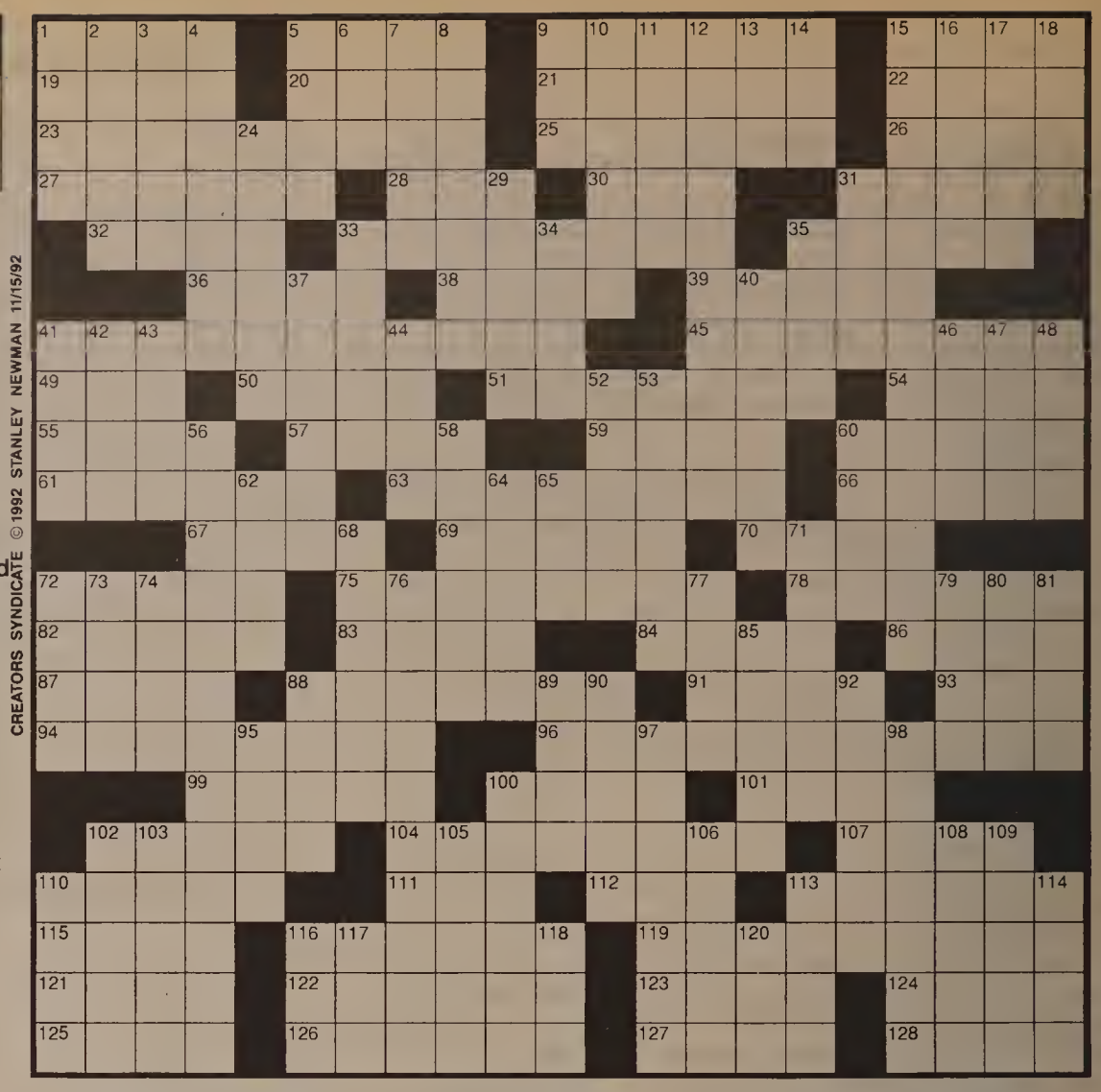
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FUN AND GAMES: Playful phraseology

by Stanley Glass



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ACROSS

1 Lasting impression
5 Curved paths
9 Chess ploy
15 Doorway part
19 Medicinal plant
20 Drip out
21 Ointment type
22 Prince of opera
23 13th-century explorer
25 Lightly colored
26 Brought forth
27 Comes onstage
28 Despicable
30 Computer glitch
31 Went for the gold
32 It may be monetary
33 Nat King Cole classic
35 Conclusive
36 Posy holder
38 New Haven athletes
39 Oldie, often
41 Lovebirds
45 Word on a bread package
49 College major
50 Free from problems
51 Had on
54 Paella ingredient
55 Recruiting-poster verb
57 __ *the Press*
59 Firefighting substance
60 Pie ingredient
61 Peloponnesian War winner
63 Battle site of 1777
66 Took measures
67 Plasma-physics particles
69 Renoir's friend
70 Narrow connector
72 Pueblo material
75 Fantasized about
78 Assailed the nose
82 Showroom samples
83 Double agent
84 *Te* __ (Latin hymn)
86 Mah-jongg piece
87 Banned apple spray
88 True-to-life
91 Where Jordan is
93 Language suffix
94 Feudal adjective
96 Overwhelming
99 Put up with
100 Biblical matriarch
101 *Hud* Oscar winner
102 Greek goddesses of the seasons
104 Giving up
107 Twosome
110 Cherubic archer
111 Emotional outburst
112 __-Puf (washday brand)
113 Vocal quality
115 Surrounded by
116 Rub harshly
119 Military fleet of a sort
121 Nightclub number
122 Cut out the fat
123 Mass ending
124 Adored one
125 Shoe gadget
126 Hall-of-Fame basketballer Dave
127 Midevening
128 Animation art

DOWN

1 All the __ (nevertheless)
2 Trolley sound
3 Heart outlet
4 Come into
5 Hooded snakes
6 Antique auto
7 Casals' instrument
8 Word-botching reverend
9 Understood
10 Cover stories?
11 Bistro listings
12 Airline-counter freebie
13 Meteor's tail
14 Media mogul Turner
15 Pinocchio's pal
16 Guam's capital
17 Poser
18 Raised, as rabbits
24 Elaborately decorated
29 Disney and Kelly
31 The south of France
33 Reagan cabinet member
34 Talk like Daffy Duck
35 *How the West Was Won* director
37 Witch doctor
40 "__, one vote"
41 Old adages
42 Prepare for shipment
43 Sicilian spewer
44 Some votes
46 Slightest suggestion
47 Behold: Lat.
48 Achievement
52 Time and time again
53 Showed team spirit
56 Manhattan-Queens-Bronx connector
58 Hot lunch
60 Nutmeg spice
62 Hose parts
64 Pilot's assent
65 *Wheel of Fortune* buy
68 Chimp or baboon
71 Royal fur
72 Economist Smith
73 Author Mazo __ Roche
74 Arabian sultanate
76 Ragtag bunch
77 Ante follower
79 Chicken style
80 Alternatively
81 Woodland creature
85 Trading upon
88 Italian bread
89 Explorer Tasman
90 A whole bunch
92 Moroccan metropolis
95 Interstate, e.g.
97 "Song of Myself" writer
98 Onassis' airline
100 Dutch cheese
102 Bookstore section
103 Offer one's views
105 Hot under the collar
106 One of the Judds
108 Living quarters
109 Be visibly jealous
110 Angler's action
113 Answering-machine sound
114 Architectural add-ons
116 Mil. asst.
117 Life story
118 Mag. bosses
120 Big __ football conference

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BOSTON Historic Malborough St. 1 bedroom, patio, 1 block to T & bus. $600 includes heat. Leave message on voice mail # 1-800 244-2756, ext.603.

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JAMAICA PLAIN Loft space. 1,000 sq. ft. loft 14 ft. ceilings . $625 a month electric + hot water included avl. now 524-1172 or 522-6133

MILTON Seeking 30+ female for spacious bedroom in large house. Nonsmoking and nondrinking preferred. Close to T, quiet neighborhood, nice backyard, available now. $350/month. plus 1/2 utilities. Call 698-3870

ROSLINDALE 2 bedroom in apt. building with heat and hot water, hardwood floors , laundry facilities on premises, disposal, on bus line. Security Deposit and References Required. $650 Call (617) 364-6585

SOMERVILLE Lg. 6 room, 3 bedroom, living room, dining room, eat-in-kitchen, modern bath. Avail immed. $850+ Laundry, No fee. 666-4734

SOMERVILLE Medford St at Partridge Ave. 3 bedroom duplex. Hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen. $775. 247-1707

SOMERVILLE Medford St. at Partridge Ave. Eat-in kitchen. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors. $525. 247-1707.

APT. SHARES

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ALLSTON Roomate wanted: small room, clean bright apt. Close to Harvard & BU/call Jen or Lee / 423-0577 / $375/MO i.e. All util. but phone

BEACON HILL Female grad student seeks female roomate for 2 bedroom apt. nonsmoking, $350 mo. heat water included Call Jill at 720-0511

BRIGHTON Non- smoking prof. seeks same to share huge sunny 2 bedroom apartment. Close to B line and buses. On street parking avl.. If your'refun, responsible and sane please call 787-7974

BRIGHTON Seeking a female, non-smoker, kind, responsible. Great apartment area, washer, no pets. $400 includes everything 787-4237 or 380-4221

BRIGHTON Spac. room in large house. All hardwood floors, parking utli. w/d included Artists/teachers preferred Semi-Coop. Call Nathan Lv. msg. 787-8797

BRIGHTON CENTER Looking for woman 25+ with group spirit and exp.to join household of 1 woman/ 2 men. 2 cats, sunny spacious victorian, T access, new kitchen and bath, fireplace $350 + util. Call 783-1931

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call 732-7607 daytime.

CAMBRIDGE Central Square female seeks female to share apt. Conv. location, Drug/smoke free $325 avl. now 354-3792

CAMBRIDGE North Cambridge. Free rent in exchange for light housekeeping and part time babysitting for 6 year old girl. 3 bedroom apt. 491-5809

CAMBRIDGE Professional female over 25, non-smoker, two bedroom house with hardwood floors, dining room, living room, sunroom, full kitchen with dishwasher and disposal, off street parking, 5 blocks from Harvard Sq. $600+ util. Call Joyce 876-1599 Avl. 12/1

DORCHESTER/ ASHMONT HILL 2 rooms for rent, bedroom and eat-in kitchen, shared bathroom in victorian home on a quiet tree lined street, two blocks from Ashmont red line station $360 includes all util. female pref. 288-3697

JAMAICA PLAIN Large spectacular apartment to share with professional. On pond. Eat-in kitchen, washer/dryer, parking, near mass transit, non-smoker. Available now. 524-7220

JAMAICA PLAIN M/F wanted to share 2 bedroom aprtment in safe neighborhood. Vegetarian Democrat preferred: Large bedrooms, free parking convenient to T and bus. $275+ 524-5293

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JAMAICA PLAIN Prof. 43, Non-smoker, pianist activists seeks M/F roomate for large 2 bedroom in Summer Mill. Near T $325+ 1/2 Util. avl. 8/1 522-4420 evenings or 267-2949 days

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MALDEN Professional M/F to share luxury 2 bedroom. Parking, view, health club, dishwasher, w/d, no smoking/pets, near T and route 1, $535+ 322-9449

MALDEN Seeking female nonsmoker for 3BR townhouse with 1 1/2 bath. Off street parking, garage, storage, pool, no pets. Walk to T $333 utilities, avl. now Call 321-6996

MEDFORD 1 Disc. GWM seeks 1 GWM/F to share 7 room house. Chrs. near shopping, T, Tufts W/D CBL. deck, must be disc. no pet, drugs, alch. $495 mo. no util. 396-0187 lv. msg.

NEWTON 2M seeks 2 M/F to share 4 bedroom. Great yard, garden, w/d. Near Watertown Square & T Avl NOW!!! $350+ Smoking OK 965-7805

NEWTON 40 Yr. old health care professional seeks to share quiet home in quiet neighborhood conducive to studying. Must be convenient to Cambridge and in the $400 range each. On or before Sept. 1 Call 547-6058

NEWTON CENTRE Housemate, M/F 30+ for large bedroom with parking, washer/ dryer, storage In lovely 4 bedroom house with view of Crystal Lake 969-7124

NEWTON CENTRE Near T. Nice room. $335/month plus. John or Linda, 965-0930 or 332-4800

NEWTONVILLE Female 25+ wanted for 2 bedroom. Yard, parking, storage, close to shopping $415+ Util. 244-4573

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SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END Large two bedroom duplex, modern kitchen, wall-to wall carpeting. Near T, hardwood floors, good location. $600 heat included. Non -smoker Todd (w) 523-6871 or (h)262-6977 No calls after 11.

WALTHAM Lexington Line. Two bedroom condo, top floor, near routes 128, 2 & 90. On T, near shops, 2 parking spaces, pool, $800 heated (617)221-4050

WALTHAM Two young male professionals need a third roomate. Three bedroom in Waltham. Great deal. 5 minutes from 128. Washer and dryer, dishwasher. Neat. Non-smokers only. $333 includes heat and hot water. Call Dan or John at 891-6864.

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WATERTOWN Cambridge Line. Female for 2 bedroom for sunny 1st. floor house. Nonsmoker, no pets , near T, washer, parking, sunny back porch. Avl. 8/1 $375+ util. 926-2166

WATERTOWN Friendly, responsible independent female seeks female 27+ to share 2 BR Apartment in safe neighborhood. AC, DW,W/W, free parking, laundrey on 2 T Lines, 5 min. from Harvard Square. No smoking or Pets please. $370/month includes heat and hot water 926-1554

WATERTOWN NEAT ROOMMATE 30+. M/F in 2 br. Near T. $350/Month incl. utiis excluding. No pets. I am a smoker. 923-9859

WEYMOUTH Nonsmoker female for 2 bedroom apt. includes all utilities . With Balcony, parking, a/c $275 call 340-2131

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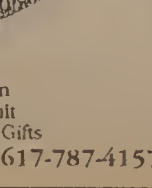
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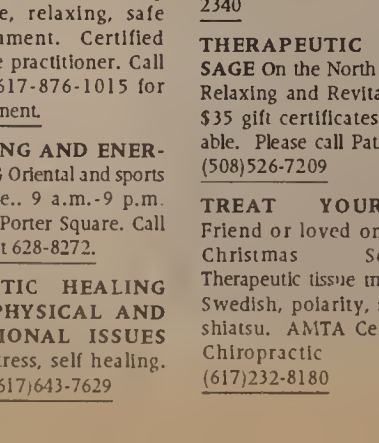
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Valentines Day Impersonals! Word to your beloved and belusted, here on the pages of the Improper Bostonian.

Feel the urge to unleash your frustrations or vent your hostilities on an unsuspecting friend or enemy? Look no further than the Improper Impersonals, a forum designed for pranksters, irate neighbors, relatives, maniacs or any would-be target of your acid tongue. Best of all they're FREE! Send your Impersonals to us at Improper Impersonals, The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146. Or fax it to us at 232-4305.

Mary Claire-
You just kind of wasted my precious time, but don't think twice, it's allright.....

Christopher

Cindy X-
So what if Harvard gave you a B-. You've got an A in My class, my little twinkie.

Hot Dog

Happy Valentine's Day to all the TAD employees!

Scrappy,
Bad ski knee? Long hours at your new job? Still living at home? Save it for someone who gives a shit....

Schlepp Rock

Nancy-
Give me a good schedule and I'll give you the best years of my life.

Love, Chris

P.S.-You don't look a day over 16.



Tricia-
When I asked you out, you said that all I wanted to do was sleep with you. Wrong. I want to cook you breakfast too.

Little Stevie B.

Jack-
You plunged an arrow through my heart, our love is like a work of art. It makes me hot to hear you fart, let's do the nasty in a shopping cart.

Jill

George B.,
Sorry that you had to leave so soon. I guess that you just couldn't figure out that victory thing. Have a lovely move, and don't forget to not write.

Hillary

G the Philatelist
If you ever want to drop everything and run off to see the world (all of it), you know I'm game. Bring the brownies and I'll take care of the root beer.

Ready when you are.

Robert,
I'll never forget that first day we met. No matter how many hours I spend in therapy, I'll never forget that first day we met.

...na

Wussy-boy
How many Polar bears does it take to screw ina lightbulb? None, Einstein does it for them.

Love-your girlfriend.

P.S-I'm proud of you.

Stacy,
I was going to surprise you and bring home flowers, take you out to a French dinner, a show, dancing, rent a suite in Copley Plaza for a nightcap and whatever, and then do the dishes when we got home. But this ad was easy and free so I decided on writing this instead. I LOVE YOU.

Alan

P.S. It's just a joke, please don't lock me out.

The cool night air
hovered over me as I
stood in a vacuum,
breathless, dying, reaching for the air
that was just out of my grasp.
I miss you.

B. Shears

Barr
Remind me if I ever think about going on a long car trip with you again that I will kill you before it's over. I value your friendship too much to take that kind of risk. By the way, you still owe me for two tanks of gas, a Fleetwood Mac tape (I've checked the car three times already), and one really bad breakfast at Denny's.

Gus

Verdillia,
I love you as much as when we first met all those centuries ago . You'll always be the one who lights my fire.

-Horace

Ms. Z,
I've never seen anything as beautiful as your ears. I will not rest until they are mine.

-C.P.

Adam,
Thank you for a great ten months together. Just don't screw it up!

Linda

Suzy-
Valentine's Day is fast approaching. You know what That means. You bring the whip and the carrots, and I'll bring the white stuff.

Love-Bruce

Brad,
Looks like we missed each other again. It wasn't an accident. See ya around.

Nancy

Nick,
Heard you had a hell of a time trying to talk your way out of that last one. Maybe you should try carrying a "get out of jail free" card. Or maybe you should just get a clue. Wake up, you stupid little schmuck, or one day you will wake up and she'll be gone. Just a little unfriendly advice.

Mary

Nibbles,
Lisa told me the other night that she lost a bet saying we'd never last together. I told her that she should never take sucker bets. She said that she went double or nothing on the next six months. Let's make her lose a lot of money.

Suzie Q.

Theodore,
Thank you ever so much for the lovely cutlery I received from you. I'm sure that I will use it often as soon as I manage to somehow pull it out of my back. If there's ever anything I can do for you, please do let me know.

Sincerely, Alicia

W.H.
Sorry about the whole bloody mess. I still love you. How about we forget the whole thing over a drink?

V.T.

Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife Rosemary and my new baby daughter Nicole.

Chris,
The good news is - the phlegm-soaked crud ball that was clogging the shower drain turned out to be your hair and not a rat. The bad news is we fished it out with your toothbrush.

-The Lost Boys

mike
how bout that drink? could be fun, ya know... it might never end. Oo!

little me

J.G.
If you try to make me watch one more episode of Gilligan's Island I swear to God I will trough your head right through the screen and click the remote until I manage to somehow change your simple, little mind.

F.S.

Robyn,
I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! I hate you! That felt good.

Jeff

John The Bartender-
I may have ugly brown shoes, but you're getting old and I can buy shoe polish!

The short kid in the penguin suit

Jan-SMILE!!!!

The Other Woman

Lynne-
Happy Valentine;s Day, my one and only love. You are the world's best, and I wouldn't trade you for a Siamese cat.

Love, Peter

P.S-Well, maybe not my ONLY love.

Slick Rick (i.e. Fred)
You're so full of yourself, it's pathetic. Your idea of a menage-a-trois is me-myself-and-I. If you were both a woman and a man, you'd never leave the warehouse.

The Lopester

The Boys from 805-
Pizza, pitchers, pinballs. The only way to ring in the Chinese New Year's. Same time next year...:..

Louise-
Are ther any NERDS in the house? Say HO! Juicy Brucie has no hair. Juicy Brucie is so fair.

THE END.

Noel,
Congratulations on Erin. But remember you're not fully committed until you get in the tux and put the ring on her finger. Just in case. Good luck.

Ross

Dave
I dont love you since you ate my dog, you fetishist.

Caroline/Leslie
I love you guys. I really do. But after 2am, I just can't stop laughing and I can't take this MBA shit seriously.

Bobbo
Okay, okay, okay. I'll quit one job if you'll give up the sock habit. Endless pajama party! Zoinks! Hugs and kisses (the good ones), my frond. Who's prouder of you than me?

Beau and Giftus,
So, when are you two breaking down and moving in with me and the K? You know you want to. After all, how much longer can your libidos stand it? Would bribing the builders help? You know I'm loaded.

Olive

WHEN'S HORNFEST 3????

Office-mate-o-mine,
Play that Duran Duran tape one more time and I"ll bite your eyes out. Just kidding! Haha! Ice...man. Wuv you...ooooooooh.

Snoozanne

Hey guys!I love you guys! Honest! The four days we shared were the best of my extensive working career - swear! Let me give you my beeper number! And my 1-800 number! And my parent's number! And my social security number! Anyone want my map?

To the Boys at Joe's,
You are the unsung heroes, and the real cogs on which our Enlightened Government turns. God bless us everyone. To make it official: the race is on. Who will be able to afford Al first? My dibs are on Seth. Or Jeff. (Sorry Matt - go file somthing) Hollis - beware the Pod People. Oh, and...Go Heat!

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Mopsy Strange Kennedy

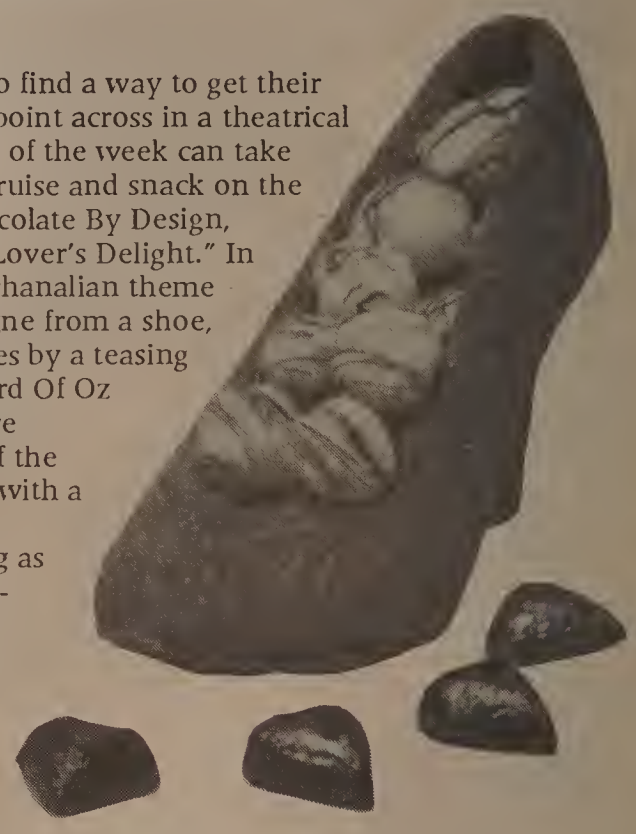
Looooooow Fat



Not unlike the Lord, who giveth and taketh away, Steven Raichlen has invented a working-vacation in New Hampshire in which the participants get to cook and eat, and then, through the pleasant rigors of skiing, have a chance to work it off. Steven's a lively teacher who's also a syndicated, award-winning food writer and cookbook author, most recently of Steven Raichlen's High Flavor, Low-Fat Cooking. He's also one of the few cooking teachers who features a hands-on approach. The location sounds appetizing too; the Snow Village Inn, located on the side of a little mountain. "To be an Inn it has to be off a main road," he says, so this one is. People arrive on Sunday night and are welcomed by the making of a fondue which involves the communal breaking — yeah the gooing and chewing — of bread. The next day certain basics are taught (boning a chicken, smashing a garlic and slicing an onion correctly) and then groups coalesce to make two, three, or four dishes (one zealous crew produced 21 in three hours). Now come the ski passes to Mt. Cranmore where, downhill or cross-country, the "now-motivated-for-exercise" cooks get some fresh air. The next meal is served to them. By night, there's camaraderie in the inn, and because the cozy group is all staying there, there's are no driving problems when, say, inebriation on the bread of fondue could cause erratic navigational patterns. The next day, more cooking. Among the offerings is a low-fat chocolate soufflé sans eggs, cream and butter. In other dishes, though a promulgator of that fashionable culinary stringency, Steve is willing to loosen a bit to withhold the fat here while still bestowing it there. Wednesday, it's goodbyes and diplomas. He also has similar workshops in the sun: Cooking In Paradise is in the Caribbean. Cost is $475.

Steven Raichlen's Cook & Ski
Snowvillage Inn, Snowville, N.H. 03849
603-447-2818

There's No Chocolate Like Shoe



Lovers wanting to find a way to get their (exclamation!) point across in a theatrical way on any day of the week can take this opportunity to cruise and snack on the fancy candies at Chocolate By Design, culminating in the "Lover's Delight." In a variation on a Bacchanalian theme — drinking champagne from a shoe, while being fed grapes by a teasing lover — with a Wizard Of Oz twist, Linda and Steve Weinstein, owners of the shop, have come up with a package that is as grandiosely charming as it is delicious: a wearably-large chocolate slipper covered with edible "ruby" colored beads that comes with fresh grapes dipped in chocolate. And, for some fantasy inebriation to go with it, a hollow chocolate champagne bottle that can contain a personalized message, along with a chocolate — or a real — rose. This one costs $29.95. One step up to true bubbles and it becomes the Chocolate Lover's ecstasy, for $49.95. Or, there is the handmade heart-shaped chocolate boxes filled with fancy handmade chocolate-truffles, white chocolate, milk chocolate, butter-crunches, chocolate exuding a little tasty frill of sliced orange — and many others, three of them named after the Weinstein offspring. Don't just double park — you'll want to get to know the selection, whose homiest example is Smores, that graham and chocolate snack from a childhood afternoon.

Chocolate By Design
134 Newbury Street, Boston, 424-1115
60A Atlantic Avenue, Marblehead, 631-7758

Shades Of Color, Faintly

Though this picture cannot precisely capture the mysterious allure of the handcoloring of photographs that Susan K. Murie specializes in, her form of art has a way of evoking what she refers to as "the gray mood of a gray day." Paradoxically, of course, because handcoloring is in fact bringing black and white photographs to the tantalizing brink of color, a subtle color that is of a different order than the actual color of the house, a tomato, or stone angel in a cemetery — or even person being shown. One of her fondest subjects is the architecture of Somerville, which she reveals to be jampacked with gingerbread, "mermaid's tail, slate-covered mansard roofs," trellis and fence, braided-looking woodwork, and gables. The tints and tinges she adds, suggesting an eternal late afternoon in fall, give a haunting, melancholy flavor to their subjects as they draw in the viewer. Murie's colored photographs, in fact, are the definition of "easy on the eye." It's fascinating, even softly entrancing, to sensually explore the effect of the color, which may only touch a few parts of the picture, on the total image (the overall mood). Another process she sometimes uses involves the use of something called liquid light which softens to an impressionistic and really dreamy form that seems hardly a photograph at all. You may see her work at the Gallery Ltd. on Charles St. or call about commissions.

Susan K. Murie, Handcolored Photography 776-1547



Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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Ever wonder why you hear certain songs on the radio — and who's responsible for getting them there? Meet the players behind the music. From recording industry executives and promotions directors to DJ's and program directors, you'll find it here with the people who (at least in Boston) are responsible for the Broadcast Woos.

BY AMY LEVINE AND ERIC PETERSON.

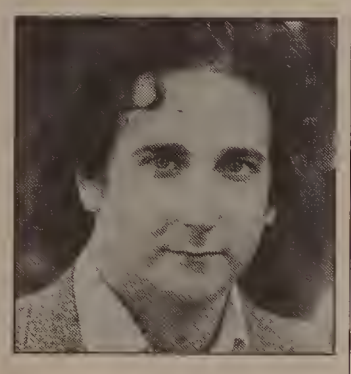
10 The Man on The Mattress



He's Boston's most popular deejay. He dedicates his mornings to waking up the thousands of rush hour listeners who tune in for a dose of his witty, sometimes sarcastic and sometimes just plain twisted brand of humor. Charles Laquidara reveals all as he spreads out on the Big Mattress.

BY ERIC PETERSON

19 Mark Linn-Baker Saves Face



You've seen him on the television hit Perfect Strangers. Hear what he's up to now as he stars in Face Value, the newest play by M Butterfly playwright, Davis Henry Hwang.

BY TIFFANY KEARIN



On The Cover

Photographer: Mim Michelove

Model: Charles Laquidara

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Comedy Night on WGBH - Channel 2



Bertice Berry from the cast of "According To Us" a comedy show with a feminist edge.

BY KATHY MATHESON

Go on! Take the plunge! Turn off Comedy Central and switch to - gasp! - WGBH/Channel 2 for a night.

No, this isn't a plea to forego a night of laughs for something educational (we're not that stupid). This is merely a notice that on March 3 there will be a trio of quality comedy programs on TV, a series for which there is really no excuse to miss - especially since The Simpsons are on Thursdays.

The night kicks off with a live broadcast of The Mark Russell Show from Washington, D.C. Political satirist Mark Russell will not only deliver witty, biting monologues on the trials and tribulations of the Clinton administration, but he'll sing them as well. Republicans will surely enjoy this turning-of-the-tables, but Democrats need not despair; Russell takes bipartisan shots and his material will be sure to include GOP topics as well.

Billy Crystal, Milton Berle and Joan Rivers host the next segment of the comedy night in a show called The World of Jewish Humor. Enjoy an evening of history and comedy as you listen to anecdotes from more than 20 well-established comedians including Jackie Mason, Carl Reiner and Neil Simon; the program also incorporates appreciations for performers such as Sid Caesar, Lenny Bruce and the Marx Brothers. And of course, Jewish Humor takes time to look ahead to a talented group of up-and-coming comedians, including Richard Lewis and Cathy Ladman.

Finally, a group of very funny females takes center stage at 10pm in The World According to Us. This Saturday Night Live-type variety program is comprised of stand-up routines, taped segments, musical performances and short sketches - all with a feminist edge.

Originally aired on WGBH last summer, the show has already garnered a significant base of support.

"We got a tremendously good response," said co-producer Judy Stoia, noting that the station received several hundred phone calls in support of the program after its premiere last August.

Stoia stressed that the show was a learning experience for everyone involved, including the members of the studio audience. Free tickets were given out to anyone who wanted to attend the first taping, and they were snapped up within hours of being available. She also said that even if some of the skits may have fallen a little short, the viewers still appreciated the effort and the subjects the show tried to address.

Through the course of producing the all-female show, Stoia said that she and co-producer Nancy Porter "discovered an enormous appetite for this kind of humor." And although they have sent a half-hour version of the show to PBS in hopes that it will be picked up as a pilot program, they have yet to receive a response.

"This is probably too expensive to do as a local show. We need a national network or cable [station] to support us," said Stoia. "Our audience response should demonstrate that this program could have a terrific following."

WGBH's night of comedy begins with Russell at 8pm, "Jewish Humor" at 8:30pm and "The World According to Us" at 10pm.

• COMEDY LISTINGS •

Back Alley Theater 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1253. This is not a club. There are no drinks, no smoking— just a couple of hours of fun with some of Boston's finest female comics. So have brunch at any one of the great restaurants in Inman Square, then come on down for coffee and comedy in the afternoon.

The Back Alley Theater presents Women on their Feet, the second installment of what is becoming out Women On... series, on Feb. 20, 21 & 28 at 1pm. Betsy Salkind, Dorothy Dwyer and Susan Macksey join with Sue McGinnis for an afternoon of zany, stand-up comedy. Tickets are $10.

Catch a Rising Star 30B JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-0167. This legendary comedy club in the heart of Harvard Square is celebrating five years in business. Local and national acts. Sandwiches and cold appetizers served. Cover varies. Casual dress. For tickets and showtimes, call 661-0167 or 720-3450. Fri and Sat is Midnight Madness: Only $1 gets you in to see 4-6 comedians at midnight. Every Tue and Sun is Boston's Brightest Comedy Talent Search.

Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. This is the only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Wed 17th.- Ed Regine, Jackie Flynn. Thu 18th.- Jackie Flynn. Fri 19th.- Mark DeCarlo, host of "Studs." Sat 20th.- D.J. Hazard, Jackie Flynn. Sun 21st.- Steve Hurley, Black Showcase. Mon 22nd.- Kevin Knox. Tue 23rd.- Steve Hurley. Wed 24th.- Ed Regine. Thu 25th.- Paul Nardizzi. Fri 26th.- Michael Winslow, sound effects maniac from "Police Academy." Sat 27th.- Frank Ahern. Sun 28th.- Al Ducharme, Black Showcase.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, which features both national celebs and local favorites. Show times: Fri at 9pm, Sat at 8pm and 10:30pm. Cover $8. Always packed and second-hand smoky. Casual dress.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See above. Show times: Fri and Sat at 10pm. Cover $9.

Nick's Comedy Stop 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. This comedy club is one of Boston's most popular attractions when it comes to local and national acts. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

Wed 17th.- Vinnie Favorito, Joe Dicaprio. Thu 18th.- Dom Irrera, Scot Bruce, Paul Diangelo. Fri 19th & Sat 20th.- Dom Irrera, Joe Dicaprio, Paul Nardizzi. Sun 21st.- Kevin Knox, Joe Dicaprio. Mon 22nd.- Open Mike Night with Billy Martin. Tue 23rd.- Jim Lauletta, Joe Dicaprio. Wed 24th.- Vinnie Favorito, Joe Dicaprio. Thu 25th.- Paul Diangelo, Joe Mulligan, Don Gavin, James Wesley Jackson. Fri 26th & Sat 27th.- Tony V, Paul Gilligan, James Wesley Jackson. Sun 28th.- Kevin Knox, James Wesley Jackson. Mon 1st.- Open Mike Night with Billy Martin. Tue 2nd.- Jim Lauletta.

Stand-up Comedy Cafe (formerly The Original Connection) at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. Named by USA Today as the Number One comedy club in the country. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Rated by Rolling Stone and Vanity Fair as the nation's top comedy club. Noteworthy headliners have included Roseanne Arnold, Robin Williams and Steven Wright. Shows are Sun-Thu at 8:30pm, Fri and Sat at 8:30pm & 10:30pm. Tickets are Sun-Wed $6, Thu $8 and Fri & Sat $10.

Wed 17th.- Steve Kimbrough. Thu 18th thru Sat 20th.- D.J. Hazard, Matt Graham. Sun 21st.- Billy Martin. Mon 22nd.- Chance Langton. Tue 23rd.- Open Mike Night with Vinnie Favorito. Wed 24th.- Steve Kimbrough. Thu 25th through Sat 27th.- Chance Langton, Brian Kiley. Sun 28th.- Billy Martin. Mon 1st.- Chance Langton. Tue 2nd.- Open Mike Night with Vinnie Favorito. Look for the new "Boston Unplugged" series - local bands giving acoustic performances - every Wed. at 10pm. Feb. 17.- Machinery Hall. Feb. 24.- Tsenia Mack.

Stitches 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Every Tue at 9pm and Fri at 10:30pm: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Wed: The Candles, a Grateful Dead cover band. Every Thu: Cross Comedy. Prices vary from $6-$10; no dress code.

Wed 17th.- The Candles. Thu 18th.- Cross Comedy. Fri 19th.- Vinnie Favorito, Tom Gilmore, Brian Kiley. Frank Santos at 10:30. Sat 20th.- Vinnie Favorito, Tom Gilmore, Brian Kiley. Sun 21st.- Open Mike Night with Vinnie Favorito. Tue 23rd.- Frank "The R-rated Hypnotist" Santos. Wed 24th.- The Candles. Thu 25th.- Cross Comedy. Fri 26th.- Barry Crimmins, Tom Agna. Frank Santos at 10:30. Sat 27th.- Barry Crimmins, Tom Agna. Sun 28th.- Open Mike Night with Vinnie Favorito. Tue 2nd.- Frank "The R-rated Hypnotist" Santos.

AROUND TOWN



Abandon your guilt, inhibitions and New Year's Resolutions (as if you haven't already) and come to the Bourbon Street Ball. This event represents a true night of abandon you can relish and not regret in the morning because it's a benefit! Guilt-free pleasure! The New Theatre will recreate the ambiance of New Orleans at Mardi Gras complete with Cajun cooking and spirits, live zydecajun music, a King Cake, the crowning of the Mardi Gras king and queen, fortune tellers, temporary tattoos, prizes, magic and more. This year's bash will be a semi-formal affair with a cash bar, a lavish free buffet provided by Boston's finest restaurants and dancing to the live Cajun sounds of Gator Bait (shown here). Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Advance ticket purchase is recommended, but not required. The 3rd Annual Bourbon Street Ball will be held at the 1st and 2nd Church at 66 Marlborough St. in Boston's Back Bay. Call 247-7388 for tickets and information. Tickets are also available through Bostix.

Holy Double Billing problems, Batman! Theatre in Process and artistic director June Judson present a two-part musical variety show with two title characters called "Ben and Brad in Berlin to Berlin." This production rotates around the "naughty" grandson of Queen Victoria, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany (played by Benjamin Sears), illustrating the world events he helped shape with memorable melodies, merry musings, muckraking and a little scandal. "Ben and Brad in Berlin to Berlin" will be performed every Wednesday through Saturday at 8pm from February 24 to March 20 at The Performance Place (227 Broadway in Somerville). For tickets call 254-1125. Prices range $10-12 with a $2 discount for seniors and students. For more information call 267-1053.



Ice time is nice time...especially at when it's somewhere as scenic as the lagoon in the Boston Public Garden. What could be more Brahmin than gliding around this famous pond, surrounded by the snow-covered Boston Common and all of Back Bay? Weather permitting, of course, the lagoon is open to the public for the duration of The Boston Festival (through February 21). Skate rentals are available and special celebrity skaters and music are planned (ooh!). By the by, the Festival also includes a true smorgasbord of Bostonian events, including parties, pasta festivals and kids events. For a detailed list, call 437-7722.

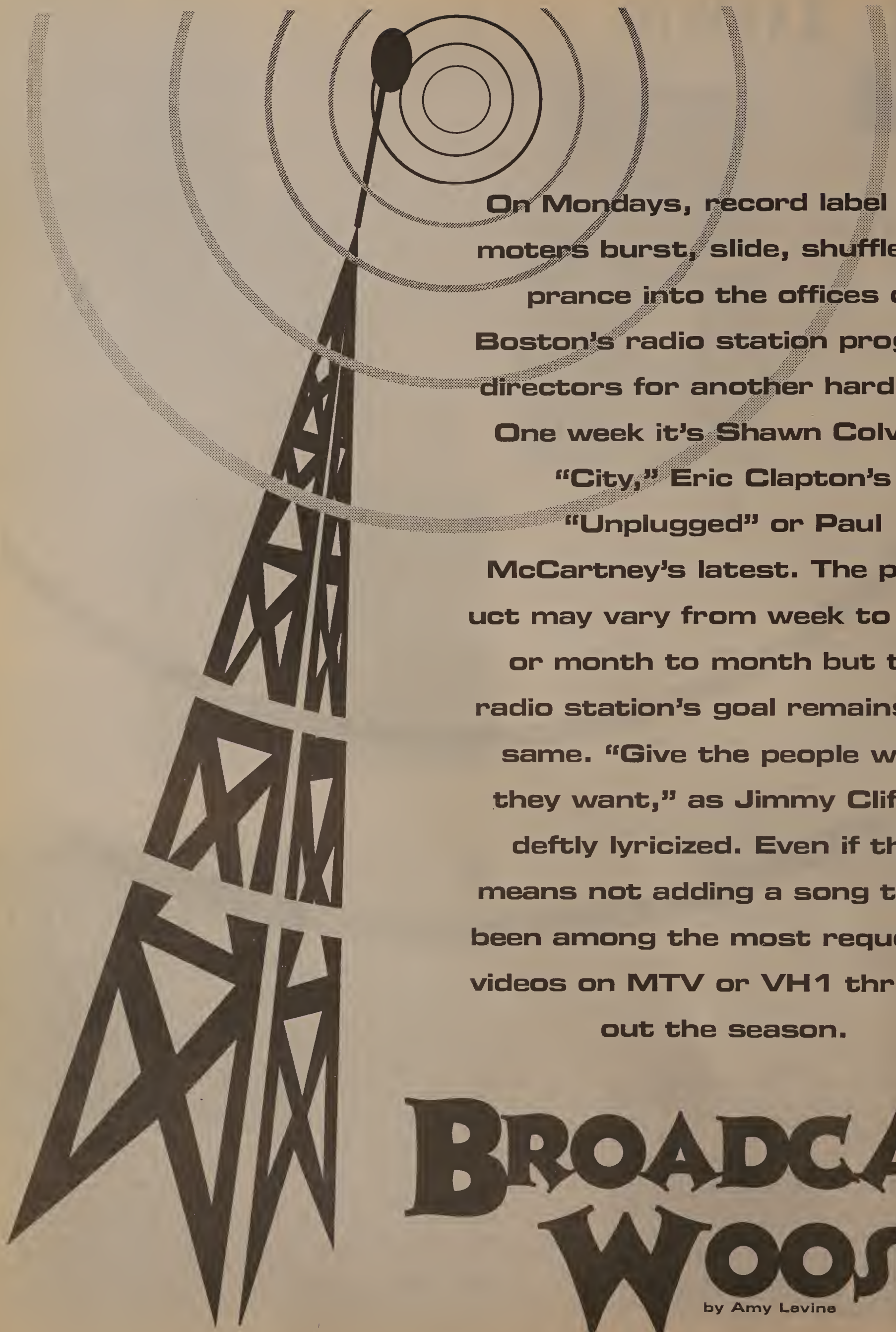


Broadway's most successful and longest-running theatrical production, A Chorus Line, ends its Broadway tour of America this spring. For those of you who may have missed its 6,137 earlier performances or simply want to feel that "Singular Sensation" one last time, take heart. You can catch this award-winning show in its farewell two-week engagement at the Shubert Theatre, February 23- March 7. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday evenings at 8 pm, matinces Wednesday and Saturday at 2 pm and Sunday at 3 pm. Tickets range from $30-55 and are available through Telecharge at 1-800-233-3123.



Dance Umbrella will premiere commissioned works by dance theater artists Yukie Shiroma and June Watanabe in Company on February 25-27 at the Emerson Majestic Theatre. In exploring the Japanese/American internment during World War II, Shiroma and Watanabe move beyond the event itself and suggest dignity in the face of struggle and celebrate the survival of the human spirit. Shiroma and 20 local community members will also perform the world premiere of "The Camouflage Makers" (the title refers to camouflage nets Japanese Americans were asked to build to aid the war effort) and the Boston premiere of the "The Monkey and the Waterfall." June Watanabe in Company (which includes four local dancers) will perform the Boston premiere of "E.O. 9066," named for President Roosevelt's infamous executive order. This abstract narrative captures Watanabe's childhood memories as a 3 year-old when she and her family were sent to an internment camp in Wyoming. Tickets go for $18, $14 and $10. Call Ticketpro at 931-3100, or visit Out of Town Tickets in Harvard Square/Bostix in Quincy Market.





On Mondays, record label promoters burst, slide, shuffle and prance into the offices of Boston's radio station program directors for another hard sell. One week it's Shawn Colvin's "City," Eric Clapton's "Unplugged" or Paul McCartney's latest. The product may vary from week to week or month to month but the radio station's goal remains the same. "Give the people what they want," as Jimmy Cliff so deftly lyricized. Even if that means not adding a song that's been among the most requested videos on MTV or VH1 throughout the season.

BROADCAST WOOS

by Amy Levine

The fragmentation of radio stations over the past five years, from the all-in-one news and entertainment stop to a diversification that has borne out nearly ten formats ranging from contemporary hits to alternative albums, is the latest buzz word in the business. "Who plays what" and "who wants to hear what" are the two questions of meaning these days, and record label promoters have had to learn to comply with the answers to these questions that are often generated by sophisticated market research.

"Radio stations want to appeal to their target audiences and they don't seem to really care how well a record sells," said Karen Durkot, one of W.E.A's Def-American promotion and marketing managers. It's much harder to sell a song in the climate of fragmented formats, she says, and so the reps have to be slicker and better prepared than ever. "Gone are the days when a radio station can play from Bob Dylan to Motown to Chet Atkins," Durkot said. "That doesn't work anymore. People don't want that kind of variety."

Why we hear what we hear on the radio has become a science. Radio stations do not seek to simply air the hits that are accruing the advertisement dollars on MTV or VH1. They want only the music their target audience demands. This is an important difference from the goal of the record label reps who peddle their CD's in the radio marketplace every Monday in the hopes of promoting whatever song their label has produced. "The record industry views sales as success," Durkot says. "The problem is seeing eye to eye on what will appeal to a given radio station's target audience."

The trick is creating an environment that can give each song a chance at success, says Bill Carroll, Associate Director of Polygram's national alternative promotion. The labels want to sign acts with repertoires they are sure they can market to the increasingly selective radio stations.

Label reps like Carroll and Durkot have to find a way to appeal to the long list of formats that include album oriented rock (in Boston, WBCN and WCGY), contemporary hit radio (WXKS and WZOU), adult contemporary (WBMX, WMJX), alternative radio (WFNX, WERS), adult alternative (WBOS, WBUR), classic rock (WZLX) and urban radio (WILD). Some labels have diversified acts and repertoires that manage to transcend the slew of distinct stations, but others, such as Def-American who promotes the blues-based rock group The Black Crowes, narrow their scope to Top 40 or alternative radio.

After 23 years in the business, Jim Herron, program director at WBOS says he uses the label promoters only as an introductory mode to new music. "We'll review their music and decide whether or not it belongs on our format," he said. "They can call me 'til they're blue in the face but what it comes down to is strictly music." Herron says he'll play anything as long as it fits — but Def-American's Durkot says there are ways of convincing.

That's where the Monday sales pitch becomes an art. Label reps have learned to arm themselves with a "satchel filled with marketable tools," Durkot said. They bring charts tracking how well a particular song is doing nationwide, they describe its exposure on MTV or VH1, they provide the names of dance clubs where some have taken off, they predict its street credibility and they give the artists' tour dates. But despite the size of the satchel, Herron insists, it always comes down to the music.

And to prove it, he relies on sophisticated market research and cold investigation to test songs he's planning to add to WBOS's play list. Radio stations use "call-up's" of a cross section of their regular listeners. They play about seven seconds of a song and ask for a rating on a scale of one to five or ten scale. Some stations, like WBOS, actually herd their listeners (whom they pay about $50) into hotel ballrooms to listen to their new release possibilities. In these ways, stations collect a warehouse of data and use them as a guide for satisfying their target audiences.

For the label promoters, the true litmus test is whether or not people are willing to slap down ten to fifteen dollars to buy the sound.

On a recent afternoon at the Tower Records Mass. Ave. location, what was selling were the songs people heard on the radio. Two Tower clerks said the requests pour in. "It happens every minute of every day, it seems," said Brendan O'Neil of the songs people ask for from radio play. Clerk Kevin Goachee said, "People call or come in, singing the tune, bringing in tapes they made from their radios."

"We want to sell a medium the radio stations will use to attract listeners," Carroll said. "It's a very competitive environment." So as a result, it's less and less schmooze and more and more sales.

To that end, a new breed of promoters, known as "Independents" have begun to flood the phone lines and crowd the offices of program directors. They are private consultants hired by label promoters to get the job done. "Now they are a hard sell " Herron said.

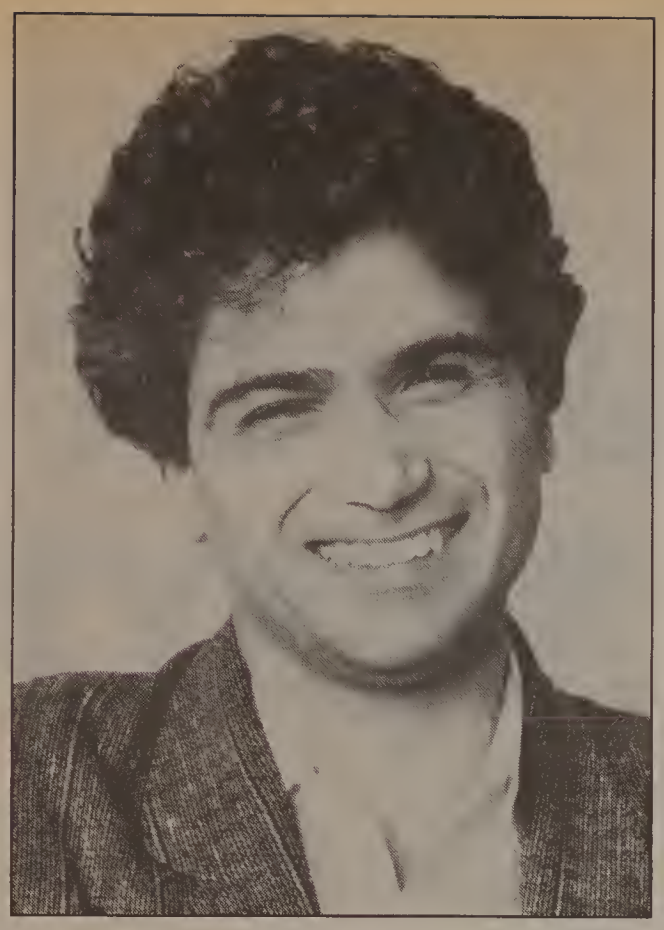
Bribing program directors with cash, or Payola or Plugola was the real hard sell of past decades, and as late as 1989. Independent record promotion king pin, Joe Isgro, found himself as the target of a federal grand jury probe that indicted him. Another industry legend, Ray Anderson, also faced charges of Payola in the biggest case since the payola scandals of the fifties, and there are strict laws and punishments against it.

So what are the methods employed by the 90's generation of label promoters? Herron insists he relies solely on the music, but boxes of balloons and food regularly make their way to his office. He has received tour jackets, concert tickets, meals out and most recently, a case full of Cajun foods and spices. As in most business relationships, the record promoters do their fare share of schmooze, but Herron said he drew the line at an offer for a free trip to Florida to listen to a new band.

Payola — as the record play in exchange for big money is known — seems to be strongly out of favor in Boston. Reps from both sides say it would be professional suicide to participate in such schemes, citing respect for the legends that reside here in the city. Bill Carroll cites names such as WBCN's Oedipus, WFNX's Max Tolkoff and Kiss 108's Steve Rivers as pros who would be insulted by the slime of payola offers. But with stiff competition and the growing use of independents can Payola really be such a distant memory? This is a multi-billion dollar industry.

Herron says he has yet to be approached with a deal and spends his time listening to music and his audience. Every Monday morning he plays his answering machine tapes that collect suggestions from listeners and jots down their requests.

"It may sound goofy," he said "but I truly believe the 90's is the decade of sincerity. If you build a good product, they will come."



CHACHI LOPRETE
PROMOTIONS DIRECTOR/ DISC JOCKEY WBCN

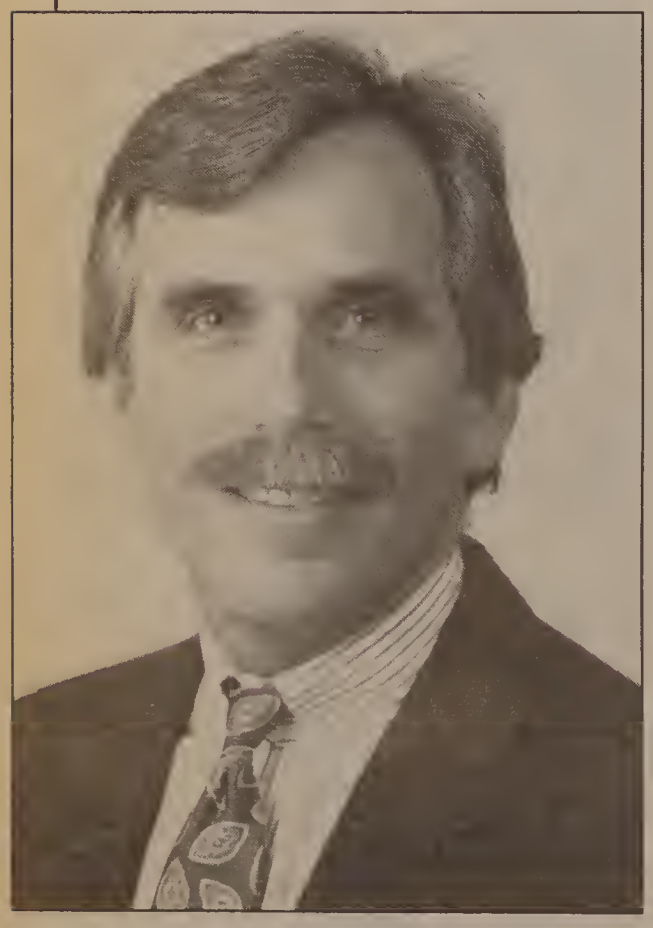


KAREN DURKOT
NORTHEAST PROMOTION AND MARKETING DIRECTOR DEF AMERICAN

SURFIN' THE WAVES

by Eric Peterson

What's it take to get your song played on the radio? According to industry sources, it takes a lot more than good old raw talent.



JAMES HERRON
THE PROGRAM
DIRECTOR OF
WBOS



BILL CARROLL
ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR OF
NATIOAL
ALTERNATIVE
PROMOTIONS
POLYGRAM



STEVE RIVERS
THE PROGRAM
DIRECTOR OF
WXKS



BUZZ KNIGHT THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF WZLX

There you are, scanning the radio stations in your area when you hear an old song that you once loved but haven't heard in years. Or maybe you're listening to the opening chords of the new number one single. Or maybe you're hearing the same annoying song for the fifth time today, and you're tempted to smash the radio. Who thought to put that particular song on? Who decides when, and how often to play certain songs or artists? Which came first, the chicken or the egg?

The person responsible for answering these questions is the program director at your local radio stations. While each station approaches programming in its own way, the job of musical selection is clearly more art than science. "You try to learn your market," says Buzz Knight, the new program director at Boston rock station, WZLX, "You talk to individuals in-house and end up using a combination of gut intuition and science." At WBCN, the DJ's buy albums they come across in record stores, and give their input at a weekly music meeting with program director Oedipus. WBCN also has local music directors who listen to bands at local clubs and solicit music from the bands they like.

Once a song is on the radio, it may be heard only in a certain slot, for new music or local music for example. Songs are also played in a certain "rotation," which refers to how often the song is played. Depending on listener requests, the sales of the album, and whether the DJ's like it, the song may move up in rotation, being played more frequently, or out of rotation, where it ends up being played at your dentist's office. While the DJ's have some authority over musical selection, the program director is the final voice on the mix of music on the air, so he's the one you should complain to about your smashed radio.

Another major source of new music is the record companies themselves. Typically, a record company will send a CD to the station along with some materials promoting the band. According to Oedipus, the record company reps who deal with the stations can get very creative in their approaches.

"I've received all sorts of promotional gimmicks" he says. "For example, a band called Baker's Pink, whose name comes from the paint color used on insane asylum walls, sent their CD to radio stations in a paint can. A band called Tackle Box used a tackle box, obviously. Copperhead used a bottle of whiskey with a Copperhead label pasted on it." Buzz Knight agrees "the record company reps are very creative people. They can be really theatrical. I've even had them come in to see me in costumes. They can also," Knight adds, "be incredibly passionate about their acts."

When asked how far reps would go to push a particular act, Knight responds, "They would sell their soul to the devil." John Riley, whose firm J.L.M. handles publicity for many acts, points out that "Ethics are a very personal thing. You deal with many of the same people again and again, so if you sacrifice your reputation, it will come back to haunt you."

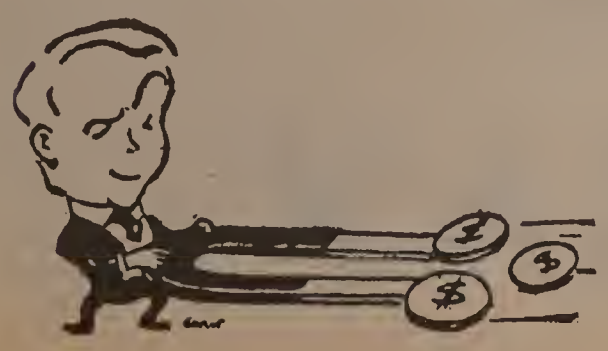
Record companies will also organize promotional contests with the stations, sending them free copies of CDs to give away to listeners and providing listeners with free trips to see the band. They also organize junkets for the stations, flying DJ's and program directors into a city to hear a hot new act. While 'BCN's parent company, Infinity, prohibits such trips, Oedipus notes that some stations do accept them in spite of the apparent ethical problems.

Increased airplay generally means increased sales, so all of these efforts are going towards increasing the airplay of a particular act in an effort to play what Knight calls "chart games," trying to get a song to move up in the trade press charts. With millions of dollars riding on chart movements, you would think the industry was ripe for corruption. However, both Oedipus and Knight firmly and categorically deny ever witnessing any sort of payola, which is the term for bribing DJ's or management in return for pushing an act. "It just doesn't happen at this level of the business," says Oedipus. "Payola has not gone on since the fifties." Knight agrees, saying "Maybe I'm naive, but I have just never seen it." On the other hand, if it does go on, why would anyone confirm it to a reporter?

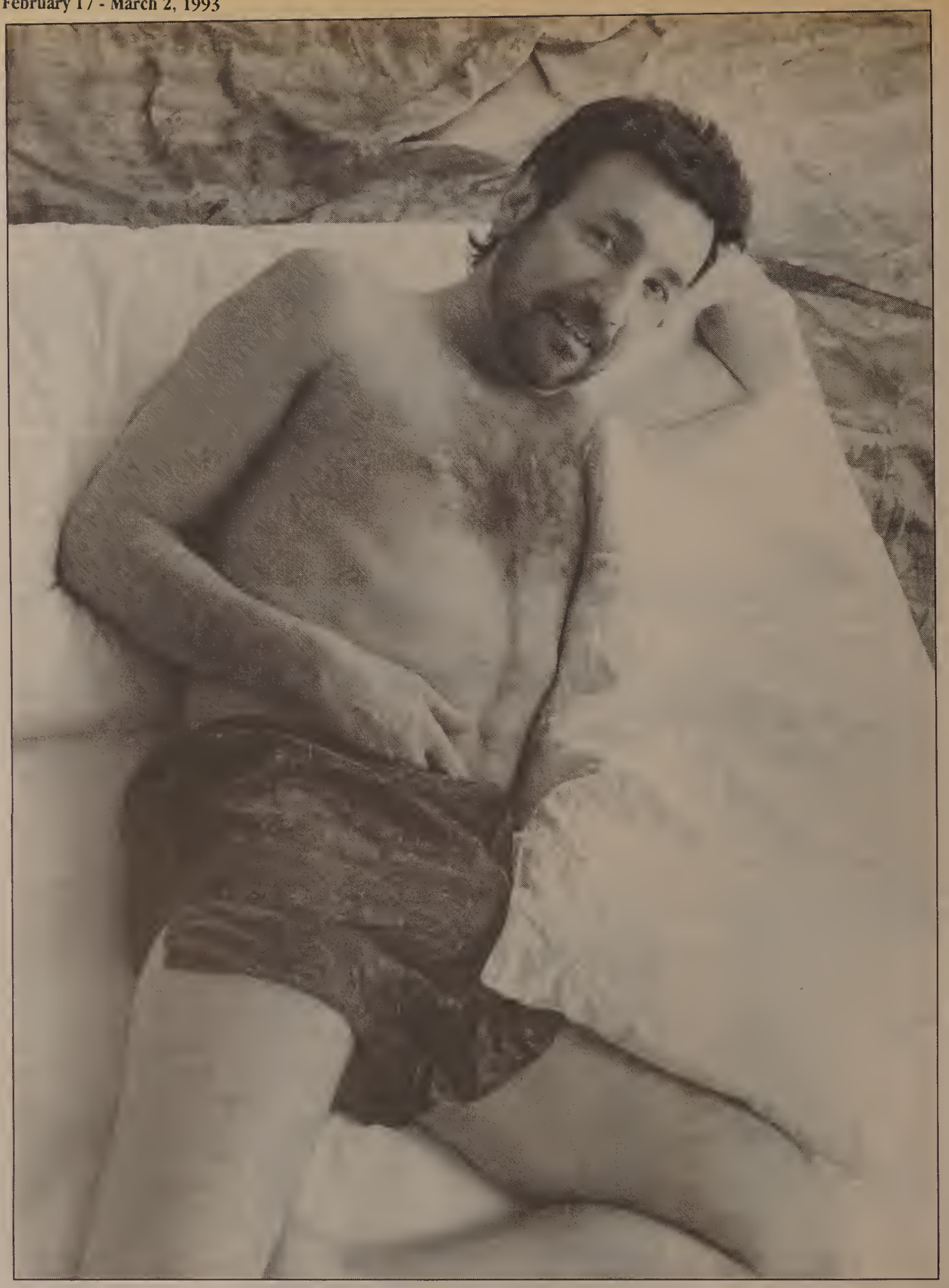
So the next time you hear a song you love (or hate) on the radio, you'll know how it got there. You also know who to complain or suck up to, if you're that type. But instead of picking up a phone and whining, or smashing your radio, you can always just change the station. After all, a new song is just a digitally-tuned, electronically-controlled push button away.



OEDIPUS THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF WBCN





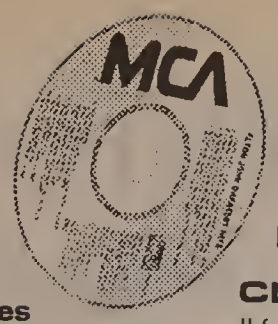


"I want to be know for more than just my voice.
I have great pecs for someone in his '70's."

BIG FUN ON THE BIG MATTRESS: AN INTERVIEW WITH CHARLES LAQUIDARA

RADIO PLAY

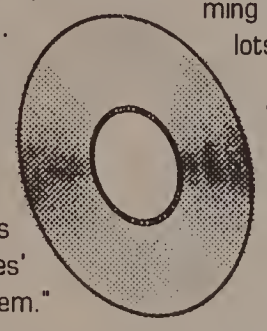
By Eric F. Peterson



Charles Laquidara is the long time host of The Big Mattress morning show on 104.1 WBCN, Boston. In the course of several recent conversations, Charles talked with the Improper about himself, his show and rock and roll history.

IB: Tell me a little about your personal history.

CL: Well, I left RISD and went to California to learn acting. While I was there, I did a lot of theatre and I actually had a screentest for the movie The Boston Strangler, but Tony Curtis beat me out. I think he blew the director. So I took a job in radio just to make some money for acting. At the time there was only Top 40, AM radio. FM was all classical music. So we used to talk about how great it would be to have FM stereo rock and roll.



When the station I was working at changed from classical to underground radio rock and roll, they let me stay on. So what I did was combine rock and roll with classical music. I would play the Stones' "Gimme Shelter" and follow that with something from Verdi's "Requiem." And people loved it.

They heard about me in Boston, and 'BCN ended up offering me a job.

IB: What were the early days at 'BCN like?

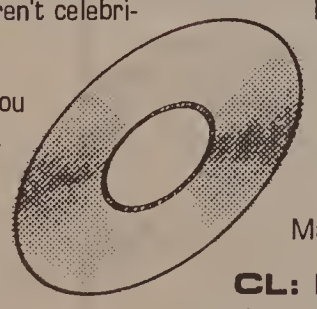
CL: Well, I joined the station in '69, a year after 'BCN had started. In those days we didn't have much money or equipment or anything. But you know we had crazy stuff go on. Duane Allman would come in and play with Jerry Garcia and they'd do solo stuff. Bruce Springsteen would come in with his band, which included a tuba player. Hunter Thompson came in and was complaining because he had to get up so early and he fucking hated Boston, and hated doing radio, so we just brought him in the production room and gave him a mound of cocaine and he went and did an ID for us, saying it was the best station he'd ever heard. All kinds of craziness was going on. All these stories now are legendary, but when they were happening, we didn't know. We didn't know that these people coming into the studio were gonna die a year later.



Looking back, it was magic. (Laughs) It was fun. We were just having a good time.

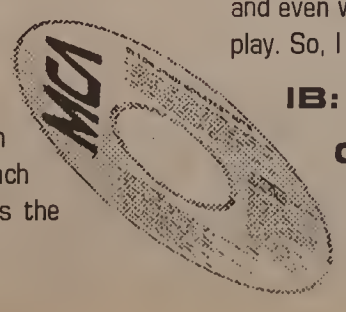
IB: Do people still have that kind of fun?

CL: Well, we have a different kind of fun now. There's more of a star mentality now that we didn't have then. They're celebrities now. They weren't celebrities then. They were just cool musicians.



IB: It sounds like the whole radio market has changed, with you guys becoming what AM radio once was. Has that changed what you do?

CL: Yeah! We have become what we protested. I like to think that I'm holding on to some of the principles we had back then. It's just really difficult to do that. But I've evolved a lot. I was always afraid — as we became more successful — of becoming what we were fighting. But it was really difficult to avoid. The '60's were really over after Nixon left office and after that it was all uphill. Society changed. People became greedy, and I guess we all allowed ourselves to be co-opted. The "down" side is, we compromised a lot of our values. The "up" side is that in one fell swoop, I can affect so many things, because I've got so many fucking people listening to me, that I couldn't have done if I had held on to every principle. Even though a lot of my listeners are pretty conservative, they like my show 'cause we push the envelope of good taste sometimes. Now, I can't preach to them, cause they'll say 'Go fuck yourself,' but they'll get it in other ways. Like I told them that anyone who beats up a woman is a real pussy. So I can reach a massive audience and they like me and they trust me. That's the upside of this compromise that we've made.



IB: Ever have any problems with your listeners?

CL: We get some crazies who call, but those are just regular calls. I got a call from a social worker one time about a guy who claimed I gave him a ride to the Cape and asked him to blow me or I wouldn't help his group. The guy was really out there because first, I'm straight, and second, I don't go to the Cape.

IB: Is The Big Mattress different from other morning shows?

CL: I think we're probably the best show in the country that has a mix of information, cutting edge news, traffic, lots of original jokes, skits and programming both political and controversial, with the music of three generations and lots of rock and roll.

IB: Critics of Album Oriented Radio (AOR) have criticized it as standing for "Another Old Rocker." Any response to that?

CL: I think that's an age-ist statement. I mean, would they say, 'another black rocker' or 'another guinea rocker?' The point is that I can still rock. That we can still rock. I suppose at some point we'll stop doing rock and roll all together. Rock and roll used to be a rebellion against the '50's music. Rock is an iconoclastic art form, so by its very nature, it seems to imply youth. But I think youth is also a state of mind. Rock and roll belongs to all of us, to everybody who loves it. I just wish they'd sit down in front of me at the concerts. If I only wanted to hear the goddamn group, I'd buy the CD.

IB: Now that we have the first rock and roll White House, will that change rock and roll?

CL: Well it's been changing anyway. Rock has been co-opted by everybody. They use it for Nike and car ads. I don't know where it's eventually going to go. For years we've been waiting for the next generation of music to take over, and it's never happened. There's no music replacing rock and roll as a musical art form. I'm not sure the new music is gonna take over. Maybe it will evolve. It'll be another form of rock and roll, but it will still be rock and roll.

IB: You talk about rock changing. Has the mission of the music changed along with its listeners?

CL: I think the mission is still to defy. Sometimes, it gets confusing because there's so many different people liking it now. You've got doctors in the operating room listening to heavy metal. CEO's that are Deadheads. The message gets confusing. For example, when Sinead O'Connor ripped apart the Pope's picture, that was rock and roll. A lot of people were insulted by what Sinead did. But what she said was absolutely rock and roll. Religion is a target because rock and roll is iconoclastic. It gets confusing when Sinead gets booed off the stage by all these American Express Card carrying rock and rollers. They missed the point.

IB: Are there any favorite or fondest moments from The Big Mattress?

CL: I remember being hosed on my birthday, when somebody wrote me asking to hose his daughter and pretend I was with the business office at MIT. And when I called, the guy who answered said it was a poor joke because his daughter has been dead two years. I totally panicked, and apologized to him, and then when I was almost crying, the guy says 'Hey, Chuck, is today a special day in your life?' It was my birthday. It turned out to be a bunch of guys who'd stayed up all night drunk and who'd planned to hose me for weeks. I remember the time someone put mescaline in my soup and I ended up going on the air, and even with 50,000 albums behind me I couldn't think of one song I wanted to play. So, I just played commercials for an hour till they dragged me off.

IB: Last question. Can we have Michelle the Rock Babe's phone number?

CL: (Laughs) Yeah it's a 900-number but I'm not sure what the last digits are.

FLICKS IN A FLASH

A Winner

A Toss up

For the Birds

Tout Les Matins Du Monde

"A Sweet Lesson On Loss"

Alain Corneau's film is a somber, beautiful meditation on the nature of art versus commerce. The main character is Sainte Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle), a reclusive musician who lives the simple life in the French countryside, where he resists repeated offers to play in the court of King Louis XIV. His young protégé, the flashy, technically-accomplished Marin Marias (Guillame Depardieu, son of Gerard, who plays Marias as an older man), lacks his master's philosophy and joins the royal court. But he returns years later — bloated, bewigged, face heavily rouged — and wonders if it is not too late for him to become the musician he could have. A sense of loss pervades this sad and moving film, with special emphasis on the loss of those opportunities which we recognize only once they have passed us by. A.L.

Lorenzo's Oil

"A Brave and Daring Brew"

Based on the lives of Augusto and Michaela Odone, Lorenzo's Oil is the story of a couple's efforts to save the life of their son from adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). In this gritty, painful and brilliant picture, the parents (Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon) not only push the medical establishment for answers, but take up ALD research on their own. while keeping their marriage and their son alive. This triumphant film, which features a truly outstanding performance by Ms. Sarandon, addresses its medical issues and "docu-drama" format with a high level of craft. Nolte's Italian accent is annoying for a while, but it is the only false note in an otherwise important film about the power of determination in the face of helplessness. B.C.

Chaplin

"Portrait of a Genius"

Richard Attenborough's *Chaplin* is daring in its scope, attempting to follow Chaplin's life from his Dickensian childhood and training in British vaudeville through his meteoric film career, ending with the famous comedien's final years. While Robert Downey, Jr. is up to the task, not just imitating Chaplin but emulating the Little Tramp and the young mogul, the film bites off a bit more than it can handle. At more than two hours, the film could have ended with Chaplin's deportation: what follows is fodder, bordering on the sentimental. Still, Kevin Kline hands in a good performance as Douglas Fairbanks, and the supporting cast of Charlie's family and friends is tapped from a fine well of talent. More might have been made of Chaplin's creative genius and innovation, but the movie remains entertaining and uplifting. T.S.L.

A Few Good Men

"Exciting, Moving, and Funny"

Rob Reiner hits on a fail-safe formula for his latest picture: big stars in a politically-relevant drama, climaxing in riveting courtroom exchanges in *A Few Good Men*, a film in which two Marines are on trial for murdering one of their own. Lawyers Tom Cruise and Demi Moore try to prove the death was accidental as a result of secret disciplinary orders from above. Tom Cruise reprises his usual hot shot character role with élan, while Demi Moore hands in a respectable and dignified performance as an internal affairs officer. Jack Nicholson, while convincing as a hard-nosed colonel, tends to lapse into Nicholson-ese, playing the sly, smart-mouthed speechmaker. *A Few Good Men* contains decent comedy as well as moving action, and winning lines are equally distributed. T.S.L.

Love Field

Planted On Shaky Ground



Lurene (Michelle Pfeiffer) questions Jonell (Stephanie McFadden) about Paul (Dennis Haysbert) in Orion Pictures "Love Field"

BY ANTHONY LEIBS

Love Field, Orion Pictures' first entry into the mainstream market since their recent bankruptcy, hardly looks like the studio savior they had hoped for. It's a modest little film, with some fine acting, but is far too conventional and predictable to find a large audience.

Lurene Hallett (Michelle Pfieffer), a Dallas hairdresser with a somewhat unhealthy Jackie Kennedy fixation, takes a long bus trip to Arlington National Cemetery in November of 1963, hoping to attend J.F.K.'s funeral. Her husband, Ray (Brian Kerwin), refuses to accompany her, so she goes alone, and meets a quiet black man, Paul Cater (Dennis Haysbert) and his daughter. Originally put off by her non-stop chatter (she twice says of Kennedy, "He did a lot for the Negro," despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary), he is finally won over by her humanity, and the two have an affair.

This film is full of "drama," but the small moments are more effective, and affecting, than the larger ones. The casual way, for instance, in which a police officer calls Cates "boy" is a good example: he says it as naturally as calling someone else "Sir" or "Mister." There's no heat, no malice, but the word still has a surprising sting. Likewise, when Cater gives a statement about a bus accident to the police, he begins by saying, "I was at the back of the bus," and the officer interrupts with, "We *know* you was at the back of the bus." The officer isn't gloating, or trying to provoke Cater in any way — he's merely stating a fact. We've all seen plenty of beatings of blacks by whites lately, especially white cops, so it's amazing to see how effectively racism can be described by a few simple words, spoken without anger.

Love Field

Orion Pictures
Directed by
Starring Michelle Pfeiffer
Dennis Haysbert
Stephanie McFadden

Rated PG-13

But director Jonathan Kaplan and screenwriter Don Roos don't seem to trust their material that much. Cater, predictably, gets beaten by a carload of rednecks later in the film. His young daughter turns out to be an abused orphan he is trying to save from further abuse; Lurene thinks he has kidnapped her, and calls the F.B.I. Bad enough that they have to deal with nasty racial barriers — now they have the F.B.I. after them, as well as every local police force along the way. And Lurene's mildly loutish husband, whose worst previous offense was eating Campbell's soup straight from the can, is transformed suddenly into a gun-toting, wife-smacking psycho.

Michelle Pfieffer delivers an affecting performance as Lurene, despite being saddled with such deliberately unattractive features as peroxide-platinum hair, false eyelashes and blue eye shadow. (Even her chewing gum is blue). Her southern accent sounds artificial and slightly shrill, but then, so do authentic southern accents; anyway, she manages to tone it down as the film progresses, and wins us over.

Dennis Haysbert, a last-minute replacement for Denzel Washington (who pulled out, fearing his character was "too weak") is a genuine find. He has a solid presence on screen, able to express bitterness and rage with simple facial expressions and movements of his large body. He is so good, in fact, that his angry speech about the lot of Blacks seems almost extraneous; anyone can tell how he feels simply by looking at him. But there is the movie in microcosm: not trusting the true power of its quiet moments, going for the "big" scenes, the "powerful" scenes, with police roadblocks and lots of cops with their guns drawn, Lurene transfixed in the police spotlights, Cater's young child wrenched from her arms... That's not even good melodrama, and we deserve better, especially when we sense the filmmakers can deliver it. ❑

GROUNDHOG DAY

Comedy Too Quick To Cast A Shadow

BY TIM LEMIRE

In the movie *Slaughterhouse Five*, adapted from Kurt Vonnegut's novel, protagonist Billy Pilgrim is "unstuck in time," meaning he leaps from present to past and future and back again, endowed with omnipotence and a unique perspective on time and life. In Groundhog Day, the new Harold Ramis comedy, star Bill Murray has a similar problem: he is stuck in time, stuck in the same day, *Groundhog Day* — in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, no less.

Inexplicably, Murray relives the same day over and over, inaugurated each morning at 6:00 am with the radio alarm playing "I Got You Babe."

Nothing is so difficult to sustain in an interesting way than repetition, and Ramis and Murray, whose previous collaboration has brought us Ghostbusters and Stripes, have proven it to the absurd extreme, giving us a comedy that is without doubt among the best work either men have produced, together or apart.

Murray is weatherman Phil Connors, who travels to Punxsutawney to cover Groundhog Day for the fifth time, accompanied by cameraman Larry (Chris Elliott, playing himself) and new station producer Rita (Andie MacDowell). Connors looks forward to the trip like a visit to the dentist, and when Rita insists that the townspeople love the festivities, Murray replies dryly, "People love blood sausage. People are morons."



Bill Murray in the romantic comedy "Groundhog Day".

Writers Ramis and Danny Rubin give Murray the kind of role he is best at: the sleepy-eyed cynic, played with the off-the-cuff delivery he learned on Saturday Night Live. Murray does well with the role, and has fun (contrary to his performance in *Scrooged*, where he looked like he was walking through the part only to pick up his check at the conclusion). Murray does play himself to a large extent in Groundhog Day, but so much the better. The part of a weatherman is not too much for him to handle, and he at least adopts TV charm and delivery to make us believe he is a weatherman.

Andie MacDowell displays how naturally she fills a role and how easily she commands attention onscreen with her beauty and character. However, Ramis and Dubin don't give her enough rope to convince us that she is a TV producer; not one technical term comes out of her mouth in two hours, and taking away some attention from Murray would not have risked the success of the movie.

Connors soon realizes the hell he is in, walking through the same set of circumstances every day, although he is free to change his own behavior and influence people around him. The next day, everything is a clean slate. Ramis and Dubin thoroughly explore the many reactions to such a situation, milking as much comedy as they can along the way.

Early on, Murray sits forlorn, drinking with two Punxsutawney locals. "Have you ever felt," he asks them, "that every day is the same, that you're stuck in one place and nothing you do ever mattered?"

"That about sums it up for me," says his scraggly companion.

Murray becomes bored and depressed (he knows every answer on Jeopardy, having seen it 100 times), then elated (he learns information on women to woo them, surprising them the next day when all begins anew), and finally he is despairing again. Ultimately, Murray learns a lesson not unlike the one he learned in Scrooged — and no less sentimental. Ramis and Dubin have more jokes per minute, and a varied score from George Fenton, while hokey at times, keeps things moving.

Groundhog Day is that rare movie that you won't regret paying to see on the big screen, and — amazingly — for a story about endless repetition, a movie you may want to see again. ❑

GROUNDHOG DAY

Columbia Pictures
Directed by Harold Ramis
Starring Bill Murray
Andie MacDowell
Chris Elliott

Rated PG-13

CRITICS CHOICE

KEY
A Winner
A Toss Up
For the Birds

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Nowhere to Run	Toss Up	Bird	Bird	Bird	Winner	—	—	—	—
Scent of a Woman	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Bird	Toss Up	Winner	Bird
Used People	Toss Up	Winner	Winner	Bird	Winner	Bird	Winner	Bird	Bird
Sniper	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	—	—	Toss Up	Bird
A Few Good Men	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Bird	Toss Up	Toss Up	Winner
Aladdin	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Winner	Bird	Winner	Winner	Winner
Matinee	Winner	Winner	Toss Up	Toss Up	Winner	Toss Up	—	Toss Up	Winner
Children of the Corn 2	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	—	—	—	—
Alive	Winner	Toss Up	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Toss Up	Bird
The Bodyguard	Bird	Bird	Bird	Bird	Toss Up	Bird	Toss Up	Toss Up	Toss Up

FLICKS IN A FLASH

ALIVE

"A Survivor's Tale of Strength and Spirit"

When a plane carrying a South American rugby team crashes in the Andes mountains en route to Chile, the surviving team of athletes find themselves marooned with little food, shelter or method of communicating with the outside world. Based on a true story, Alive is as much a tale of spiritual discovery as of physical endurance. The men who comprise the bulk of the cast are mostly new faces, with the exception of Ethan Hawke (Dead Poets Society) and Vincent Spano (Rumble Fish). Alive is a moving film — a story of strength and even humor. We follow the survivors daily struggles, and though the cannibalism scenes are not for the squeamish, Alive is a reminder of the fragility of our life on earth. T.S.L.

BODY OF EVIDENCE

"Sex and Fury Signifying Nothing"

Central to any lawyer's case is motive; yet, this simple fact has somehow escaped the creators of Body of Evidence. This latest, Basic Instinct-like sex thriller involves a lawyer named Frank Dulaney (Willem DaFoe) who is defending one Rebecca Carlson (Madonna), a woman accused of killing her rich lover with sex (he had a bad heart) after having worked her way into his will. DaFoe's performance is tepid at best; he gives us no idea who his character is, how he feels about his wife (Anne Archer) or how he feels about himself. As for Madonna, her performance is as one note as her monotone rap in "Vogue." When the film fails to deliver on any wavelength, we end up feeling like the victim of a tease — and in this case, it's a sexual tease of the worst kind. T.S.L.

A B-MOVIE THAT EARNS A B-PLUS

The scene is Key West, 1962, and the latest B-movie thriller from "Shock Expert" Lawrence Woosley (John Goodman) is coming to town. The timing is perfect: the Cuban Missile Crisis has just begun, and the fear outside the theater mirrors the melodrama inside. Writer Charlie Haas (*Gremlins*) provides us with a fair enough script, replete with irony, some romance, sentiment, and of course humor. Director Joe Dantre recreates 1962 in excruciating detail. The jokes were best coming from Goodman, but the remaining members of the cast are on the level of *The Wonder Years*. Matinee tends to overreach itself by trying to fit in romance, drama and comedy in one nostalgiac package, but for entertainment value and laughs, the movie earns a strong B-plus. T.S.L.

PETER'S FRIENDS

"With Friends Like These"

Kenneth Brannagh's latest, about the tenth-year reunion of a disparate group of college friends in England, is an absolute stiff. The reason: Rita Rudner's glib and shallow screenplay, which she co-wrote with her husband, Martin Bregman. Lineslike "If there is a God, he takes awfully long lunch breaks," bear the indelible stamp of Rudner's crummy one-liner sensibility. Worse yet, this film also marks her acting debut, making it a one-two combination that floors Brannagh early and often. His acting is fine, but his direction seems mired in the script's banality. The one bright spot is Emma Thompson, Branagh's wife, who looks radiant, and displays a genuine flair for comedy. A. L.

SCENT OF A WOMAN

"Pacino Reeks of Hoffman"

A blind, grouchy, former military officer (Pacino) takes his new prep school "babysitter" (Chris O'Donnell) on a Thanksgiving weekend extravaganza in New York City. While the youth frets for Pacino's safety (and about his own problems at school), Pacino overtips waiters, dances the Tango and correctly identifies the perfume (not to mention the hair and eye color) of every woman he meets. He carries the film, but his performance has a "let me show you that I can do it the way Dustin Hoffman would do it" quality which is too self-conscious. If you want a dose of Pacino, see Glengarry Glen Ross. B.C.

MUSCLE CARS

Pumping Fuel at the Museum of Transportation

BY KATHY MATHESON

If this winter's weather has you colder than you can bear, and you don't have the dough to make it somewhere tropical, grab your imagination and head down to the Museum of Transportation for a visit to their latest exhibit, "Muscle Cars: Wild in the Streets." From February 27 on, you can take a trip back through time to an age where the size of your fuzzy dice determined your status, and where the Beach Boys and Jan & Dean (piped through the MOT's showroom) ruled the airwaves.

Located in the beautiful Larz Anderson Park carriage house (modeled after the Chateau de Chaumont in France), the MOT is allowing you to relive the days of crazy youth with an impressive array of American-designed engine power. While the main focus of the exhibit is cars made between 1964 and 1974, the roots of the musclers are also included, such as the 1957 Chevrolet Corvette.

On display are a total of 14 classic cars in mint condition, featuring a 1965 Shelby GT350 Mustang, a 1968 Camaro Z28, a 1970 King Cobra and a 1970 Plymouth Superbird (check out that fin!). Of special note is a Boston Police motorcycle made by Harley Davidson, complete with sidecar.

Museum spokeswoman Sue Mellen explains that the MOT's extensive network of contacts has made it fairly easy to convince collectors to donate their cars to an exhibit. "It's become a matter of prestige to have one of your cars accepted to an exhibit," Mellen explains.

Last year, the MOT hosted a show called "Different by Design" which highlighted vehicles made at similar times in various parts of the world, but Mellen says that although that show "was very nice and elegant, it doesn't have the same appeal" as a muscle car show.

This exhibit is about "fun, fantasy, youth and youth culture," she says, where the only point was to have fun and push your car to the limit of endurance. "Power and speed - that's what it was all about," she says.

Mellen notes that the MOT hosted a similar display of engine brawn in 1986, called "Power to Burn," which was extremely well received. "It reminds people of their youth," she says, "when we didn't worry about the price of gas and the ecological system."

To really recreate the era, the MOT has built and stocked a garage with authentic muscle car paraphernalia. Additionally, various "owners" and "mechanics" (actors in character) will be wandering the showroom, working on their cars and answering any visitor questions. On some days, the museum promises celebrity guests.

And while you're at the MOT, don't forget to see the permanent exhibits downstairs. There is a children's workshop area as well as several cars made between the 1890s-1900s. Of special note is Isabel Anderson's 1906 CGV Berline de Voyage, which was rigged so that hot water from the radiator could be pumped into the back seat of this touring car. Not only that, Mrs. Anderson, fond of taking long trips but not fond of using strange bathrooms, had a toilet installed in the back seat as well. It's definitely worth checking out.

Needless to say, as I climbed back into my borrowed Volkswagen Golf and turned on the engine to head back home, the word "muscle" didn't exactly come to mind. But as I turned up the heat and began to wind my way back down to the main road, I figured that my vehicle was indeed a sport car - an car named after a sport. ❑

MUSCLE CARS WILD IN THE STREETS

The Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park,
15 Newton St., Brookline
522-6547.
Admission is $4, $2
for children and senior citizens.
On ExhibitThrough1993



This rendering by famed automotive artist Ken Ebert of California is now on display at the Museum of Transportation

ARTS PICK OF THE WEEK



Don't miss pieces like this untitled sculpture by Peter Schifrin at the Boston University Art Gallery. The Gallery is featuring an exhibition of works by members of the BU School for the Arts, Visual Arts faculty. The exhibit is on display now through the 21st of February.

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STAGE NOTES

BY NANCY LEONARD

"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline," starring country singer Sandy Martin, has extended its run at the Charles Playhouse. It's now booked through the end of March, with celebrity guest DJ's adding to the fun. For information, call 426-6912.

"Beau Jest", a comedy by James Sherman, has been extended for a second time at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center in Newton. The performance dates are February 11 - March 7. For information and tickets, call 965-5226.

Lynn Redgrave will appear in "Shakespeare For My Father" on Sunday, March 21, at 3 p.m. at Symphony Hall. She will perform excerpts from the Bard's plays and sonnets in a one-woman presentation, as a living memorial to her late father, Sir Michael Redgrave. The engagement is sponsored by the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series. To charge tickets, call 482-6661.

On Monday, March 8, at 8 p.m., Alvin Epstein and Julie Harris will give a special benefit performance for the American Repertory Theatre of "Dear Liar," adapted by longtime ART collaborator Jerome Kilty from the correspondence of George Bernard Shaw and Mrs. Patrick Campbell. General admission tickets are $35. Tickets for priority seating and a special post-performance reception are $75. For tickets call the ART box office: 547-8300.

The ART Institute for Advanced Theatre Training will present "The Duchess of Malfi" by John Webster, at the Zero Church Street Performance Space, in Cambridge, February 19, 20, 23-27 at 7 p.m., and February 21 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Ticket prices are $10 for the general public, and $8 for students, seniors, and ART subscribers. They can be purchased at the ART box office.

If you're having trouble drumming up enthusiasm over the return of "A Chorus Line" to Boston for the umpteenth time, try taking a charitable view: consider that this two-week stop at the Shubert Theatre (February 23 - March 7) adds royalties to the coffers of the New York Shakespeare Festival, the innovative nonprofit institution where the work originated. If you've never seen this musical, keep in mind that this is billed as its final visit to Boston. In past stops, it's been exhilarating entertainment.

Two popular successes of the '92 Shakespeare & Company season are coming to the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street. Tom Kempinski's "Duet for One" will play March 9-April 4. Inspired by the life of cellist Jacqueline du Pre, it follows the struggle of a world-class musician after she loses the ability to play. "Berkeley Square," by John L. Balderston, based on an unfinished novel by Henry James, will play March 10-28. Written in the 1920's, made into a film, and performed on Broadway and the West End, this mixture of a ghost story, farce, and romance follows a modern American hero back into the 18th century. Mail orders can be directed to The Box Office, Shakespeare Company, P.O. Box 865, Lenox, MA 01240. For information, call them at (413) 637-1197. As of March 1, tickets can be ordered locally, by calling the box office at 426-ARTS.

"Three Guys Who Know Better," a musical evening that is part political satire and part Great American Songbook, plays at the Lyric Stage Sundays, at 7 p.m. on February 14, 28, March 7, 21, 28, April 4 and 11. Jack Bresnahan, Lang Desjardins, and Robert Leinbach play the three guys. For tickets, call 437-7172.

Meanwhile, the Lyric is presenting Ranjet Bolt's new translation of Pierre Corneille's "The Liar" as their main program. This romantic comedy about a young man whose compulsive lies complicate and endanger his love life runs through March 14.

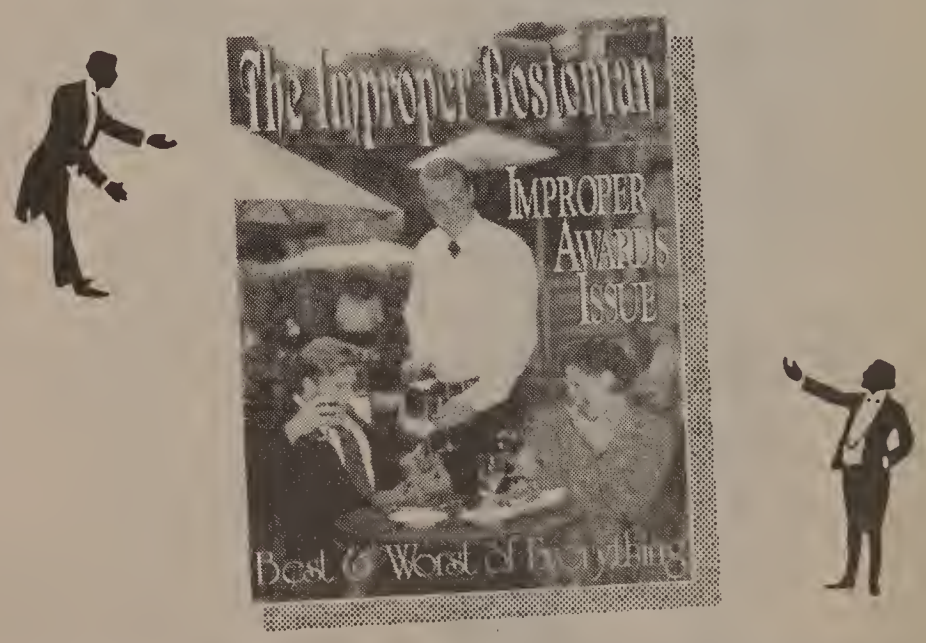
A two-part musical variety show titled "Ben & Brad in Berlin toBerlin," featuring Boston cabaret veterans Benjamin Sears and Bradford Conner, will be at The Performance Place, 277 Broadway, Somerville, Wednesday through Saturday, February 24 - March 20. The evening begins with a music-accompanied monologue, "Kaiser Bill," by Richard Weiss. For information, call Theatre in Process, which is presenting the work, at 267-1053. For tickets, call 254-1125.

Marianne Plunkett, the performer Boston claims as its own since she spent so many years captivating audiences in this city before moving on to New York, was recently singled out for critical praise in a New York Times review of her performance in George Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan," with the National Actors Theatre. Mel Gussow referred to her as the "one consistently salutary note" in the company's presentation of classics on Broadway over the past two years. She "has gone about her acting with a clear-eyed determination and a talent that shines no matter what the surrounding pallor," with her prior roles leading up to this "impassioned performance." Boston theatregoers know of what he speaks, since they had an opportunity to see her in the same role in the 1985-1986 season at the Huntington Theatre Company. It's one of the Huntington highlights. ❑



Nunsense, now in its seventh year in Boston, stars (from left to right) Patricia McLaughlin, Mary Callanan, Karon Lewis, Maryann Zschau, (kneeling front) Kim Niemi and Monica Tosches. This musical comedy hit continues at the Theater Lobby in Boston's historic North End.

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THE ARTS CALENDAR

DANCE

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Boston Ballet presents *Don Quixote*, a classic tale of chivalry and romance, through Feb. 21. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Dance Umbrella
at the Emerson Majestic Theatre
Tremont at Boylston St., Boston
Dance Umbrella present dance artists Yukie Shiroma and June Watanabe in Company from Feb. 25-27. Exploring the Japanese-American internment during World War II, the works suggest dignity in the face of struggle and celebrate the survival of the human spirit. Call 931-3100 for times and ticket price.

The Strand
at the McCormack Center for the Arts
543 Columbia Road, Dorchester
The Sierra Leone Cultural Organization proudly presents the internationally-acclaimed Sierra Leone National Dance Troupe. Audiences all over the world have been entertained by their authentic and highly-energetic dancing and drumming. One night only, Feb. 20 at 8pm. Call 282-5230 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
On view through Mar. 14 is the work of color photographers who were honored with the 1993 Leopold Godowsky Awards. (Godowsky was the co-inventor of Kodachrome film.) Subjects range from the religious clashes in Ireland to medieval walls.

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CLASSICAL

Andover Newton Theological School
at the First Baptist Church
848 Beacon St., Newton Centre
Choirs from Boston Latin, Boston Latin Academy and concord Baptist Church will perform in a gospel concert Feb. 19 at 7:30pm. Call 964-1100 x208 for more information.

Back Bay Chorale
at Church of the Covenant
67 Newbury St., Boston
The BBC presents "Invocations," a program featuring the music of Ives, Britten, Byrd and Kyr, on Feb. 20 at 8pm. With special guest Project Ars Nova. Tickets are $10.

Berklee College of Music
at the Performance Center
1140 Boylston St., Boston
Berklee presents a gospel jubilee of contemporary and traditional music on Feb. 26 at 7pm. Tickets are $7.

Boston Chamber Ensemble
at Suffolk University
C. Walsh Theater
55 Temple St., Boston
The BCE will perform a program of choral and instrumental works by 20th-century composers on Feb. 25 at 8pm. Call 643-8915 for more information.

Boston Musica Viva
B.U.'s Tsai Performance Center
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
BMV presents "From Punch to Pierrot," a program of five exciting musical works. Pieces include homage to Punch, of "Punch and Judy," and Schoenberg's "Pierrot Lunaire." On Feb. 26 at 8pm. Call 353-0556 for tickets.

Chorus pro Musica
Sanders Theatre, Cambridge
Chorus pro Musica plays with the New England Philharmonic on Feb. 21 at 3pm. The program contains Hindemith's *A Requiem for Those We Love*, based on Whitman's "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd," and Villa-Lobos *Choros No. 10*. Call 267-7442 for tickets.

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
The Bank of Boston Celebrity Series presents the Emerson String Quartet on Feb. 19 at 8pm.

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

New England Conservatory
at Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
NEC jazz students and guests perform "A Tribute to Thelonius Monk" Feb. 17 at 8pm. Admission is free.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
As part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series, world-renowned flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal performs Feb. 21 at 3pm and pianist Garrick Ohlson on Feb. 26 at 8pm. The Handel & Haydn Society performs "Baroque Concertos and Cantatas" Feb. 19 & 20 at 8pm. Call 931-ARTS for tickets.

TOURS

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Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at noon.

Mass. Brewing Company, Inc.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1pm. For more information call 455-1935.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Samuel Adams Brewery
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2pm and Saturdays at noon and 2pm, the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
The BPL screens *The Color Purple*, Steven Spielberg's award-winning film based on Alice Walker's novel, on Feb. 22 at 6pm in Rabb Lecture Hall. Admission is free.

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

Harvard Film Archive
at Harvard's Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge
Remember Malcolm X each night from Feb. 19-24 at 9:15pm in this series of seven documentary films. The HFA also presents *Man Without a World*, running through Feb. 21 and *A Tale of Springtime* from Feb. 26 to Mar. 3. Call 496-6046 for more details.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Films start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Apr. 1, you can design your own bicycle at a cutting-edge interactive computer station, featuring spectacular 3-D color graphics. Also, see R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Through Mar. 28, the Sackler is showing "First Under Heaven: The Henderson Collection of Korean Ceramics." Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Feb. 21, see "Performing Objects" - where artists create an arena for interaction between the viewer and the work of art. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5-9pm.

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

by Leslie Semonian

"What famous dead person would you like to have spoken to?"



Suzie, 28, Brighton
"I would loved to meet Sigmund Freud so he could analyze me."



Brooks, 24, Back Bay
"I would like to have met Sam Kinison. He was like the big brother I never had. He was a legend...man."



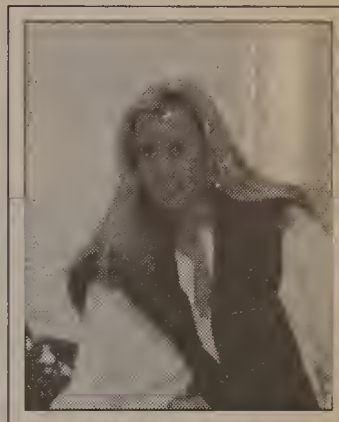
Amy, 28, Allston
"Martin Luther King. He was an inspiration to myself and society by standing up for what he believed, in a nonviolent way."



Michael, 33, Quogue, NY
"I would love to have met Robert Kennedy. I thought he could change the world, but somebody stopped him."



Kerri, 27, Providence, RI
"The English poet George Lord Byron, so he could read me his poem *She Walks in Beauty.*"



Gwyn, 28, Brookline
"I wish I could have known Marilyn Monroe to find out what she was really like. I'm sure she had a few good stories to tell."

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. On Feb. 20 at 10:30am, Richard Swanson's performs the one-man show "A Visit with Abraham Lincoln." Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
"Master European Paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Mantegna to Goya" is on view through Mar. 28. This collection, which has rarely been outside Ireland, includes works by David, Gainsborough and Poussin. Also, come see "Leonardo da Vinci: The Anatomy of Man - Drawings from the Collection of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II." The exhibit includes more than 30 drawings, which chart da Vinci's evolution of style and his exacting investigation of human anatomy. Through Feb. 21.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit through May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures!

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. The MOT's newest exhibit is Muscle Cars, 1964-74.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Through Mar. 13, see an extensive exhibition of model ships on display. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
at Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Through Mar. 3, the A.R.T. performs George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House*, about Britain's aristocracy on the eve of World War I. Beginning Feb. 10, see *Dream of the Red Spider*, about plots to overthrow Paranoid Dictators. Call 547-8300 for times and ticket information.

American Repertory Theatre
Zero Church St., Cambridge
The A.R.T. presents *The Duchess of Malfi*, an enthralling and violent exploration of passion, power and politics in the Italian Renaissance. Feb. 19-27. Call 547-8300 for times and prices.

Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Come see *Happy End*, Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill's musical about good and evil, played out against a background of murder, extortion and hypocrisy. Through Feb. 27. Call 576-1253 for times and ticket prices.

Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
Lazer Vaudeville combines lasers with magic, and the results are astounding. Superb juggling, mixed with zany comedy and audience participation makes for an evening of great entertainment. Tickets are $12; through Feb. 21. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Cicatrix Theatre
at the Charlestown Working Theatre
The Charlestown Working Theatre re-opens with the new play *Itchin' for It*, a rhythm & blues "thrance" to the music of Otis Redding and Etta James. The show begins Mar. 18. Call 242-3285 for times and ticket information.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

Chekhov Theater
at 949 Comm. Ave., Boston
Chekhov Theater presents Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*, the tragic farce of rivalry between generations for leadership in art, society and personal relationships. Performances are Feb. 19 at 8pm. Call 522-9328.

Colonial Theatre
106 Boylston St., Boston
David Henry Hwang (*M. Butterfly*) presents his new play, *Face Value*, through Feb. 28. This hilarious, fairy-tale farce is about mistaken racial identity and true love. Call 931-2787 for times and ticket prices.

French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
Riverside Theare Works presents the classic musical *Annie* through Mar. 21. Call 361-7024 for times and ticket prices.

Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St., Boston
See *The Liar*, a classic French comedy about a young man who cannot stop telling lies. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket prices.

Merrimack Repertory
at the Lowell Auditorium
50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell
The MRT celebrates love and romance with Lanford Wilson's *Talley's Folly*, through Mar. 6. For more information, call 508-454-3926.

MIT Theater
at Kresge Little Theater
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
MIT presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy *Twelfth Night* Feb. 26-28 and Mar. 4-6 at 8pm. Also, see El Teatro Campesino in a one-night engagement in which they perform tow high-powered plays, *Simply Maria* and *How Else...* The former is about a woman reconciling traditional Mexican values with an American lifestyle, while the latter is about two women in mid-life crisis. Call 253-2530 for ticket information.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
The Mystery Cafe presents *Let's Kill the Boss* every Thur. at 7:30pm, Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6 and 9pm and Sun. at 7pm. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the Boston premiere of *My Children! My Africa!*, a searing drama and devastating portrait of people living under the yoke of apartheid. Runs Feb. 25-Apr. 4. Call 332-1646 for times and ticket information.

Performance Place
277 Broadway, Somerville
Theatre in Process presents memorable melodies, merry musings and muckraking in a two-part musical variety show entitled *Ben & Brad in Berlin to Berlin*, Feb. 24 to Mar. 20. It takes you from the Kaiser in Berlin to Irving Berlin's Broadway. Call 254-1125 for times and ticket information.

Robsham Theater
at Boston College, Chestnut Hill
Set in the England of Henry VIII and Sir Thomas More, *A Man for All Seasons* celebrates man's astonishing capacity to rise above self-interest even at the cost of one's own life. Feb. 25-27 at 8pm and 28 at 2pm. Call 552-4000 for ticket reservations.

Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St., Boston
A Chorus Line, Broadway's most successful and longest-running theatrical production plays a limited engagement Feb. 23 to Mar. 7. Call 1-800-233-3123 for reservations.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have suddenly taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in

(continued on following page)

ARTS

(Theater Continued)

Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

U.S. Improvisational Theatre League
at Silverado (the Roxy)
279 Tremont St., Boston
Feb. 17 at 8pm, come join the fun as you watch an Improv Match-- combining theatre, improv, comedy and sports in a world-renowned format loosely based on hockey. Tickets are $12; call 367-0021 for more information.

LECTURES/READINGS

Berklee College of Music
1140 Boylston St., Boston
A lecture on Count Basie on Feb. 19; on "The Socio-political Ramifications of Bebop" Feb. 23; and on "The Music Business: Breaking and Entering" Feb. 26. All lectures take place at Recital Hall 1W at 1pm.

Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
Former Boston mayor Kevin White speaks on "Politics and Power in the City and the Neighborhood" on Feb. 23 at 7pm in Rabb Lecture Hall. Admission is free.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Take an armchair visit to Nepal on Feb. 18 at 10:30am. On Feb. 16 at 8:15pm, learn the history of tarot cards; Feb 23, learn how to travel to the Swiss Alps, Norwegian fjords and New Zealand— on a bike!; and Mar. 2, learn how to better communicate with your significant other. All lectures are $2. Also, on Feb. 28 beginning at 12:30pm, come to an all-day symposium called "Get a Job!" Registration fee is $50, but you may get a new career out of it! Call 547-6789.

Java Caffe
558 Tremont St., Boston
Every other Tuesday at 8pm come to Bad Poetry Night! Neophytes are encouraged to attend this "neo-beat-expressionist-rant-n-rave-pop-speak that puts a snappy spin on the SLAM." Call 426-8246 for more information.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Norman Myers, an author, scientist and consultant on the environment and development, speaks in Cahners Theater on Feb. 28 at 3:30pm on "Tropical Forests: Their Future and Our Future."

New England Conservatory
NEC sponsors three seminars to help musicians better manage time and money: Feb. 24 at 5:30pm it's "Time Management" in the Keller Room at Jordan Hall; Feb. 25 at 5:30pm is "Managing Your Finances" and at 7pm it's "Taxes for Musicians," both at 241 St. Botolph St. Room 113. Call 262-1120 to register.

WordsWorth Books
at the Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
Pre-eminent historian Paul Kennedy, best-selling author of *The Rise and Fall of The great Powers*, will appear Feb. 23 at 5:30pm and will speak about his newest book, *Preparing for the 21st Century*. The lecture is free, but tickets are necessary. Pick them up at WordsWorth or at the Brattle Theatre. For more information, call 354-5201.

GALLERIES

Alpha Gallery
4 Newbury St., Boston
Through March 10, the Alpha Gallery presents an exhibition of new paintings and works on paper by Kevin Wixted. Architecture plays an important role in his work.

Ashuah-Irving Gallery
286 Congress St., Boston
Israeli artist Elie Shamir exhibits his new works on canvas as well as B&W photographic prints through Mar. 6. Shamir's work involves classical myths and symbols put into today's context and culture.

Ben Kupferman Gallery
115 Atlantic Ave., Boston
Unique workshop featuring original hand-wrought silver and gold jewelry. Sculptures in broze, concrete and 'found' objects are also featured.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston
The Copley Society presents an exhibition of work by Boston African-American artists. Through Feb. 20.

Levinson Kane Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston
Through Mar. 14, Stephen Huneck will transform this gallery into a studio apartment, complete with furniture that he made. Gallery patrons are encouraged to "experience *his* work as if in *your* home."

SPECIAL EVENTS

Boston Asian Festival
Hynes Convention Center
Enjoy the culture, cuisine and customs at this celebration of Asia! This festival will feature cultural exhibits and displays, a martial arts tournament and demonstration, local and international business displays, cooking demonstrations and a food emporium. Tickets are $6. Call 426-2515 for more information. From Feb. 19-21.

Hard Rock Cafe
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The Hard Rock Cafe continues its popular Signature Series program with a Megadeth T-shirt: "Peace for Sale ... But Who's Buying?" Money from the shirts will be donated to outstanding charities around the world who aggressively set out to make a difference in today's society.

Sail Newport Winter Gala
Salve Regina University
Ochre Court, Newport R.I.
In honor of Mardi Gras ("Fat Tuesday"), the public is welcome to attend this event where monarchs will promenade, donning traditional beads and feathered masks. Tickets are $40. Call 846-1983. Ochre court will be transformed into a scene from the oldest and most exclusive ball in New Orleans.

World on Ice
at Boston Garden
Re-live the magic of "Beauty and the Beast"— on ice! This spectacular show runs through Feb. 21. Call 227-3200 for more information.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE CHILDREN OF ARMENIA



PHOTO BY DR. CAROLANN NAJARIAN

President Levon Ter Petrossian of the Republic of Armenia has declared Armenia a state of national disaster. He has appealed for assistance from the world "in order to secure the survival of the people through the harsh winter months." Independent studies by UN teams, the United States, the American Red Cross and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies corroborate the severity of the situation in Armenia.

You can help us get precious milk and baby formula to the children of Armenia, the most helpless victims of this crisis. Since 1989, The Armenian Children's Milk Fund has been airlifting supplies—helping to feed thousands of children in Armenia. Won't you help ease the suffering and save lives this winter? Please rush your checks to:

ARMENIAN CHILDREN'S MILK FUND
c/o The First Armenian Church
380 Concord Avenue • Belmont, MA 02178 • (617) 484-3561
All funds go directly toward the purchasing of supplies. Operating costs have been underwritten by Armenian Missionary Association of America
140 Forest Avenue • Paramus, NJ 07652 • (201) 265-2607 • FAX (201) 265-6015

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MARK LINN-BAKER SAVES FACE

Co-Founder of ART Returns to Boston In "Face Value"

BY TIFFANY A. KEARIN

Given his easy laugh and exuberant nature, it's no wonder Mark Linn-Baker's favorite role is Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream.* This spirited young actor returns to Boston after a ten-year absence to play Bernard Sugarman in the world premiere of David Henry Hwang's comedy *Face Value.*

"It's a pleasure (to return) ...I've been back to visit the (American Repertory Theatre), but not to play since *Doonesbury* in 1983," says the Yale graduate. Linn-Baker is best known to local audiences as Robert Brustein's co-founder of the American Repertory Theatre, Cambridge's premiere theater company. He went on to direct the ART's production of Durang's *Baby with the Bathwater* and to play Estragon in *Waiting for Godot,* which received the 1983 Boston Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Play.

Since leaving the Hub for New York, Linn-Baker has worked with some theatrical giants, including the late Joseph Papp, who chaired the New York Shakespeare Festival and brought *A Chorus Line* to Broadway. "He was a great leader of the New York theater movement," Linn-Baker reflected, with a hint of sadness on Papp's untimely death in his voice. "He left a huge hole in the New York theater scene and will be missed."

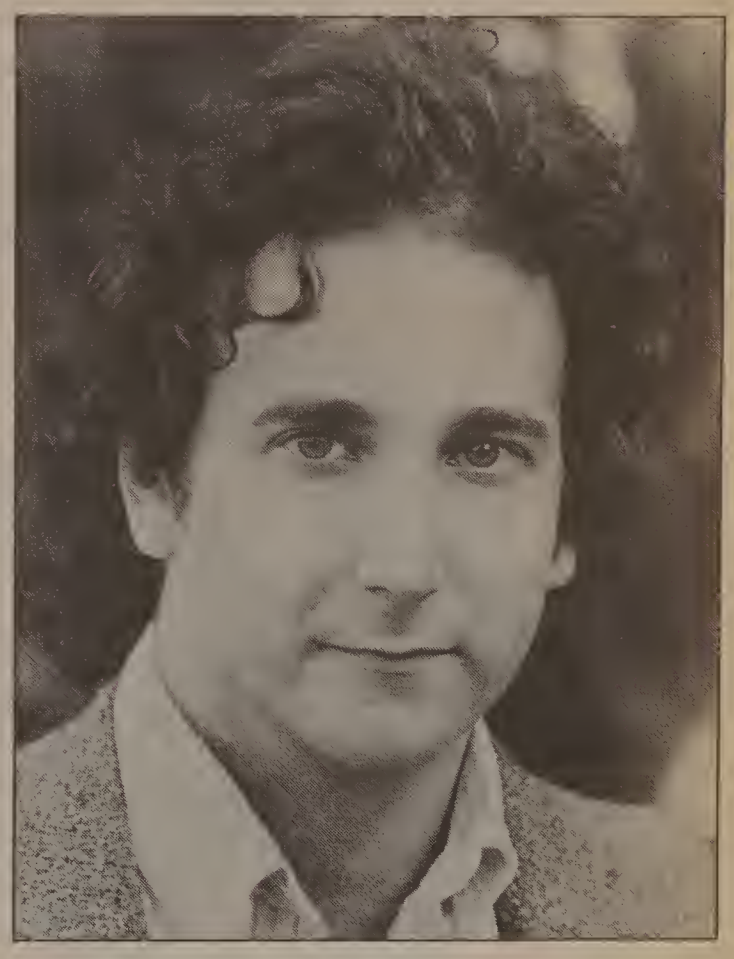
He is recognizable to nationwide moviegoers as Peter O'Toole's sober assistant in the hit movie *My Favorite Year.* "I had a great time and learned a lot on the set of that film," he said of the modern-classic comedy, adding that he was unable to see the recent Broadway musical bomb based on the property.

Also familiar to television audiences as the perpetually annoyed roommate/American host to a Russian relative in *Perfect Strangers,* Linn-Baker recently finished his seventh – and final – season of the show. "It's sad to see [*Perfect Strangers*] canceled, but it had a nice run, and I'm happy to move on."

For all his noteworthy appearances on film and TV, however, he enjoys live theater the most. "It's an actor's medium," he explains. "In movies the actor is filmed and doesn't have any communication with the audience, but in live theater you have a real communication with the audience." He thinks that controversial playwrights — like David Henry Hwang, whose previous play *M. butterfly* caused a stir on its Broadway opening — are especially good at communicating with an audience. "Theater is supposed to inspire and create thought and it's great when a community becomes involved — obviously not when they get angry — because it means that the playwright has struck a familiar chord in the viewers."

After the Boston run of *Face Value,* Mark Linn-Baker will "take it one step at a time and hope that *Face Value* settles in for a long run on Broadway." ❑

Face Value runs at the Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston Street, 426-9366, through February 28. For Tickets call Ticketmaster at 931-ARTS(2787).



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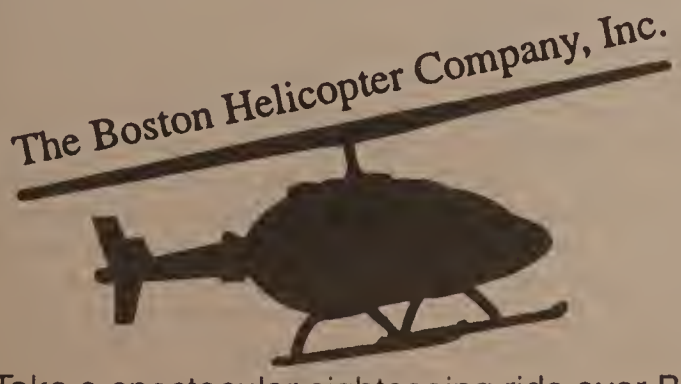
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The Library Grill

A Tasty New Chapter In Dining

BY R. E. BRUNSON

Imagine yourself seated at a table in the library of a Beacon Hill townhouse. Through a window overlooking the Public Garden you observe bundled figures bustling through the snowy landscape. Inside, a fire blazes in a splendid marble fireplace and a chandelier illuminates shelves heavily laden with books. The dark, paneled walls are hung with photographs of American literati such as Whitman and Twain. A uniformed individual approaches your table and hands you a book. You open the cover and find — a menu?! Imagine no further, for you will have found, as we did, the new Library Grill restaurant in the Hampshire House.

Overcoming our urge to thumb through the books, we concentrated on the menu. The list of items looked creative and contemporary in contrast to the restaurant's strictly old Boston atmosphere. A quick scan revealed a number of grilled dishes, Chef's signature items and several health cuisine selections. While pondering our choices, we were served a wonderful seven grain roll with sunflower seeds and received training from our waiter in how to use the old fashioned seltzer water bottle on the table. In the end, we decided on three appetizers: the Caesar Salad ($6), the Smoked Salmon ($9), one of the healthy cuisine selections, and the Creste Di Gallo ($9) (one of the Chef's signature specials). To go with our selection we chose one of the house wines, a fruity 1991 Simi Sauvignon Blanc ($17).

The Caesar salad came with crisp romaine lettuce lightly coated with a tangy dressing and parmesan cheese. Homemade garlic herb croutons with a definite crunch added to our enjoyment of the salad. The salad's flavor was full of garlic, much to our delight, (anchovies added upon request) and was a perfect light starter for our meal. The next dish was the Cresto Di Gallo pasta appetizer. The exotic Cock's comb pasta was covered with a light cream sauce combined with chunks of tender lobster, green onions, tomatoes, capers, and olives. It was delicious and very pleasing to the eye but the sauce could have used a little more lobster flavor. The true standout of the three selections was the smoked salmon from Kendall Brook in Maine. The dish was striking. The plate arrived with a pool of honey dressing flavored with mustard seed and fresh herbs. Sitting in the middle were perfectly chilled, delicately pink salmon slices arranged in the shape of a rose in full bloom. The rim of the plate was garnished with parsley and a small plate of sliced salt topped bread accompanied the salmon and provided a contrast to the sweetness of the dressing. With this dish, one could not only taste but visually feast on the talents of the kitchen.

For our entrees, the choices were the Beef Tenderloins ($19) and the Duck ($19). While waiting, we listened to the jazz selections played by a trio of piano, bass, and saxophone. Our entrees arrived and were as pleasing in taste and presentation as the appetizers had been. The char grilled tenderloin medallions were surrounded by a rich port sauce with slivered mushrooms, topped with fennel seeds and accompanied by three red potatoes skillfully carved into the shape of mushrooms. The beef was rare as requested and so tender that the steak knife wasn't needed — it could be cut with the fork. Vegetables on the plate included large grilled slices of red pepper, zucchini, and eggplant, all framed by minced herbs on the rim of the plate. The marinated Moulard duck breast was sliced and arranged atop a mound of wild rice. Surrounding the rice were julienne carrots, zucchini and peppers that had been stir-fried in toasted sesame oil and garnished with slices of fried lotus root and sesame seeds for an Asian touch.

For the finale, we chose the bittersweet chocolate torte ($5) and the frangipane pear tart ($5). The chocolate torte had a thick, wonderfully chewy base covered with a rich, not too sweet, chocolate ganache. The pear tart had a deliciously light frangipane (almond based) filling that encased moist slices of pear. Both desserts were presented on plates painted with bold stripes of mango and plum sauce and garnished with tiny chocolate shavings.

In concluding our meal, one of our party remarked that the Hampshire House usually brings to mind the Bull and Finch Pub (Cheers). All were in agreement that this will soon change with the addition of the new Library Grill — a wonderful new chapter in the story of the Hampshire House. ❑

The Library Grill

$$
84 Beacon Street, Boston
Telephone: 227-9600
Hours: 5-10:30 PM
All major credit cards accepted
Reservations — Yes
Handicapped Access
- Call ahead.

DINING

APPETEASERS

BY PETER MCNAMARA

TASTES LIKE CHICKEN

The Harvest Restaurant's 13th Annual Exotic Food Festival starts on the 23. The menu will feature a wide sampling of unique dishes from around the world, such as Rattlesnake Gumbo with Alligator Ravioli, mixed Grill of Caribou, Elk and Antelope with Chocolate Mint Sabayon, or Pan-Roasted Duet of Hawaiian Spear and Moonfish with Carambola-Plantain fritter. The Festival runs through the end of February. Reservations can be made by calling the restaurant at 492-1115.

WAITER! THERE'S A FLY IN MY SOUP!

The cry is repeated millions of times each day across the nation. Today it is the waiters themselves, the service lifeblood of the American eatery, who are crying for help. The newly incorporated **Waiters' Association**, a professional rather than a labor organization, is here to help the nation's estimated 1.8 million restaurant service personnel to gain the status and benefits they deserve. The purpose of this organization is to serve as a network for waiters to job search, exchange ideas, and stay informed. An insurance umbrella is also in the plans. The association's monthly newsletter deals with how to improve skills, reviews service related books, stories, profiles of American waiters as well as a help wanted section for those seeking employment. If you're interested in the organization call 1-800-437-7842, or write the W.A., P.O.B. 11320, Takoma Park., Maryland 20913.



Jasper White, center, chef-owner of Jasper's restaurant is honored as the 80th Distinguished Visiting Chef by by Stanley Nicas and Thomas Wright of Johnson & Wales University

PASTA IN THE CASTLE

The official kickoff to the Boston Festival's Pasta Festa will be **Carnevale: The Magic of Venice.** Taking place on February 19 from 8PM until midnight at The Park Plaza Castle, Carnevale will feature strolling musicians and an award for the best pasta dish. Thirty restaurants will be dishing out their créme-de-la créme to benefit Community Servings, Boston's home-delivered meals program for home bound individuals and families with AIDS. For tickets or more information, please call Community Servings at 287-1605.

WHEN THEY FINISHED THE ACROPOLIS THEY BUILT THE FISHERY

The Fishery, Cambridge's newest seafood restaurant, is scheduled to open at the end of this month. Located at 718-730 Mass. Avenue between Central and Harvard Squares, and run by the same team that owns the Acropolis Restaurant, who plan to bring their many years of restaurant experience and expertise to this great little spot in Cambridge. The restaurant will be open for lunch and dinner, but don't bring your fishing pole. Entrees will range from around $5-$10. For more information, call 868-8800.

JAZZ FOOD — FOUR-PIECE OR FUSION?

Sculler's Jazz Club presents *Cookin With Jazz* -- with guest chef Joyce Della Chiesa residing over this first series of dinners beginning February 24, 25 and 26 at the Guest Quarters Suite Hotel in Cambridge. The dinner show packages are priced at $33.95 and include dinner and a jazz set performed by Jazz giants Frank Morgan and Eddie Harris (WGBH FM is recording the series). Della Chiesa was the chef/owner of the former Turtle Café in Cambridge. For complete information and reservations, call 783-0811.

THE JUICY DETAILS

Congratulations to **Chef Peter Stout**, who has left his home at the Cape for the magical ambiance of Dali in Cambridge . . . The Bostonian Hotel has a new food and beverage director, **Steven Leone.** He replaces Robert Chaiffy . . . **Stars Ocean, Sorento's Italian Gourmet** and **Thornton's Fenway Grille** — all in the Fenway — have been granted beer and wine licenses . . . Two new restaurants are in the planning stages; one is the **Claremont Café** at the corner of Columbus and Claremont, and a yet-to-be-named elegant addition to Boston's dining scene will open its doors at the Park Square Building . . . What's Red and White and was recently poured all over? The answer is 21,000 bottles of wine that were opened at the World Trade Center at the 1993 Boston Wine Expo that attracted 6,000 followers of the grape from around the country. ❑

MARKETPLACE GRILL
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Wining at the Oar Bar until 2am
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THE LIBRARY GRILL At The Hampshire House ™

The Library Grill at the Hampshire House

Opening to rave reviews for the cuisine of its new chef, European-trained ***Markus Ripperger***, the **Library Grill** offers beautiful views of the Public Garden, danceable soft jazz on weekends and a blazing fireplace to warm your winter soul. Lunch, dinner or a much acclaimed jazz brunch become more memorable events in this grand room. Private dining rooms available. Valet parking nightly.

- Lunch Monday - Friday from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Dinner every evening from 5:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
- Sunday Jazz Brunch from 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Live jazz Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday brunch.

84 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
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In Vino Veritas

Going Natural

BY JONATHON ALSOP

When it comes to headaches and wine, everybody has a different story. For some people, it's red wine that causes the woe. For others, it's champagne. Some people can ONLY drink champagne, because everything else gives them headaches! It's all over the map. Of the 425 scientifically verifiable chemical compounds that give flavor to wine (not even including the ones that contribute no flavor), which one or two in the Frescobaldi Chianti gave my friend Jay his blinding headache after last Saturday evening? Maybe it wasn't even one or two but a combination of 40 or 50... no one knows for sure. I have this pet theory/bad attitude that it's not the wine at all that gives you the headache, but the people you drink it with. Needless to say, I'm having trouble obtaining research funding for my hypothesis.

A couple of years ago, a mess of European jug wine was yanked off the market after traces of automotive coolant, of all things, were found in some bottles. Sadly, this sort of stupid tampering reinforces the image that even fine wine is something manufactured, an un-natural processed food, subjected to God knows what. Wine is a complex and dynamic psychoactive substance. Granted, it "does" something to you on many levels.

All wine contains sulfites. Sulfites have been known to cause reactions in asthma-sufferers, but only in people who are already highly asthmatic, and they know better than to drink wine. Sulfites are naturally-occurring sulfur-oxygen compounds that result from fermentation. Many reputable wineries add sulfites or subject their grapes to a sulfur "bath" as a preservative technique. In moderation, it's nothing to worry about. Simply avoid cheap jug wine, which is often over-processed, mishandled, highest in the additives and preservatives you don't want to know about.

Finally, all wine contains a little bit of the turf it grew up in. It's the same with any produce, or even a Mrs. Field's chocolate chip cookie. If the soil had a little pesticide or herbicide or fungicide in it, you better believe the grapes and the wine have some too. The key, again, is to buy quality wine, whose elements are almost always at a minimum. Diamond Hill Vineyards in Cumerland RI, for instance, makes delicious pinot noir from five acres of grapes, and it's about as "organic" as can be.

Saturday, February 20, Ian White and the gang at Marty's in Allston are hosting an "organic" wine tasting from noon till 3 pm. Also new in the shop is The Consumer's Guide to Organic Wine by Robert Johnson and Richard Pasichnyk (MSRP $19.95, but probably selling for less). Lately, because of customers' interest, they've gathered their "all-naturals" together in their own section. We got together a couple of weeks before and tasted a few right off the shelf.

• 91 Rizzardi Soave Classico $9 – very light and fresh, a little short on fruit, bracing and dry, had a sharp spiky flavor like the inner rind of a pear; very good with appetizers or seafood, natural "just because." (Ital.)

• '91 The Organic Wine Works Chardonnay $11.50 – organic on purpose, perhaps single-handedly responsible for "organic" wine's bad reputation with wine lovers; incredibly strange, strong scent of Michelin rubber in the nose, spritzy and odd, you'd never have guessed it was chardonnay, maybe a demented Riesling or a Balkan sauvignon blanc gone bad: in a nutshell, avoid. (Cal.)

• '90 Frey Gewurztraminer $9.50 – cloudy looking but lots of bright flavors, tastes just like gewurz, a decent value, nice spritz, buy now, drink tomorrow. (Cal.)

• '91 Lolonis Fume Blanc $8.50 – delicious wine, everything California sauvignon blanc should be: bright and clean, fresh tropical fruit with a little citrus, kept pesticide-free by legions of ladybugs and praying mantises. (Cal.)

• '90 Orfeno Rosso del Uccellina $10 – soft and round, easy tannin, nice fruit, simple Italian red, good wine but hard to recommend for $10. (Ital.)

• '91 The Organic Wine Works "A Notre Terre" $9 – a real winner, probably a blend of zin and pinot noir and something else; aromas of nuts and almonds according to Karen Bell. I got alcohol and tobacco in the nose along with earth and leaves, bright purple color, deep and dark flavors, like a blended Rhone; very nice, a great bargain organic or not. (Cal.)

• '90 Lolonis Zinfandel $11 – an outstanding wine in an outstanding year, big raspberry and strawberry flavors, nice soft tannin, creamy finish, easy to recommend at $11. (Cal.)

• '89 Coudoulet de Beaucastel $17 – unbelievable fruit, crazy tannin, not for everybody but a real winner for the eccentric, huge barnyard aromas, essence of raw meat and sweaty leather as well, proves you don't have to go cheap to get an all-natural wine; I loved it in every way. (France)

In a nutshell, avoid current vintages marked "organic" or "natural" (the OWW "A Notre Terre" is the only notable exception) and look for wines that are made natural because of quality control.

Tastings Around Town

Brookline Liquor Mart, Allston: Saturdays 2-4 p.m. 2/20: "Wines, By George!" from the 13 original colonies and other leaps of imagination. 2/27: "American Wine Week" spotlight on Sonoma, including the outstanding Murphy-Goode.

Blanchard's in Allston, tastings every Friday 5-8 p.m. and every Saturday 2-5 p.m. Winecellar of Silene, Copley and Waltham, Fridays 4-6:30 p.m. and Saturdays 2-4:30 p.m. Marty's in Allston, Saturdays 1-3 p.m. Bauer on Newbury Street, Saturdays 4-7 p.m. Mall Wines at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, Saturdays noon-6 p.m. Chestnut Hill Wine Cellar, in the old Chestnut Hill Mall by Star Market, every Saturday, 4-6 p.m. Gordon's in Waltham, Saturdays 1-4 p.m.

Wine Tasting For A Good Cause

American Heart Association Benefit featuring wines of the Napa Valley Vintner's Association, Sunday, February 21, 2:30-5 p.m. at Rowes Wharf Ballroom at the Boston Harbor Hotel, 28 vineyards and wineries including Duckhorn, Frog's Leap, ZD and Swanson, $20, tickets available at Marty's, Bauer, Murray's in Newton, The Wine Cask in Cambridge and Gordon's in Waltham, or call the AHA at 508-620-1700 x3144.

New Grill in Town.



Discover the great food and lively bistro atmosphere at Foster's Bar & Grill, located right in the heart of downtown Boston. Foster's offers a menu to suit every taste — from pastas and gourmet pizzas to salads, seafood, and grilled specialties. With its friendly, efficient service, Foster's is perfect for a hearty breakfast, workday lunch or a leisurely dinner.

It just might be the grill of your dreams.



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BRUNCH BOARD

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AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ

1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, .232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m

CAFE MONAGENE

1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303
A unique restaurant with a fun and colorful atmosphere, serving brunch on Sundays 11:00-4:00 p.m.. Try our famous Chicago eggs with Pierogis, Eggs Benedict or house smoked fish platters. Cappuccino, Espresso and a full bar.

BOSTON DOWNTOWN CAFE

210 Washington St., Boston 338-7037
Serving breakfast from 8am to 3pm.Boston Downtown Cafe offers homemade delights ranging from poached eggs on english muffins with lox and Mornay sauce to carrot gingerbread and raisin pancakes. The cafe also features a Disaster Tour of Boston on Saturdays at noon. For $10 get a 45 min tour of the city's most famous disasters and a fabulous lunch.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standarAmerican breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accptd.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and a traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY III

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Also listen to jazz by local artists. Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped with poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, approximately 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

ARARAT
RESTAURANT

Middle Eastern Vegetarian Falafel Plates $4.75 Each

Lamb Shish Kabob Plate or
Chicken Kabob Plate
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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

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ANOTHER SEASON
97 Mount Vernon St., Boston 367-0880
A, MC, V, $$
A classic restaurant with a modern menu served in style is what you will find at Another Season. Luncheon is served Tuesday-Friday, featuring light, fresh fare. Dinner is served Monday through Saturday from 5:45 to 10:00pm. The diverse menu offers wonderful specials and a creative three-course prix fixe menu for $22.00 (Mon. - Thurs.) Private rooms are available for parties, meeting and weddings. For these special events all menus are custom designed to suit the needs and tastes of the client. For reservations, information or a copy of the prix fixe menu for Fall please call 367-0880.

AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Cbarlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am -11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303 M, V, A
$$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383 A, MC, V, DC $$
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo Wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that *feels* like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. All around you are floor to ceiling windows that look out over the streets of Boston's North End. The English-style ales are all robust top fermented, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30AM to 12 midnight Sun.- Thurs. and until 1:00AM Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA
15 West St., Bos. 338-4600 A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

DURGIN PARK
340 Faneuil Hall, Bos. 227-2038
MC, V, A $$
Famous for ample portions and brusque and burly waitresses, this Boston institution serves up New England clam chowder, succulent lobster and thick prime rib for cheap. Eat at long, family-style tables with other patrons. Indulge in oysters at the newly refurbished raw bar. Lunch is also served at the piano bar. Reserve for parties of 15 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50. With their new renovations excellent prices and large portions El Phoenix should thrive in the future.

FOSTER'S BAR & GRILL
5 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild musbrooms and sun-dried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

FOUR WINDS
266 Commercial St., Bos. 742-3922
A, MC, DC, V $$
This casual seafood grille sits across from Boston Harbor and though not claiming to have barnicles on the back door step, the Four Winds can claim a nice water view and some great fresh seafood and salad dishes. Stop by for the Cajun swordfish, broiled yellowfin tuna or one of their tasty sirloin steaks. Open daily from noon to 3:30p.m. for lunch and 5:30 to 10:30 dinner.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
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Jae's Cafe & Grill
520 Columbus Ave., Boston
421-9405 $$ MC/V/AMEX
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Kashmir
279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$
Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

Kebab'N'Kurry
30 Massachusetts Ave., Bos. 536-9835 A,D,MC,V
$$
This small basement restaurant offers an extensive menu. The nan (Indian bread) is superb, often stuffed with potatoes and other goodies. Order a maharani thaali (Queen's platter) and sample a variety of dishes including; dal (lentils), paneer (cheese in a curried sauce) chickpeas and basmati rice. Open daily for lunch (except Sun.) and dinner.

Legal Sea Foods
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos. 426-4444
A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700 $$$
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Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace,
Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2am.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

Moon Villa
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4am for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049 V, MC, A, DC
$
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's feature extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pat's Pushcart
61 Endicott St., Boston, 523-9616
MC/V $$
Serving fine Italian cuisine for over twenty years, Pat's Pushcart is a mainstay in Boston's North End. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Don't forget to ask about their everchanging daily specialties—the highlights of their menu.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant and Bar
20 Clinton St. (adjacent to Faneuil Hall)
523-5722, Delivery Service542-2121
MC,V,AMEX,D $$
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Pronto
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MC/V $$$
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Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, formerly Friar Tuck's, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick business lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment.

Sorento's
86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
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for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

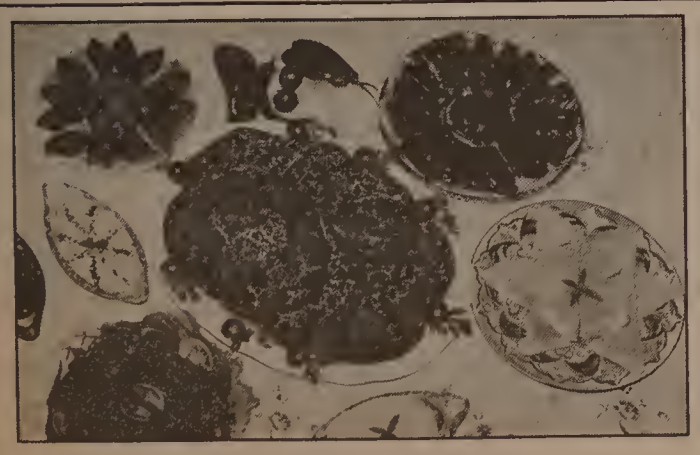
Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston
536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
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Warren Tavern,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
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Answer to Previous Puzzle

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The Spin Doctors Can't Be Wrong

An Inside Look at Rock's Latest Phenom

BY ZACHARY SIMMONS

While Epic/Associated was busy with Pearl Jam's Ten, the tour crazy Spin Doctors sold the first 60,000 copies of Pocket Full Of Kryptonite pretty much on their own. Now, with a little push from the label, the album has sold a million copies.

The band has been in Billboard's top 50 for twenty-nine weeks. Two of their songs, "Jimmy Olson's Blues," and now "Two Princes," are high in the nation's radio rotation and the band can be found on the cover of January 7th's Rolling Stone: The Spin Doctors are spiraling forwards.

"All this feels great," said singer Chris Barron, backstage at the band's Boston Garden show at the end of last year. He folded his arms and legs and jutted his chin out. "I feel grateful mostly. People bought our records and called up the stations and requested us. This is really a business of, if people ask for you, then you do well."

Traveling from place to place is becoming a permanent way of life for theSpin Doctors. Last year's HORDE (Horizon Of Rock Developing Everywhere) tour took them all over the States, with a Lollapalooza-like crew of neo-Dead bands, including Widespread Panic, fellow success-story Phish, and the Doctors' longtime parent group, Blues Traveler.

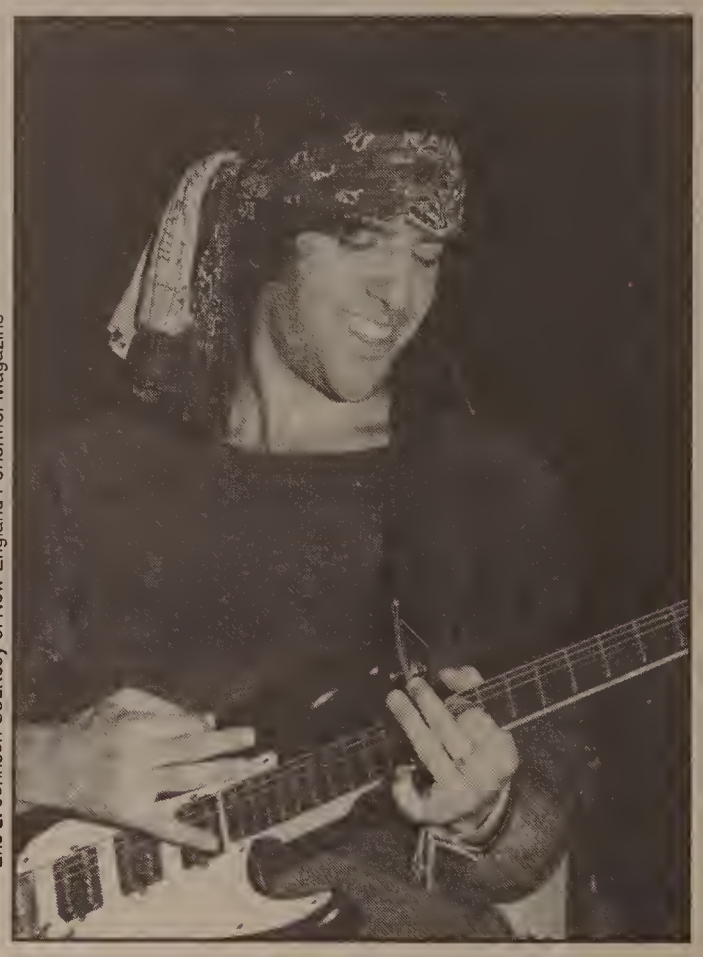
"We just tour all the time man," said the shaggy-haired Barron. "It's a science. It's an art. Rock and Roll is as much of a moving business as it is a music business. A lot of it is just moving boxes of equipment around. Our crew has it down pretty pat."

Don't expect, however, to see the Spin Doctors (or Phish for that matter) on the HORDE II tour later this year. Epic/Associated has bigger plans for their hit machine.

Guitarist Eric Schenkman, Barron, and his long-time friend, harmonica player John Popper, first got together in New York City under the name Trucking Company. When Popper left to join Blues traveler, Barron and Schenkman started the Spin Doctors.

"It used to be great in the old days," Barron recalled. "We had a ball. We called it the Manhattan Tour. We played five nights a week. We made a living out of it. We put the band together to support ourselves...It was just the two of us [Barron and Schenkman]. We had a gig before we had a band. We put the band together for a gig and we've been together ever since."

All the spirals that trademark the Spin Doctor's packaging, are actually brought to life in their shows. Barron's dancing, singing and talking, Schenkman's spontaneous thirty-minute guitar solos and bassist Mark White and drummer Aaron Comess' deep funky drive, all work together to sling the crowd into the dizzying circles the band took their name from.



Eric L. Johnson Courtesy of New England Performer Magazine

Why is this man smiling? Eric Schenkman loves his riffs.

"There are two things that I focus on, basically," said Barron. He twisted himself around and pursed his lips, then smiled. "Actually, three things: singing, dancing, and the raps between tunes.

Onstage, Barron looks like he's made of rubber.

"Dancing, you have to be careful. It's kind of the same thing as singing. You've got to rock the crowd, but if you get yourself out of breath in the wrong point of the show, then you're not going to sing the tune right."

The Spin Doctors use their funky, bluesy, poppy sound to weave themselves into the fabric of their audience. Barron strengthens this connection, not just through his singing, but with his talk between songs.

"With the raps, I try to make them with good content, well said, eloquently put," explained Barron. "I try to bring the crowd into the next mood of the next song. I either bring them down into a slow song, or up into an up song."

The band themselves seem up about everything, during the interview no one was without a smile; later, if you heard laughter down the hall, it meant one of the Spin Doctors was there.

"Success really agrees with us. We've been through thick and thin together, now things are great. We all pat each other on the back and we're just happy."

As far as the future goes, the Spin Doctors expect nothing but forward motion.

"We want to make a lot of albums." Barron opened his arms and grinned. "We want to play all over the world, to have an international career and also put out a lot of records — as many as possible." ❑

Bulkhead

The Gears Are Grinding



Bulkhead and Feline Friend in a Relaxed Mood

BY PAUL AUSTIN

When Plunk, the full-length debut from local avante-pop stalwarts Bulkhead, finally hits the bins in a week or so, there's sure to be such a massive sigh of relief from the band that their Jamaica Plain HQ might drop a couple of inches. Although the much awaited 12-song disc has been in the can for several months, the usual litany of indie rock delays (most, of course, having to do with cash flow or lack thereof) have kept Plunk off the streets thus far. "But now the gears are grinding," offers vocalist Pete Ryan. "Or at least they're finally audible."

Ryan, along with guitarist Tom Devaney, bassist Stuart Walmsey and drummer Chris Foley, have settled on the highly regarded upstart label, Sonic Bubblegum, to release Plunk, their initial foray into the digital age. The CD follows a pair of singles — one on Carolina's Moist Records and the second on New York's Rockville — that brought the band not only good notices, but a hard lesson in self-promotion.

"Sonic Bubblegum is a good fit for Bulkhead," explains Devaney, "and probably would have happened sooner if we hadn't been wrapped up with the previous labels, trying to figure out just what they were and weren't planning to do with us. Rockville was a straightforward one-off arrangement for the "Psychic" single, but the first one, on Moist, was initially part of a bigger plan. Moist is down there and we're up here, so when they got all involved in the Monks of Doom or somebody, we sort of faded. ["For Bulkhead," deadpans Ryan, "Moist dried up."]. Mike at Sonic Bubblegum is right here, he's into it, and although some setbacks occurred from the original release date last fall, now we're pretty excited."

(continued on following page)

Bim Skala Bim

What Are They Up To Now?

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

With the national success of bands such as Aerosmith, Extreme and now the Lemonheads, Boston has earned a reputation as a guitar town. And while Boston certainly has its share of guitar-rockers, the next hottest Boston sound right now is ska, a high-energy, horn-blasted version of reggae.

At the top of the heap of Boston ska bands are Bim Skala Bim, who have been playing locally and nationally for seven years. Now, with the release of their fourth album, Bones (on their own Unsigned Records), and heavy gig schedule, the band is about to take off.

"The market for ska music has definitely been growing over the last year and a half," says vocalist, Dan Vitale. "The first time we played San Francisco about six or seven years ago we had about ninety people show up and this last time we had 700. I think there is a lot more interest in the scene generally, due to a lot more new bands. Here in Boston there are some that you may not have heard of yet, but they are starting to make headway: Mr. Cranky, Thumper and the Hi-Hats — they're all great bands."

Bim Skala Bim are a pretty great band themselves. On Bones , they stir their patented combination of rock, reggae and ska into a hard-hitting mixture that is all their own. Vitale's vocals are at the forefront of the mix, while Vincent Nobile's trombone blasts in with leads. Guitarist Jim Jones adds licks and vocals, all in front of one of the tightest rhythm sections in the city. Bones features two potential hit singles, "Wandering Soul" a collaboration between Vitale and Jones, and a cover of Pink Floyd's dead horse ,"Brain Damage," which Bim Skala Bim make over to their own unique style.



Bim Skala Bim in a primal mood

"We are getting airplay at WFNX, a real lot with 'Brain Damage.'" Says Vitale. "We are also getting commercial airplay for 'Brain Damage' in Washington D.C. It's been on the CMJ [college radio charts] top one hundred for seven weeks now, moving up and down between a hundred and eighty. Hopefully it will go up a little higher. And commercial radio in Philadelphia and New York has been playing 'Wandering Soul.'"

Vitale directed the video for "Brain Damage" (which consists of clips of Bim Skala Bim live at the Paradise a few months back) and has now sent it off to MTV's 120 minutes.

Bones is Bim Skala Bim's second album with producer Lou Giordano (The Lemonheads and Sugar). Vitale is satisfied with the parternship. "Lou is a good producer. He has a good ear for things, especially guitar, he's just really good at guitar. He's also not a really frilly producer so he doesn't tend to overproduce things which is an advantage. Certain songs are first take for the drums — certain songs are fourth or fifth take for the drums, same for the vocals and the horns. Mostly it was the songs that we been playing for a while, we got on the first take, like 'Wandering Soul' is almost all first take and it's one of the best songs on the album. We did it at Fort Apache studio in two weeks.'

But to fully appreciate Bim Skala Bim, you have to see them live. The band throws themselves into their fast-paced show with enthusiasm and professionalism. Nobile, his shaved head glistening, waves his trombone around wildly, driving the crowd into a frenzy, while Vitale bounces about the stage, pumping his fists and clowning with the rest of the band. The band is also preparing to release a live album, tentatively scheduled for this summer.

"The live album is basically done." Says Vitale, "We recorded it at two different shows at the Paradise, about two months apart, with a 16-track mobile unit. So we've got a ton of film, and we've got ninety minutes of material mixed down, and now we have to decide what we want to put out. I feel it is a good representation of the live show. The live album will be bits of all five albums. I say five, because the fifth studio album is almost done as well. And some of the songs from the next studio album will be on the live album as well." ❑

See Bim Skala Bim at the Paradise on March 5 with Dogzilla.

(continued from previous page)

And Bulkhead's legions of local fans will be too. Plunk includes re-recorded, hotter takes of radio hits, "Vote The Man" and "Psychic," plenty of the group's live staples, and enough of their trademark dance-with-dissonance pop mutations to support Devaney's claim that the disc, "documents our shows over the past couple of years." Devaney continues, "Carl Plaster, who does our live sound, produced it — we got a really natural, live sound that holds the energy of the shows. We didn't want to fuss too much with it." Mission accomplished. The edgy, guitar-fueled ferocity of live Bulkhead is intact, and if there's one notable difference it's the emergence of Ryan as an expressive vocalist with an ever-widening range of inflection.

"Vocals are really at a disadvantage in Boston clubs," says Ryan. "Usually you're just trying to cut through the din. On the record you can hear the songs as they're supposed to be heard, which is nice."

Dubious P.A. systems, by the way, aren't Bulkhead's only gripe with the Boston music scene. "People don't seem to want to like bands with pop sensibilities," smiles Devaney. "They'd rather stand in front of a stack of Marshalls and get blasted out by sludge rock. But there are bands here that rock just as hard — The Dambuilders, The Flying Nuns, ourselves — and also have good melodies, cool songs."

But Bulkhead's take on pop is hardly mainstream — Roxy Music meets Black Flag would be a good jumping off point — so it really is only a matter of time before grunge rock fans start trading in their flannel-of-the-month club cards, for music like Bulkhead's that takes the T home with you — whether your walkman is on or not..

"There's just so many onion-skins of alternativeness now," says Ryan, "you really need aggressive management or some gimmick to get noticed. Part of us still clings to the idea that the music is enough. Our goal is pretty modest — to be able to make records that see the light of day, and get judged on their own merits." With Plunk, that should finally happen. But whatever the future may hold, Bulkhead is strapped in for the long haul..

"Tom and I just took the Juliana Hatfield-Evan Dando [Lemondheads] platonic relationship band seminar," deadpans Ryan. "Hugging issues, that sort of thing. So we're ready." ❑

Up & Coming Where, When & Why

BY POLLY CAMPBELL

On February 17 at the **Paradise**, you can groove with **British pop-ravers, Inspiral Carpets** (8:00 show, 18+). Or, if you're looking for something a little more unbathed, there's **White Zombie at Axis**—huge, hairy grunge-metal, New York's answer to Slaughter Shack. Acclaimed young jazz pianist Geri Allen brings her trio to the Regattabar on the 18th and 19th. The 20th presents some tough choices. For hard rock with a twist you can go to the **Rat** and see **United States** (Featuring ex-Bags and Zulus), and help Tomato Monkey celebrate the release of their new CD on Ace Of Hearts. Or you can hear legendary jazz pianist McCoy Tyner at the Regattabar, making a rare appearance with his Big Band (including Eddie Henderson, Billy Harper and Javon Jackson). Sets at 7:30 and 10:00, tickets $22.50. *Or* there's the reunion of Boston's favorite garage band, **The Turbines**, downstairs at the **Middle East**. If you never saw them, try to imagine the Cramps, covering The Stooges covering Duane Eddy. Nevermind. Just take this chance to judge for yourself. Openers include Hot Box and ex-Cavedog Mark Rivers' as yet un-named new band. On the 22nd at 7:30, the **Orpheum** hosts **Lynyrd Skynyrd**: Southern by the grace of God, still touring by the grace of loyal fans. You can be one for $21.50. Jazz guitar great John Scofield and his quartet start a four night engagement at the Regattabar on the 24th. On the 25th **Asia** play the **Paradise**. If you liked Asia, this is your chance to see them, up close and personal (8:00 show). On the same night, for something with a little more, kick, you can enjoy funk and horns and whatnot with **Chucklehead at Nightstage** (9:00 show), or check out reggae star Michael Rose (Black Uhuru) downstairs at the Middle East. On the **27th, The Sundays come to Avalon**, wafting in on the girlish vocals of Harriet Wheeler and the huge success of their second release, ***Blind*** (DGC). 6:00 doors, 18+, go early to check out Luna. Across the river, rap industrialists Consolidated and England's New Fast Automatic Daffodils storm the Middle East. Have fun! ❑

ALBUM REVIEWS



Tackle Box
On!
Rockville Records

In a time overly dedicated to creating a sound, Boston's Tackle Box remember the songs. Their debut, On!, is packed with loose-limbed, persuasive, faintly jittery writing — direct and simple style, sharpened by hints of cynicism. From the breathless, almost frantic "Head Of a Pin," to the sweet sway of "Anything And Everything," singer Greg Kendall negotiates love's small aches and pains with a gentle, slightly strained, very human voice. But the band's always there to pick him up, tumbling through "Near You," whooping it up in "Big Creep," rolling pop and garage rock into one and sloshing plenty of guitar over bolt-upright rhythms.

Far from sounding contrived or tired, On! is slap-happy and on the mark, the work of a band who's actually enjoying playing together. And there are no songs about fishing. Great.

Polly Campbell

Bob Dylan
Good As I Been To You
Columbia

It may seem ironic that the penultimate songwriter of the last three decades releases a CD of traditional and public domain folk and blues songs. Yet, Dylan does not merely "cover" these songs — he inhabits them. The opener "Frankie and Albert," better known as "Frankie and Johnny" finds Dylan in fine voice. "Canadee-I-O" is a fascinating tale about a girl who pays her sailor boyfriend to smuggle her aboard a ship to Canada. The boyfriend and his friends decide to hog tie her and toss her overboard (legend has it that a woman on a ship is a jinx). Yet the captain foils their plan when he not only rescues the woman but marries her! The expressionism and phrase in here is nothing short of brilliant. On the closer "Froggin Went A Courtin'" one wonders if Dylan might have a sideline career doing children's records. A gleeful dementia seems to inhabit this song. I've heard it said that the singer and song are father and son, not one in the same, yet Dylan delivers these songs like they were truly "written in his soul."

Nancy FosterThe Cynics

Learn To Lose
Get Hip Recordings

The Cynics — pride of the Pittsburgh area — play psyche/punk for the nineties. With a dozen or so singles and seven albums under their belts, Learn To Lose is their most recent recording and their best so far. The line up is Michael Kastelic (vocals/harmonica), Mike Michalski (bass), Gregg Kostelich (guitar, vocals) and Tom Hohn (drums, vocals). Joe west provides keyboards on two cuts, and ten out of twelve tracks are originals. With the opener "Never Again," it's evident that the Cynics have gotten more adept at writing songs with more interesting changes and well-crafted arrangements. "Learn To Lose" is the kind of song that Kiss should be doing today. "Haunted" is where passion and madness merge again. This is the"Too Much to Dream Last Night" of the nineties. Combos like the Dolls, The heartbreakers, Kiss and Alice Cooper were cool, but The Cynics make rock "n" roll that transcends nostalgia.

Nancy Foster

Th Faith Healers
Lido
Elektra

It's loud grungy music just, like everyone else is playing these days, but for some reason Th Faith Healers do it better. On *Lido*, lead singer Roxanne Stephens' chants, melodies and screams take equal turns characterizing songs like "Hippy Hole" and the slower, intensifying "Don't Jones Me."

Short, cyclic lyrics like those to "Reptile Smile" comprise most of Th Faith Healers' repertoire. With Stephen's "Alright/Out with it/I'll admit/It's all my fault/I'm sorry/O.K./Cause there's reason for my reptile smile" chorus, and the alternately droning and straining guitars, the song is a tribute to lyrical and musical economy. Towards the end of the album the band slips into a semi-ballad called "It's Easy Being You" that sounds like Boston's own Drop Nineteens, were they to grow up and move to England.

Now that Th Faith Healers are around, minimalist grunge-pop should soon raise its head as a prime addiction among new music fans.

Sander Wolf

Ned's Atomic Dustbin
Are You Normal?
Chaos

Asked about the differences between Ned's Atomic Dustbin's new album, *Are You Normal?* and their debut, *God Fodder*, head bass player, Alex, quickly replies, "The biggest difference is that the new one's better than the first." It's a simple overview, but it's right.

The new album averts the sophomore slump by focusing more on what can take place in the studio, instead of what takes place onstage. On *Are You Normal?* the Neds finally show some studio savvy, melding layers of guitars and basses with samples and a lusher drum beat, while keeping the energy of the live sound.

The time spent in the studio gave lead singer Jonn a chance to elaborate on his vocals. While his lyrics still don't really reach any kind of depth, his voice now regularly steps out of its clichéd monotone to reach for a tune instead of a rhythm. Devices like these are what make "Suave And Suffocated," "Swallowing Air" and "Walking Through Syrup" standout songs from an album by a much-improved band.

Sander Wolf

The Frames
Another Love Song
Island Records

Yet another exciting debut from Great Britain. Last year the Levellers released one of the year's most exciting albums, and now comes Another Love Song, a dozen quality tracks from this Irish six piece.



Keep your eyes *and ears* open for the music of *The Frames* , one of Ireland's hottest bands. Their album *Another Love Song* is available on the *Island Records Label*

Not all the songs here are great, but they are all played with passion and intensity. "The Dancer" and "Masquerade" are simple three chord rock, played in a Clash-like manner. But Noreen O'Donnell's back-up vocals and Colm Iomaire's violin add texture and depth to all the tracks. "Telegraph Poles" and "Right Road" add melody to the band's raucous sound.

There are some flaws. Frontman Glen Hasard's songs are better than his rather average voice. Producer Gil Norton (The Pixies, Echo and the Bunnymen) does a good job working with what he has, but minus the Irish accent, Norton could be any local screamer. And while this would be a fantastic six song e.p., about half the tracks fail to distinguish themselves. But the band covers some unremarkable material with superb delivery, and five or six tracks stand on their own as potential make-it-big singles. And I'd bet ten-to-one they are a hell of a live band.

-David FenigsohnChuck



The Importance Of Being Chuck
Square Records

On their new disc, Chuck force out all their opinions in a way that suggests that lyrics come first and music second. Fortunately, even through all their rhetoric, the band still shines. On typical songs like "Melanin Thing", Joe Peek's smooth voice gives rise to a memorable hook that locks tightly with the band's dense funk undercurrent. In "Bush's Barbeque" Chuck take on the former president, with a swinging beat, incriminating samples from the mouth of the man himself, and a no-nonsense chorus: "I said we're on our way /To Bush's Barbeque/They tell me we're free, baby/But you know we're freezing".

Ironically, *The Importance Of Being Chuck*'s cover is almost more elaborate than the album's music. Inlaid with pictures and descriptions of revolutionaries including Harriet Tubman, Fidel Castro, and Jimi Hendrix, the artwork is a tribute to the band's influences — both artistic and personal. Together with the music it's a complete package from Chuck that shouldn't be missed.

Sander Wolf

Gavin Friday
Adam 'N' Eve
Island Records

The lyrics to each track on *Adam 'N' Eve* are printed in a different font, which is indicative of the many styles on Friday's latest album. At times he sounds like a poorman's Tom Waits, growling in a voice soaked with whiskey, at others the music moves like the pumped-up dance rhythms of the Soup Dragons, and throughout the album, Friday tries on most every style in-between

Adam 'N' Eve's best track — and only song that really scores lyrically — is "Falling off the Edge of The World." "Charlie Darwin I believe you now/Put the monkeys in a uniform/Stormin Norman up on the hill/Twenty rounds with George B./Let 'em choke on coke 'n' oil." Friday grunts out the words, backed by a double bass and a hammond organ.

"Fun and Experience" and "King of Trash" have danceable backbeats, but only Friday's unique voice makes them distinctive. While "The Big No! No!" has some substance behind the music, "Why Say Goodbye" is little more than a pop ditty.

-David Fenigsohn

Classical Preview

Superb Upcoming Concert Performances



Daniel Stepner, Handel & Haydn Society Concertmaster, performing with the H&H period orchestra at Symphony Hall, Boston

BY PETER CATALANO

Lorraine Hunt, who lives in Boston, has become a national celebrity. Friday, Feb. 19 and Sunday, February 21 (both at 8 p.m.) she's guest of the Handel & Haydn Society, America's oldest continuous performing ensemble. Directed by concertmaster Daniel Stepner, H&H calls this program "Baroque Concertos and Cantatas," featuring two vocal works: Bach's cantata Mein Herze schwimmt in Blut ("My heart swims in blood") and a Handel cantata. Don't miss this concert. Tickets are $17-$45; call 931-2000 for reservations. There are $6 rush tickets available before the performance — a real bargain.

Equally compelling is Roger Norrington's assay of Beethoven's majestic Missa Solemnis, perhaps the composer's crowning achievement, surpassing even the Ninth Symphony. Norrington has a lot to say about Beethoven and most find his performances to be highly provocative. These performances with the Boston Symphony are on February 25, 26, 27 and March 2. Call 266-1492 for early reservations. Tickets $19-$52. Hurry, they're going fast ❑

Classical CD Report

BY PETER CATALANO

A good mid-price performance on disc of the Missa Solemnis can be heard on TELARC's label with Robert Shaw and the Atlanta Symphony. The soloists are quite good (although the men sound a little distant) and Shaw manages to get his arms around this cathedral-sized work with many very fine episodes, particularly the "Credo." My colleague, Stephen Brown, also recommends John Eliot Gardner's interpretation with small chorus and period instruments on DG. He praises the clarity of both the playing and difficult, instrumental-like choral work.

On a more disappointing note are two sets of arias harmoni mundi has released with Nicholas McGegan conducting. The principal bait for these recordings are two sopranos known to Boston audiences— the above mentioned Lorraine Hunt, and Lisa Saffer— the former singing arias Handel wrote for the soprano Margherita Durastanti and the latter for Francesca Cuzzoni. The problem on both these discs is the mincing conducting of McGegan, whose style throttles the radiance of Hunt more so than Saffer. Only the cuts from Guilio Cesare by Saffer have any staying power. I'm also chagrined that the "authentic performance practice" of limiting the high note of the few appogiaturas (those dazzling embellishments left for the singer to invent), which undermines the excitement potential.

On these cold winter nights I've also found myself listening intently to the Rachmaninoff Vespers performed by the Robert Shaw Festival Singers on the TELARC label. These pieces are scored for unaccompanied Choir and the RSC is among the best anywhere. Written for all-night vigils celebrated in Russian monasteries on the eve of religious holidays, the vespers retain many ancient Russian chants and monophonic songs. Two of these 15 standout and are sung with a tenor soloist: "O Serene Light" and "Blessed Art Thou, O Lord." Goes well with cognac. ❑

Improper Update

After almost two years as Editor-In-Chief of *The Improper Bostonian*, Tobin A. Streett has announced that he will be leaving the paper and relocating to Los Angeles, California. Toby, who will function in his current capacity for two more issues before departing for that "other" coast, has been with the newspaper since its inception. After relocating, Toby will be assuming a position with one of Hollywood's major film studios as a professional script writer and editor. He will be sorely missed.

A new editor will be appointed at a future date.



Join us...

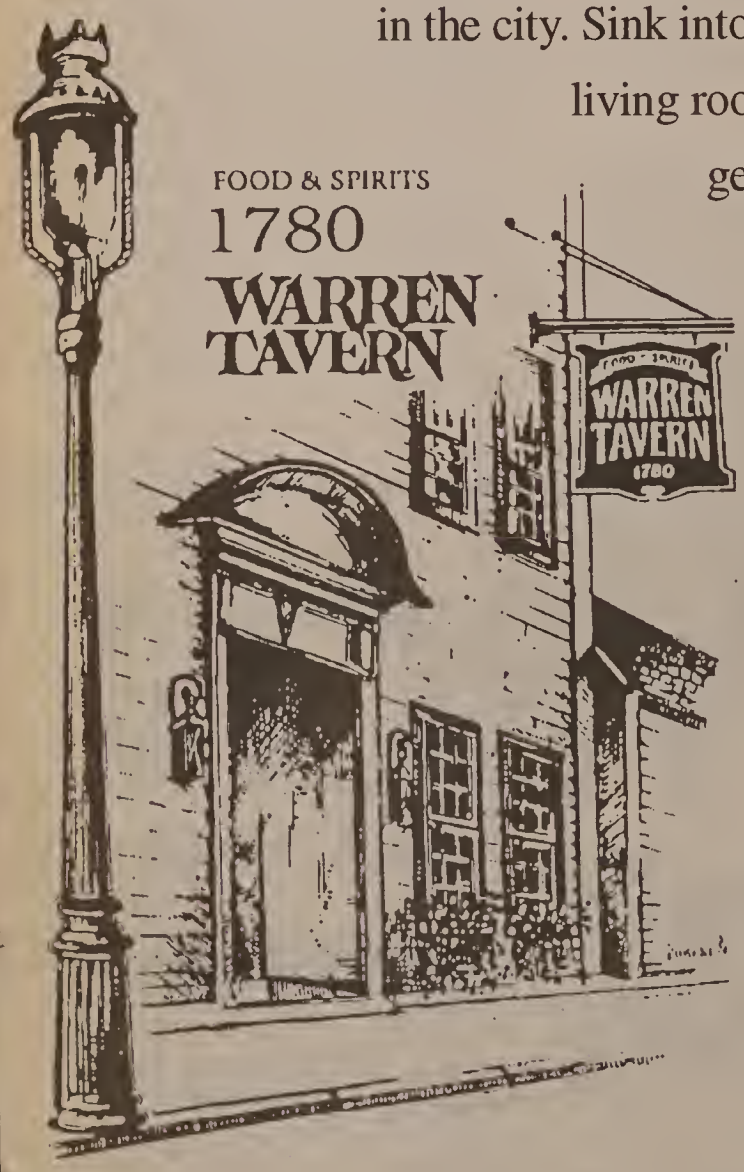
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THE LAST CALL LADY

Bowling for Libations at The Hong Kong

BY LAUREN DARE

Remember in high school when you'd round up a bunch of people, borrow someone's mother's station wagon, (for your trip to the library, right?) and head to the nearest cheesy Chinese restaurant? You know, the place where little pink umbrellas in the drinks were de rigeur and management would let you drink using your neighbor's cousin's friend's I.D. (even if their gender didn't match your own)?

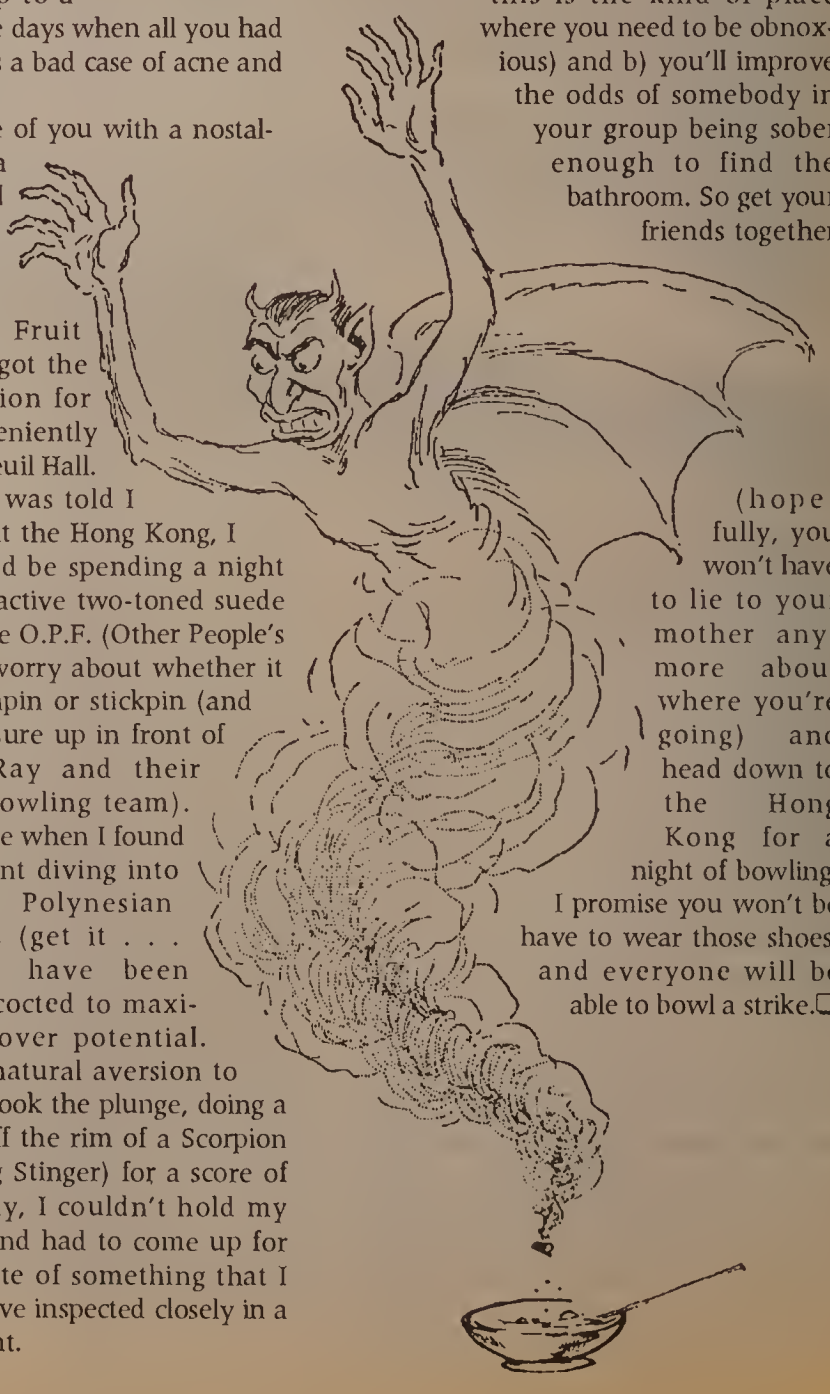
Weren't those the days? Drinking things with names like Polynesian Zombie Nectar and eating Pu Pu Surprise platters (Big Enough to Share With a Friend!) added up to a big night out, in the days when all you had to worry about was a bad case of acne and flunking gym.

Well, for those of you with a nostalgic yearning for a good greasy egg roll and a Tahitian Treat (25 Different Liquors combined with Tempting Fruit Juices), then I've got the ultimate destination for you, located conveniently in the heart of Faneuil Hall.

Now, when I was told I could go bowling at the Hong Kong, I naively thought I'd be spending a night wearing those attractive two-toned suede shoes that smell like O.P.F. (Other People's Feet). I began to worry about whether it was candlepin, tenpin or stickpin (and how I would measure up in front of Flo and Billy Ray and their Saturday night bowling team). Imagine my surprise when I found that bowling meant diving into one of those Polynesian Potpourri Bowls (get it . . . Bowling?) that have been thoughtfully concocted to maximize your hangover potential. Overcoming my natural aversion to alcohol, I bravely took the plunge, doing a back somersault off the rim of a Scorpion Bowl (It Has a Big Stinger) for a score of 9.8. Unfortunately, I couldn't hold my breath too long, and had to come up for some air and a bite of something that I probably would have inspected closely in a more sober moment.

As with so many places, the Hong Kong is only as fun as you make it — but believe me, the good times will seem never-ending after you polish off your first Scorpion Bowl. You'll begin to have so much fun that you'll hope sobriety eludes you forever. By your second Scorpion Bowl, you start to wonder if you're ever going to sober up, and by your third, you don't care if you do; you've forgotten your own name, and are ready to elope with the busboy who's been looking better and better with every sip. Luckily, your friends are there to save you from this sorry fate (the Hong Kong is best experienced if you go armed with at least three friends because a) more people can get away with being obnoxious (and this is the kind of place where you need to be obnoxious) and b) you'll improve the odds of somebody in your group being sober enough to find the bathroom. So get your friends together (hopefully, you won't have to lie to your mother anymore about where you're going) and head down to the Hong Kong for a night of bowling; I promise you won't be have to wear those shoes, and everyone will be able to bowl a strike.❑

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BARS & CLUBS

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•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BILL'S BAR** 421-9678, Lansdowne St., Boston. Located in the midst of Lansdowne St., Bill's can be a great alternative to the dance clubs. It caters to a crowd consisting anywhere from punk to preppie. Bill's reputedly has the best jukebox in the city, programed by Peter Wolf. It's loud, clean and showcases live music occasionally. Casual and very relaxed.

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**CROSSROADS** 262-7371, 495 Beacon Street, Boston. Hailed as one of the last neighborhood pubs in Back Bay, this casual hotspot is frequented by locals, students and young professionals. Among its many attractions are three dart boards, cable sports, a loud jukebox and Guiness on tap. Open 7 days a week 'til 2.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. Attracts an older, quieter crowd. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**LUCKY JOHNNY'S** 731-6753, 1098 Comm. Ave., Boston. Classic Rock rhythms fill the air at this upbeat college bar frequented mostly by BU, BC and Pine Manor students. On weekends, it gets pretty crowded. So beat the lines and get there early. The barback grill is always open and the smaller underground lounge is a nice place to chat. Dress is a relaxed casual to somewhat dressy. Best of all, there's never a cover.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S**
734-0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PERRY'S** 367-1297, 199 State St., Boston. Upstairs young professionals follow their favorite teams on six TV screens. While downstairs, college students and young professionals dance the night away Wed.-Sat. Located in the Faneuil Hall area, the dress is casual and the popcorn is excellent! Lunch and dinner served 11:30am-11pm.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. It's central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

• **RED HAT** 523-2175, 9 Bowdoin St., Bos. You'll feel just like you're in a London pub. Dark and casual atmosphere. Attracts young professionals and Beacon Hill residents. No cover. Casual dress. One of the few places you can still get pitchers of mixed drinks.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WALLY'S** 424-1408, 427 Mass. Ave., Bos. Treat yourself to unadulterated Jazz nightly at Wally's. Neatly tucked away on Mass. Ave. not far from Northeastern U., Wally's is easy to miss. The only indication that you've arrived is a small white beer sign out front. The atmosphere is dark, smoky and crowded and above all authentic. Mon. is Blues night. No cover. Casual dress. Arrive early to get a seat.

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. No tank tops. Bring I.D. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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2/25 James Cotton *w/ special guests* Shirley Lewis Show Tickets sold in advance Feb. 25	2/26 Rod Piazza & the Mighty Flyers *w/ special guests* Mike Welch Band & Walk that Walk	2/27 A.C. Reed & the Sparkplugs *w special guests* Stovall Brown

BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

To have your clubs live acts listed in our 2/17 - 3/2 issue fax your listings to Christopher Francescani at 232-4305

W 17TH

Avenue C Deep New York House
Axis Whit e Zombie/ Monster Magnet
Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Boston Beach Club R.D. Riddam
Bunratty's God's Fools
Cityside TBA
Copperfields Ridge Runners
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Lydia/Doug Hammerschmitt
Green Briar Karaoke
House of Blues Savoy Brown
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Dixie Chicks
Kendall Cafe Jazz Jam Session
Kinvara Pub Super Trivia
Marketplace Cafe Street Magic
Middle East Wiggleworm/Squid/Fuck Faster/Bob
Middle East (downstairs) Black History Month
Midway Cafe Chuck Morris and the Sidewalk Blues Band
Paradise Spiral Carpets
Regattabar The Jazz Pops Ensemble
Scullers Jazz Club Jim Porcella
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
Sticky Mike's Professor Harp
Tam O'Shanter Beth Sass
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Teodross Avery Quartet
Zanzibar Lost 45's w/D.J.Barry Scott

T 18TH

Avenue C Five Gone Mad
Barmuda Triangle Yoko Ono's Ass
Bills Bar D.J.Stew & Perry
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Boston Beach Club Alternative Soundwaves w\TAI
Bunratty's Naked Age/ Headcleaner/ Bananocide/ Grindring
Christophers Sarah Burrill & Jim Henry
Cityside Inquiring Minds
Copperfields Mark Moriis & The Cat Tunes
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Margie Hobbs/Jon Mansfield
Green Briar Shivers
Grog Boston Baked Blues
Harpers Ferry Darrell Nulisch & Texas Heat
House of Blues 11th Hour Band
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's The Story
Kendall Cafe Rhythm Jam & Open Tap Dancing
Kinvara Pub D.J. Colm
Linwood Grill Larry Baione Trio
Middle East Funeral Party/ Zia? Chainsuck/ Happy The Clown
Middle East (downstairs) Taylor made/ Bokar
Midway Cafe Rainbow Wizards
Paradise Highhats
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett
Rathskeller High Defiance/ Be Be Gallini/Sensesurround/ Felons of Trial/ The Groove
Regattabar Geri Allen Trio
Silhouette Lounge Nasty J & The Grinders
Sit 'n Bull Pub Bruce Marshall Group
Sticky Mike's Marc & The MotorVators
Tam O'Shanter The Sextiles/ American Gladiators
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quartet
Venus De Milo D.J.Stew & Perry
WBOS South Station Earthwatch Concert Series Brewer & Shipley-Unplugged
Western Front Motion
Willow Jazz Club Rob Sheps Quartet
Zachary's Christian Rover Trio
Zanzibar Reggae Night-Jah Spirit

F 19TH

Barmuda Triangle Tokyo Vibrators
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (upstairs) Harvest Home
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's The Raindogs
Christophers Laurie Goldsmith & The Rodeo Kids
Cityside Aurora
Claddagh John Corcoran
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Peter Keane
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields Toadhouse
Cricket's Uptown Acapella
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton/Margie Hobbs
Durgin-Park Restaurant Blue Spurs
Great Scott's Response
Green Briar Rhythm A-cats
Grog The NorEasters
Harpers Ferry Duke Robillard Band w/ 11th Hour Rhythm Kings
House of Blues Chuck Morris & The Sidewalk Blues
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Band That Time Forgot
Kendall Cafe J.B. Sweeney/ Patti O'Keefe/ Richard DeMone
Kinvara Pub Swinging Johnsons
Linwood Grill B.J. MaGoon & Driving Sideways
Middle East Grind/ Cheesecake/ neon Religion/ Tango Mango
Middle East (downstairs) Heretix/ Seka/ Blister/ Backwash
Midway Cafe Mike Duke & Soultwisters
Paradise Shockra
Purple Shamrock Doe Brothers
Rathskeller Grip/ Judgemental/ Toybox/ Kruller/ Sky Dogs/ Life On Mars
Regattabar Geri Allen Trio
Scullers Jazz Club Delfeayo Marsalis
Silverado Sidewalk Gallery
Sit 'n Bull Pub Blue Heaven
Tam O'Shanter Eril Gal/ Michelle Wilson/ The Hammerheads
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Western Front Rhthym Force
Willow Jazz Club Lello Molinari Quintet
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

S 20TH

Barmuda Triangle Shay Tay
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (upstairs) Harvest Home
Boston Beah Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Cobalt 60/ Fleshflower/ Mother of God
Cambridge Brewing Company Hyena Club
Cecil's Two For The Show
Christophers Tricia Langois
Cityside Aurora
Claddagh Doe Brothers
Commonwealth Brewing Company One People
Copperfields Toadhouse
Cricket's Uptown A Capella
Diamond Jim's Michelle Currie
Durgin-Park Restaurant Rob Young & The Reckless
Great Scott's Response
Green Briar Rhythm A-cats
Grog Rick Russell Band
Harpers Ferry Bo Diddley w/Rick Russell Band
House of Blues Boston Baked Blues
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Mozamba w/ Bob Moses
Kendall Cafe Fenway Players/ Boston Full House
Kinvara Pub Dennis Healey Band
Linwood Grill Kat in the Hat Band
Middle East The Figs / Grindring
Middle East (downstairs) Turbines Reunion (members of Cave Dogs)/Hotbox
Midway Cafe Sky Blues Band
Purple Shamrock Classic 5/ John Corcoran
Rathskeller United States/ Tomato Monkey/ Chaotic Past/ Groove Butcher/ 32-20's/ Blind Date
Regattabar Deborah Henson-Conant:jazz harp
Regattabar The Mccoy Tyner Big Band
Scullers Jazz Club Delfeayo Marsalis
Silhouette Lounge Intrepid Groove
Silverado John Lincoln Wright & The Sourmash Boys
Sit 'n Bull Pub John Hicks & Revolution
Tam O'Shanter Chuck
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno
Western Front Rythym Force
Willow Jazz Club Lello Molinari Quintet
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

S 21ST

Barmuda Triangle Eddie Q. & Fat Productions
Bill's Bar One People
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Al Wilson
Boston Beach Club D.J. Ned
Christophers Racheal Anne Pearle & Acousticity
Cityside Chad Lamarch, Kris Wales
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party w/Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero
House of Blues Gospel Festival
Johnny D's Michelle Malone-CANCELLED
Kendall Cafe Ted Powers & Co.
Kinvara Pub DJ Colm
Linwood Grill Little Boy Blue (members of Nine Below Zero)
Middle East Rein Snaction/ Moving Targets/ Ass Ponies/ Panhead
Middle East (downstairs) Tar/ Jawbone/ Bob Evans
Sit 'n Bull Pub TBA
Tam O'Shanter Songwriter's Showcase
Willow Jazz Club Grover Moony & Moon Unit

M 22ND

Amsterdam's Brian Walkey Band
Barmuda Triangle Boston College Night
Bill's Bar Movie Night
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/Tim Ray& Marshall Wood
Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & The Hot Ribs Blues Jam
Bunratty's Bun's Country
Cityside TBA
Green Briar Irish Session
Harpers Ferry Foglifters
House of Blues Blue Monday
Kendall Cafe Boston Full House
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw Darts
Tam O'Shanter Tam Jam
Western Front George Levas Group
Willow Jazz Club Grover Moony & Moon Unit

T 3RD

Barmuda Triangle Prime Time Productions
Bill's Bar The Keep/ Come w/Uncle/ Satanics/ Concussion Ensemble
Black Rose (downstairs) Shannon
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Big Hot Sun
Cecil 's
Orrin Star
Cityside Mister Buttercup
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Margie Hobbs/ Erica Leopold
House of Blues John Campbell & The Red Devils
Johnny D's MARDI GRAS PARTY-Les Miserables Brass Band
Kendall Cafe Open Mike
Kinvara Pub Dart League
Middle East The Lune/ Curtain Society/ Transmission/ Feast
Midway Cafe Rodentt
Regattabar Calypso Hurricane
Scullers Jazz Club Boston Baked Blues
Tam O'Shanter Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras party
Western Fron Molly Flannery Quintet
Willow Jazz Club Susan Welby & Dan Winer Quintet
Zachary's Dean Laabs Project

W 4TH

Avenue C Deep New York House
Axis No Bozos Jam
Barmuda Triangle Last Call
Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Black Rose (downstairs) Shannon
Boston Beach Club Mighty Charge
Bunratty's Ukla The Mok
Cityside Swing & The Good Things
Cricket's Hamish & Dave
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton/Doug Hammershmitt
Green Briar Karaoke
House of Blues Chubby Carrier & The Bayou Swamp Band
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's MARDI GRAS PARTY-Gatorbait/ Hot Tamale Brass Band
Kendall Cafe Jazz Jam Session
Kinvara Pub Supr Trivia
Marketplace Cafe Street Magic
Middle East Stranger Than Pretty/ Vestry Men/ Xixxo/ Lisa Rock/ Cordelia's Dad
Middle East (downstairs) Black History Month
Midway Cafe Chuck Morris and the Sidewalk Blues Band
Paradise Sidewalk Gallery
Rathskeller Hullabaloo/ Tree/ Legion of Doom
Regattabar John Scofield Quartet
Scullers Jazz Club Geoff Keezer Quartet
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
Tam O'Shanter Black and Grey/ Hamlog
Western Front Motion
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Fernando Martinez Group
Zanzibar Lost 45's w/D.J. Barry Scott

T 5TH

Avenue C Chucklehead & Random House of Soul
Barmuda Triangle Rick Gold & The Blazers
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Shannon
Boston Beach Club D.J. Tai
Bunratty's Hotbox/The Sextons/ Vogan Poetry/ The Delinants
Cityside Yvonne taylor & The Prescription Horns
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Copperfields Sense
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Diamond Jim's Margie Hobbs/ Jon Mansfield
Green Briar Wrecking Crew
Grog Search Party
Harpers Ferry James Cotton w/ SHirley Lewis Show
House of Blues C.J. Chenier
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Bruce Katz Band
Kendall Cafe Steve Smith
LinwoodGrill Too Tall Terry Band
Middle East Mornign Glories/ Dreams Made Flesh/ Curious Ritual/ Ajna Chakra
Middle East (downstairs) Michael Rose (of Black Uhuru)
Midway Cafe Burning Sensations
Paradise ASIA
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett
Rathskeller Rick Russell Band/ J.B. Junior/ Sahara Lee/ The Groove
Regattabar John Scofield Quartet
Scullers Jazz Club Frank Morgan& James Williams
Silhouette Lounge Little Boy Blue

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BARS & CLUBS

Sit 'n Bull Pub Darrell Nulisch & Texas Heat
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
Tam O'Shanter Augusta Furnace/ Jennifer Trynan Band
Turner Fisheries Debra Mann Quartet
Venus De Milo Groov-E
Western Front Earth Connection Band
Zachary's Rob Levit Trio
Zanzibar Reggae Night-One People

F 6TH

Barmuda Triangle Machinery Hall
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Shannon
Black Rose (upstairs) Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Chloe
Cityside Swinging Johnsons
Claddagh Rich McDuff
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Seamus Connelly & John McGann
Commonwealth Brewing Company Search Party
Copperfields Response
Cricket's Uptown Acapella
Diamond Jim's Ken Stanton, Lydia
Durgin-Park Restaurant Blue Spurs
Great Scott's Toadhouse
Green Briar Mark Morris & The Cat Tunes
Grog Rio
Harpers Ferry Rod Piazza & The Mighty Flyers
House of Blues Bobby Radcliffe
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Kinsey Report
Kendall Cafe Patti O'Keefe/ Richard DeMone
Linwood Grill Mike Duke & The Soultwisters
Middle East Kudgel/ High Steppin' Seafood/ The Laurels/ Swig
Middle East (downstairs) Dambuilders/ Polvo/ Smack Melon/ Pipe
Midway Cafe Rat Bastards
Nightstage Stub Junkman w/Elements Watson (formerly The Groove Tubes)
Paradise Cliffs of Doneen
Purple Shamrock Classic Trax
Rathskellar Incredible Casuals/ Chandler Travis/ Atlas Shrugged/ Avitar Blue/ Curtain Society/ Monobrau/ Ice Nine
Regattabar John Scofield Quartet
Scullers Jazz Club Allan Dawson & John Lockwood
Silverado Carnivale
Sit 'n Bull Pub TBA
Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue
Tam O'Shanter Universal Language
Turner Fisheries Debra Mann Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Western Front Earth Connection Band
Willow Jazz Club Sax Man Rick Margipza
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

S 27TH

Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Shannon \John Corcoran
Black Rose (upstairs) Celtic Clan
Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Stompbox/ Malachite/ Noise Gate
Cambridge Brewing Company We Saw The Wolf
Cecil's Amy Malkoff & Raymond Gonzales
Cityside Swinging Johnsons
Claddagh Rich McDuff
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Harvey Reid
Commonwealth Brewing Company Wilson Blue
Copperfields Lime Rockets
Cricket's North Shore Acapalla
Diamond Jim's Margie Hobbs
Durgin-Park Restaurant Rob Young & The Reckless
Great Scott's Toadhouse
Green Briar Standing Hamptons
Grog ThePencils
Harpers Ferry A.C. Reed & The Sparkplugs
House of Blues Lonnie Brooks
Jake Ivory's Live Nonstop All Request Dueling Rock and Roll Piano Show
Johnny D's Laurie Sargent
Kendall Cafe Boston Full House
Linwood Grill Little Boy Blue(members of Nine Below Zero)
Middle East Harmony Rockets/ Foggy Notion/ Asa Brebner/ Ray Mason Band/ Great Atomic Power
Middle East (downstairs) Consolidated New Fast Automic Daffodiles/ Goats
Midway Cafe Wrapped Rascals & The Sorority House Horns
Purple Shamrock Classic Trax/ Rich McDuff
Rathskellar Boogie Men/ Slant Six/ The Mies/ Lobby Magnets/ Cheap Date
Regattabar John Scofield Quartet
Scullers Jazz Club Eddie Harris Quartet
Silhouette Lounge Clock Work
Silverado Jule Younger & The Younger Gang
Sit 'n Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters w/ Paul Rishell
Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & The Sidewalk Blues Band
Tam O'Shanter Wildest Dreams
Turner Fisheries Debra Mann Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno
Willow Jazz Club Sax Man Rick Margipza
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio
Zanzibar Winiker Swing Orchestra

S 28TH

Barmuda Triangle fat Productions
Bill's Bar Yellowman
Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Al Wilson
Boston Beach Club D.J. Ned
Bunratty's Mr. Stone's Country-C.D> Release Party
Citside Chad Lamarch, Kris Wales
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party w/ Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero
House of Blues Rapt Rascals
Kendall Cafe Cabaret Showcase
Linwood Grill Hot Cottage Band
Middle East Brazilian Carnival Night
Middle East (downstairs) Performance of Zappa's "Joe's garage" 2pm
Midway Cafe Blues Jam
Purple Shamrock Rich McDuff
Scullers Jazz Club Eddie Harris Quartet
Sit 'n Bull Pub TBA
Tam O'Shanter Ellen Cross
Willow Jazz Club Jeff Covell Trio

m 1ST

Amsterdam's Brian WalkeyBand
Green Briar Irish Session
Johhny D's New England Cajun Dance Society w/Mickey Bones
Tam O'Shanter Tam Jam
Willow Jazz Club Marcello Gutfraind

t 2ND

Barmuda Triangle Prime Time Productions
Cricket's North Shore Acapella
Johnny D's Preston Reed
Willow Jazz Club Eric Zinman Trio



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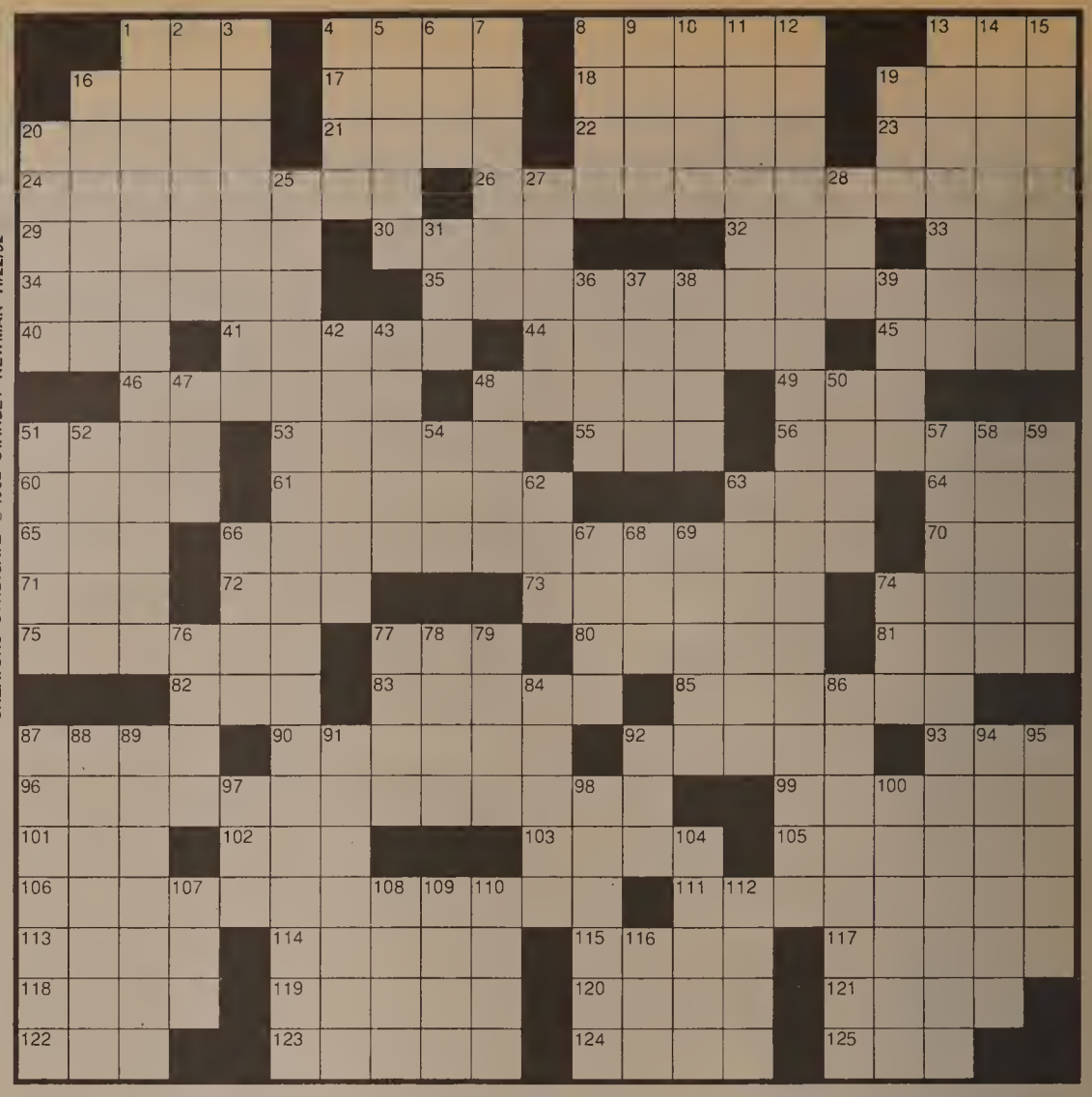
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

ONE FOR THE BOOKS: Publishing puns

by Randolph Ross



ACROSS

1 Sunday Night Football network
4 "Get lost!"
8 Joan __
13 Archaeological site
16 Pinocchio, e.g.
17 Prefix for space
18 Dean's *Rebel Without A Cause* costar
19 Art __ (Erté's genre)
20 Terra __
21 MacDonald's place
22 All gone
23 Went over the limit
24 Did a checkbook job
26 Section of a barber's manual?
29 Be that as it may
30 Practice punching
32 Pod prefix
33 Greek goddess
34 "One outshines the __ loveliness": Goethe
35 Part of a bankruptcy book?
40 Vane rdg.
41 Peter and Nicholas
44 Goldwater and Morse
45 Thumbed through
46 Guarantee
48 Mideast belief
49 Bering, for one
51 Hendrix's hairdo
53 Golda et al.
55 Health center
56 On the same wavelength
60 Salt, chemically
61 Ninesome
63 Luau serving
64 Evian water
65 Dunce's remark
66 Like a book of hit plays?
70 Women's __
71 French article
72 Make a selection
73 To-do
74 *Vogue* competitor
75 Leader of the flock
77 Swindled
80 __ on (linger over)
81 Play horseshoes
82 ME-to-FL rte.
83 "__ far, far better . . ."
85 Shop tool
87 __ above (superior)
90 D-flat's alias
92 Former United rival
93 Holyfield hit
96 Publisher's power?
99 Italian ice cream
101 Parisian pronoun
102 *Familia* member
103 Mythical archer
105 Votes in
106 October book releases?
111 False moves
113 Feds
114 Triangular letter
115 Newspaper notice
117 ". . . not __ mouse"
118 River of Spain
119 As a friend: Fr.
120 Shade of green
121 Like Gen. Schwarzkopf
122 Big parties
123 Rare gas
124 Hold back
125 PGA distances

DOWN

1 Bookstore hunts?
2 Afloat
3 Surveyors' instruments
4 Wall feature of a sort
5 Is in charge of
6 Bobby of hockey
7 Tuba sound
8 Lag b'__ (Hebrew festival)
9 Imported auto
10 Part of ABM
11 Spaceshot phase
12 Tip O'Neill's autobiography?
13 Corrupt
14 Summer refresher
15 Heavenly help
16 Bakery output
19 UK mil. award
20 On-the-air truckers
25 *Books in Print* feature?
27 Riyadh residents
28 Comedian Shriner
31 Users' hardware
36 Rocky and Bullwinkle, e.g.
37 Pitfall
38 Author Bombeck
39 Paleozoic and Mesozoic
42 "We __ amused"
43 Isabella or Ena
47 Fa follower
48 "__ Mommy Kissing Santa Claus"
50 Home of Phillips U.
51 Ad-sign small print
52 Birds, bees, beasts, etc.
54 Barber or Buttons
57 What protect copies of *The Wasp Handbook*?
58 Catches redhanded
59 Dice and ice
62 Bit of Morse code
63 Arrive, as a train
66 Visiting team's welcome
67 Skywalker's mentor
68 "The It Girl"
69 Massenet's métier
74 JFK info
76 '84 Peace Nobelist
77 "__, Steverino!"
78 __ impasse
79 Juicy gossip
84 Shopper's binge
86 Ore-processing factory
87 Emulated Earhart
88 Unkempt cop
89 Heavy overcoats
91 Kind of triangle
92 Arafat's grp.
94 Come to class
95 __ nova
97 *St. Elsewhere* production co.
98 Welles and Bean
100 Like some dining-room tables
104 Allen Funt's directive
107 Juan's one
108 Vivacity
109 Sphere starter
110 Mirror-loving
112 Line-__ veto
116 Small part

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BOSTON Bay Village, Small 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, clean. Newly renovated quiet bldg., $595 includes heat & hot water 332-0427

BOSTON Historic Malborough St. 1 bedroom, patio, 1 block to T & bus. $600 includes heat. Leave message on voice mail # 1-800 244-2756, ext.603.

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CHELSEA Luxury 2 bedroom apt. 1 1/2 baths, w/d, parking, convenient to T, balcony, pool and health club $825 (617)648-8109

MILTON Seeking 30+ female for spacious bedroom in large house. Nonsmoking and nondrinking preferred. Close to T, quiet neighborhood, nice backyard, available now. $350/month. plus 1/2 utilities. Call 698-3870

ROSLINDALE 2 bedroom in apt. building with heat and hot water, hardwood floors , laundry facilities on premises, disposal, on bus line. Security Deposit and References Required. $650 Call (617) 364-6585

SOMERVILLE Lg. 6 room, 3 bedroom, living room, dining room, eat-in-kitchen, modern bath. Avail immed. $850+ Laundry, No fee. 666-4734

SOMERVILLE Medford St at Partridge Ave. 3 bedroom duplex. Hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen. $775. 247-1707

SOMERVILLE Medford St. at Partridge Ave. Eat-in kitchen. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors. $525. 247-1707.

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ALLSTON Roomate wanted: small room, clean bright apt. Close to Harvard & BU/call Jen or Lee / 423-0577 / $375/MO i.e. All util. but phone

BEACON HILL Female grad student seeks female roomate for 2 bedroom apt. nonsmoking, $350 mo. heat water included Call Jill at 720-0511

BRIGHTON Non- smoking prof. seeks same to share huge sunny 2 bedroom apartment. Close to B line and buses. On street parking avl.. If your'refun, responsible and sane please call 787-7974

BRIGHTON Seeking a female, non-smoker, kind, responsible. Great apartment area, washer, no pets. $400 includes everything 787-4237 or 380-4221

BRIGHTON Spac. room in large house. All hardwood floors, parking util. w/d included Artists/teachers preferred Semi-Coop. Call Nathan Lv. msg. 787-8797

BRIGHTON CENTER Looking for woman 25+ with group spirit and exp.to join household of 1 woman/ 2 men. 2 cats, sunny spacious victorian, T access, new kitchen and bath, fireplace $350 + util. Call 783-1931

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call 732-7607 daytime.

CAMBRIDGE Central Square female seeks female to share apt. Conv. location, Drug/smoke free $325 avl. now 354-3792

CAMBRIDGE North Cambridge. Free rent in exchange for light housekeeping and part time babysiting for 6 year old girl. 3 bedroom apt. 491-5809

CAMBRIDGE Professional female over 25, non-smoker, two bedroom house with hardwood floors, dining room, living room, sunroom, full kitchen with dishwasher and disposal, off street parking, 5 blocks from Harvard Sq. $600+ util. Call Joyce 876-1599 Avl. 12/1

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JAMAICA PLAIN 1 male seeks 1 female to share large 6 room apartment in a quiet neighborhood. Ww, dw, w/d parking, near T, Avail. 1/1/93. $425 incl.heat/hot water Call Alan 524-3251 lv. msg.

JAMAICA PLAIN M/F wanted to share 2 bedroom aprtment in safe neighborhood. Vegetarian Democrat preferred: Large bedrooms, free parking convenient to T and bus. $275+ 524-5293

JAMAICA PLAIN Prof. 43, Non-smoker, pianist activists seeks M/F roomate for large 2 bedroom in Summer Mill. Near T $325+ 1/2 Util. avl. 8/1 522-4420 evenings or 267-2949 days

LEXINGTON 26+ Independent quiet, neat, pleasant room on Pleasant St. Bus to Cambridge $400 includes util. 861-8737

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MALDEN Professional M/F to share luxury 2 bedroom. Parking, view, health club, dishwasher, w/d, no smoking/pets, near T and route 1, $535+ 322-9449

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FAX: 232-4305

MALDEN Seeking female nonsmoker for 3BR townhouse with 1 1/2 bath. Off street parking, garage, storage, pool, no pets. Walk to T $333 utilities, avl. now Call 321-6996

MEDFORD 1 Disc. GWM seeks 1 GWM/F to share 7 room house. Chrs. near shopping, T, Tufts W/D CBL. deck, must be disc. no pet, drugs, alch. $495 mo. no util. 396-0187 lv. msg.

NEWTON 2M seeks 2 M/F to share 4 bedroom. Great yard, garden, w/d. Near Watertown Square & T Avl NOW!!! $350+ Smoking OK 965-7805

NEWTON 40 Yr. old health care professional seeks to share quiet home in quiet neighborhood conducive to studying. Must be convenient to Cambridge and in the $400 range each. On or before Sept. 1 Call 547-6058

NEWTON CENTRE Housemate, M/F 30+ for large bedroom with parking, washer/ dryer, storage in lovely 4 bedroom house with view of Crystal Lake 969-7124

NEWTON CENTRE Near T. Nice room. $335/month plus. John or Linda, 965-0930 or 332-4800

NEWTONVILLE Female 25+ wanted for 2 bedroom. Yard, parking, storage, close to shopping $415+ Util. 244-4573

NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utilities. Steven (508)664-4443

SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END Large two bedroom duplex, modern kitchen, wall-to wall carpeting. Near T, hardwood floors, good location. $600 heat included. Non -smoker Todd (w) 523-6871 or (h)262-6977 No calls after 11.

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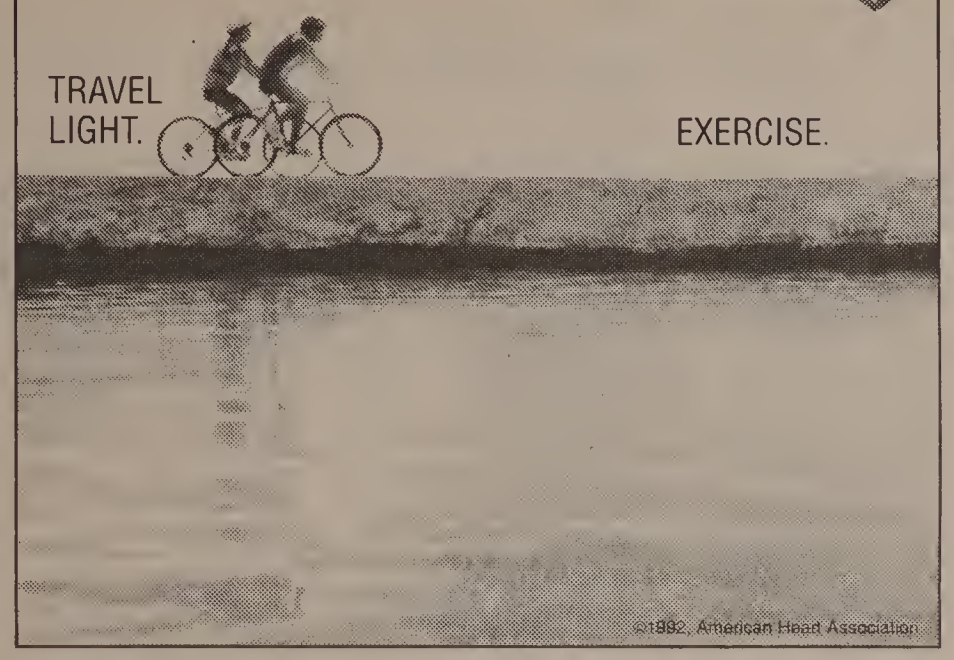
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Shea Man,
GET BETTER !! And stop getting naked. The nurses will talk. Punch Bobby once for me, okay?
Susie

Robyn,
Please forgive me. I'm young and foolish. I was abucted by alien Elvis impersonators. My hairline moved that day. My dog ate my homework. I lied to Congress. My father told me I was a disgrace. I wasn't myself (literally). I'M SORRY!!!
Jeff

B.M.
I never had more fun on a bus in my entire life. My voice is still hoarse. Looking forward to seeing you again.
JJ

Teddy,
The Earth Moved. The Planet Revolved. The Bed Shook. What do you mean, you're still not satisfied?? What does it take, blow up dolls? Electronic devises? Psycho, twisted B&D stuff? I suggest you start taking those hormone pills again, cause baby, you *need* help.
Sally

There once was a girl named
Kaffy
She definitely was sort of
daffy
Then she got married
And got kind of scary
And now getting to see her
Is like pulling taffy.
(Hell, it rhymes,
don't it?)

Caroline/Leslie:
I missed you! You could have taken me to the Pub if you really loved me. Next time I see you, I'll be forced to gack on your OM books.
xxoo—Curtis

To All the Girls I've Loved Before (and one in particular),
Stop bitching about me. You never tried once in your lifetime to care for anyone half as much as I cared for you. Any pain I caused you, you asked for. And I know that you're the one whose been pranking myanswering machine, so you might as well not bother anymore.
Dan.
P.S. I hate your stupid cats.

Peter,
I know it may seem odd to you, but studies do show that normal people eat out more than once every other month. And that doesn't mean McDonald's.
Hope.

Chi,
YOUR sister's ass.
Q's sis

Hal,
You're such a little cry baby. Don't worry about your father, who cares what he thinks? We haven't seen you in the bar for months now. The place just isn't the same without you. C'mon, grace the old tavern with your presence once in a while. You can't be that busy.
John.

Buffalo Fans,
Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha. One, two, three, you're outta there. It was beautiful, a work of art. See you next year.
Dallas.

Adam S.,
Good luck man. You're out there doing what we all wish that we had the nerve to go and try ourselves. Don't stop swinging, and let us know when we get our next job. By the way, can you get us some comps?
The "Meta" Gang + Jason.

M.J.D.
Happy Valentine's Day; I love you more and more each day!
Love, your wife

Loowoomba
Oh great master of the unknown. Spiritual guide and omnipotent presence. Tell us the whereabouts of your former link to our plane, the one called Philbo.
He owes us a turn.

Ali and Dave,
Sorry if I disturbed you, I wouldn't want to be an inconvenience at all. Hope I didn't get blood on anything important. Six stitches if you're interested, but don't worry, they're all very small.
Ross.

Joby,
To tell the truth, I didn't think Mom could be any more mad at me. Thanks a lot for proving me wrong
Your Bro'

Don't go, please don't go OH GOD DON'T LEAVE ME AAAAAAAH. A pox on you and the whole West Coast.
Sniffle.

Howie,
No, I'm serious, man. I woke up a total blank. So, please tell me what happened.
Ari

Reena,
Where the t@*% do you get off!? Just because you decide to mess up your own life doesn't mean you have to mess up your "freinds." You drove away several good friends because of your petty paranoia.. I hope you're happy now!
Love, The Thursday Night Party Gang
P.S. Next itme you get drunk, carry a Trojan!

LAC,
Never, never, never. I will never again let myself get into that trap with you. I can't believe that I could ever care for such a selfish, insensitive, uncaring child. You may be older than me, but that doesn't mean that you are in any stretch of the imagination mature. I hope you had a good time last weekend,and don't worry about how miserable I may happen to be, not that you ever did. It's not your concern.
I.C.

Steve S.
The Riddle of the Sphinx: What has four brain cells in the morning, three brain cells in the afternoon, and two little -bitty, eensy-weeny brain cells in the evening? Answer: Read it again in the morning and maybe you'll be able to figure it out.
Deb.

To the very drunken married man at the Bell and Hand last Thursday who called me a slut because I wouldn't talk to him,

M.
If you do anything to harm me, you'll never figure out the truth. Only I know the answers to help you put the pieces of your mysterious past together.
Toad

EFB
You crazed maniac! Leave me alone. I don't have what you're looking for, so leave me alone.! Why don't you try that fat cop or the nutty lady with the knives. -
Nic

Robyn, Laurie & Wendy
If you think I'm a walking hormone now, just wait until I get to know you both
The new guy

My not wanting to talk to you had nothing to do with your being married and everything to do with your drunken, disgusting conversation. You asked a few minutes into conversation if my friend and I were wet yet and we so rudely walked away without a response when we really wanted to tell you that you and your big ego are all dried up. Lucky you're already married because believe us you ain't no prize.

Pussycat,
I named the 40 different types of flowers. Now where is the beautiful bouquet we agreed upon?
Anti-Welcher

You jerk. California? Beverly Hills!!?!Who are you kidding. You can't stand life outside of New England.

To P.F.
My Vietnam Hero...Can you believe that we're celebrating our 25th anniversary this week?? Thanks for always loving me - and for believing in me, too. The kids are gems...a miracle indeed. Don't get discouraged - you'll get your boat when the last kidlet is through college (cringe) in 2004.
Love ya - me.

Larry the Lizards Drinking Buddy,
I hear they just passed a new stiff law against your brand of illicit activities. You had best use your forgery skills to get yourself a visa and a ticket out of the country.

Sharon, While I do love you and enjoy your company., marriage to you would be like a rose. It would be great at first, buit two weeks later... Jim

To the owner of the silver-grey Volvo that cut me off as I was trying to merge through the artery off of the bridge to go onto Storrow Drive but was not able to because you were driving a nice safe Volvo and decided that you needed have no concern for the safety of the other drivers thereby running through the intersection at the speed of light, almost swideswiping me and causing me to veer so that I missed the exit and was forced to drive ahead and turn around in order to get onto Storrow: You're an asshole.
The Blue Oldsmobile.

Monica,
Remember Valentine's Day a year ago? Probably not, you've had too much whipped crem. Oh, by the way, congradulations! You've disproved the theory that girls get nicer as they get uglier. Go to a real college, maybe they'll teach you how to be civil. While you're at it, grow a clue, Farm Girl.
The Injun

Paula,
It ain't about hair.
Dave

Hi, Tad!
Even though you're in Australia your incredible musical talent, amazing wit, and strange sense of humour transcend the Pacific.
Love, Margie, Misty, and Calico

Stacey,
I know it's been years since we went out, but I hope the man you marry pisses you off daily.
Mike

Laura,
Every time I think that I should have stayed with you I just hit myself with a sledgehammer. The pain lasts almost as long & it's a lot cheaper.
Eggy

Caryn,
I hear you're moving to D.C. . . .maybe all your "friends" will pitch in and get you a case of penicillin so you don't have to curve your social life.
Your Ex-boyfriend's Bro

R.G.,
Please be more careful about getting your blood all over the office. You know people can get diseases from stuff like that. Go bleed someplace else.
-D

Kelly,
Calling the cops on your brother who has only helped you was the last straw. You're one pathetic little girl acting like a grown-up. I hope your happy in your new apartment (in a year it will look like the projects). You deserve everything you get, you treated your brother like a criminal. Now you don't have one. Now you don't have one; remember...you treat people like shit, you smell.
From Everyone

StarMan:
Alright, alright. Instead of actually working (God Forbid) and making money (how bourgeois), why don't you, me and the Sewel Sister start a commune? We could do it in Newport (NOT) or the wilds of upper New Hamp. Sound fun? Hah ha! Isn't life a lark. See you at the Fag Western.
Sister Golden Hair Surprise

To the man with the nuke in his head,
You'd better call the psycho soon. He is getting fed up with you. Watch out for bright red spots of light on your forehead

Dearest, sweetest Q-ball,
"Who's that ribbed, rippling, fair-haired, financially-strapping Golden Boy?" Boy, if I was walking down a Boston street and I saw him walk by, I sure would flirt. And giggle. And wink suggestively. Like any gal in Atlanta, Washington or, yes, even New Yawk would. How could we help ourselves? How could any woman resist? (I can't do no mo!)
Kisses and blood tests, Sis

Jen,
What's it like living Fatal Attraction? Remember, don't forget to stitch back his ears.

Captain N,
You think that the pressure is off now. You think the weight's been lifted. You think you'll be able to sleep at night now. Well you're wrong Smart Guy. I'm going to pay my neighbor a visit and borrow some of his toys. Then I'm going hunting. You can run, but you can't hide.
-Doom

Lou: You chicken. I have no respect for a guy who cannot do the right thing. I know that my dog is a better man than you.
Weez

Nick D,
How about forgetting the real world for a while? We miss your literary talents. Why don't you zap us a line? The enforcer may even have mercy on you and not smite you.
THE STORYTELLERS

Belinda,
Be warned! You are not welcome in this town. I will not stand for your embarassing attempts at art. You bring shame to our kind. - Lucina

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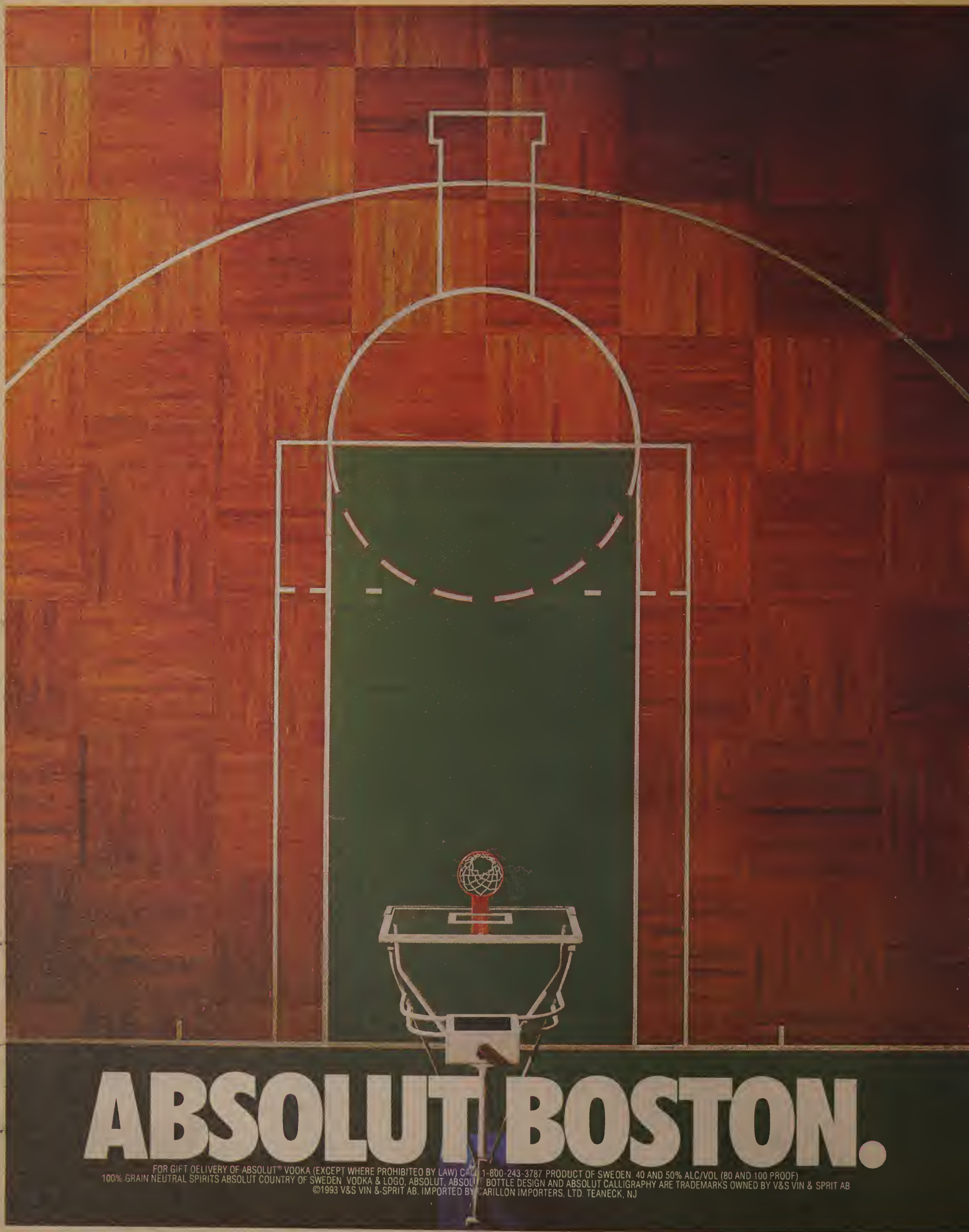
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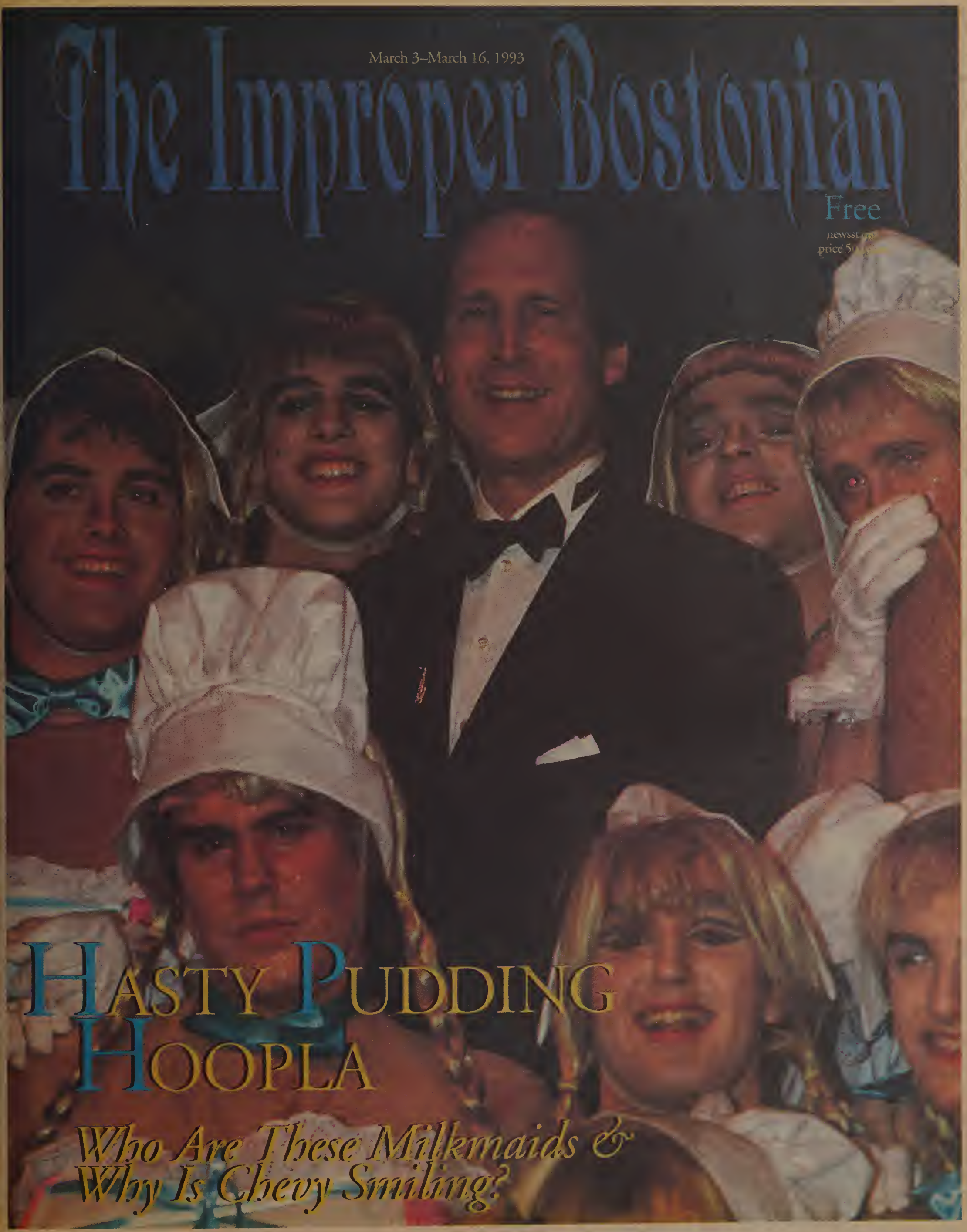
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March 3–March 16, 1993

The Improper Bostonian

Free
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Hasty Pudding Hoopla

Who Are These Milkmaids & Why Is Chevy Smiling?

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Even Educated Fleas Do It

Now that Valentine's Day is over, the complicated, often-negative, drenched-in-rue aspects of love, (or more specifically, sex) can be thought about. Richard Gardner, collector of the telling flotsam of culture found in fliers, articles, ads, and self-help courses, has compiled a fascinating book that looks at sex beyond the mere passion. Indeed, if one were to read, on some sex-free distant planet, about the hassles and hurts proliferating out from the core allure of sex, one would have trouble understanding its amazing power to motivate. There are lots of Ann Landers columns here: a wonderfully bitter letter from a husband to his straying wife's lover describing how costly this spoiled woman will be to support, and another from a therapist's wife whose husband was caught with a patient. Comic, self-deprecating things about writing a personals ad, and an Ellen Goodman piece on the sexual moves of divorced mothers show the mere doing-of-it to be problematic. The age-old question of the alleged differences between men and women regarding sex-or-romance is worried and worried again. Nor is anything sex-related congruent or logical: in the same article, we hear blithe mention of Patricia Neal's own affair with the married Gary Cooper alongside her keening over her husband's affair with another woman. Ditto, the contradictions in Jean Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir's relationship with, its reality rather different than its proclaimed mission. Various writers defend the embattled Barney Frank, and the philandering Martin Luther King, and a few scientific tracts bring in the bees and baboon angles. The most directly raw parts of this collection are the sexy-but-also-philosophically-intense comics called "Strips" and the very heavy-hitting illustrated piece by Susie Bright, a pregnant lesbian shown in bondage attire. The wilder shores of love, indeed.



Sex $29.95 Richard Gardner
P.O. Box 1067 Cambridge, MA 02138-1067

Russia Old And New

In a glass kiosk in a corner of the lobby of the Westin Hotel sits a little slice of Russia — the traditional Russia, the moody, with a strong dose of an exotically fashionable Russia you may not be aware of. A community of emigre artisans living in Brighton produce some of the jewelry which has a flavor of somberly feminine ornateness — the sort of brooches and earrings and necklaces of tiny semi-precious stones you want to stare at, on or off the wearer. And they also sell painted icons, all golden sadness, that manage to be, while of course religious, also attractively decorative as well. The central offerings of this shoplet, though, are the hand-made, one-of-a kind sweaters that begin with natural fibers — angora, silk, cotton, or silk with a sizzle of metallic thread running through-and may add anything from bits of suede to beads to lace or bits of crochet in patches and swatches throughout. These are sweaters, some bright, others pale or dark, that demand an occasion that they would, themselves, ornament theatrically. They cost, accordingly, several hundred dollars. And, on a variation of the famous lacquered nesting dolls, they offer bigger ones that contain their historical seeds within; take off the outer Yeltsin and you find Gorby; the next-smaller one is Brezhnev and then on down to Stalin and finally, Lenin. A great comic gift from $30-$45.

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Happy Phone Call To You, Happy Phone Call Tooo Youuu



What to send when your capabilities and intentions lie languishing between a greeting card and an actual hardware-present? You could send a sly comedian's version in humorous phone-form of a greeting call. These droll high-concept entre-actes are the work of local comedians and the brainchild of Comedy Connection's Bill Downes, Frank and Jane Costello who have booked a few. These telephone Birthday Greeting Cards include a very realistic Bill voice, chimed-along-with by a Hillary voice as they nimbly leap along a chain of famous Clintonia ("I would have sent you flowers, but Gennifer and I don't speak any more," says the prez.) They have that chummy co-presidential aura as they touch on health insurance, inhalation, cookies, and the daughter Bill calls "Revere" until corrected. Another greeting is based on an imaginary sadistic game show called "Now You're Old" -- with a chipper emcee glibly alluding to Depends and Walkers (Johnnie) -- and other agedness-items that would be funny for those quite young. And there's a Mafia "card" with the ominous thudding music from the Godfather in the background. A few greetings hold the sarcasm and just let the sweet times roll. The caller gets to review the possible offerings-and then sends it for $5, with instructions as to when it should be dialed in. Infodial will have anniversary and other special occasion greetings as time passes. It's a shockingly easy way to give a present, and fun for the giver too.

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Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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Ah, Harvard. The very word conjures up images of lofty academia, studious faces, ivy-covered walls and...men dressed up as milk-maids? Only the Hasty Pudding, one of Harvard's oldest and wackiest societies, could make the Crimson turn pink. Who are these people? And what are they doing to make Chevy Chase smile like that?

By Susanne E. Schantz

9 Where to Wear Your Green



It's that time of year again. That's right, we're talking shamrocks, leprechauns and enough green beer to make anyone regretful.

By Kathy Matheson

28 Checking out singles sets at Jordan's Furniture



It may not be the first choice that springs to your mind, but to hear Barry and Elliott tell it, the only place for a single to spend a Friday or Saturday night is at their furniture stores. Find out how our nightlife expert, Lauren Dare, rates the Jordan's dates (not to mention that Secret Sofa)

By Lauren Dare



On The Cover

Photographer: Jim Sullivan

Models: Chevy Chase
The Hasty Pudding Club

Hasty Pudding Hoopla

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COMEDY

HOME TOWN ADVANTAGE

Local Boy Paul Nardizzi Does Good

BY ROSS GARMIL



So, you go out to a comedy club, say Nick's Comedy Stop. The emcee gets up to start off the show. He's pretty funny, you feel ready for a great night. The emcee clears his throat and introduces the first act: "Ladies and Gentleman, Paul Nardizzi."

"Paul Nardizzi?" you say to yourself. "Paul Nardizzi?" you ask the person next to you. "Has he been on 'An Evening at Caroline's Half-Hour Stand-Up Star Search on the Road'?" He shrugs. Well, you applaud anyway, and Paul gets up on stage. You feel somewhat wary. "He doesn't look funny," you think. "He doesn't look funny," you say to the person next to you. He shrugs. Paul begins to speak in a relatively soft voice, with a thick Boston accent. "He doesn't talk funny," you say to the person next to you. "Shut up," he says. And shut up you should, otherwise you'll miss one of Boston's better up-and-coming talents.

Paul Nardizzi may not have the advantage of a nationally-known name or a routine that you would recognize from the many cable comedy shows, but that's part of his appeal. Paul is a Boston comedian. He looks local; he talks local. Hell, he *is* local. And how do you reach out to a Boston crowd? Start off with Boston material, in Paul's case a routine about Irish Americans and the sobering realities surrounding their culture. "I asked a drunk Irishman if he even knew who St. Patrick was; he said it's the guy on the Lucky Charms box." Of course, as a local comic Paul pronounced it "Lucky *Chahm's* box."

Paul then moves on to one of his favorite subjects: sports. From his own personal views on the Olympics ("They give out three medals for every event. There's 109 elements out there, why don't we give everybody a little something? You came in eightieth? Here's a big chunk of Boron."), to his advice for the Red Sox and Patriots, to a few topical remarks regarding certain Boston Celtics and certain illegal substances, Paul delivers some of the most entertaining sports commentary in New England.

So now you know a little about his act, but just who *is* Paul Nardizzi? This 25-year-old stands at 5'9", but doesn't look it. In real life, he is so squarely built that he appears about four inches shorter. Basically, he looks tough. You would not want to meet up with him in a dark alley. Nor would you want to be the subject of his comedy. Paul describes his comedy as "insult humor," and jokes that it tends to lean "more to the negative side." This explains why he feels comfortable talking about the Red Sox, but also helps define the remainder of his routine, aimed not at celebrities, but more at the everyday, commonplace stupidity we encounter in our lives.

The next victim of his soft-spoken rampage is the most annoying, and yet vital, member of every family: the television set. Specifically, Paul attacks the commercials so many of us see all too often, and some shows which make us wish that the commercials would come back on. From razor blade commercials to McDonald's to Oprah, Paul's got something to say about what's wrong on TV.

But we're not going to tell you everything; there are some things in life that you just have to find out for yourself. And with the way Paul Nardazzi works a Boston crowd, you should have ample opportunity to discover the wonder of his comedy for yourself.

Paul Nardazzi will be appearing at **Nick's Comedy Stop** on April 2&3, and also on April 30 & May 1. ❑



• COMEDY LISTINGS •

Catch a Rising Star 30B JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-0167. This legendary comedy club in the heart of Harvard Square is celebrating five years in business. Local and national acts. Sandwiches and cold appetizers served. Cover varies. Casual dress. For tickets and showtimes, call 661-0167 or 720-3450. Fri and Sat is Midnight Madness: Only $1 gets you in to see 4-6 comedians at midnight. Every Tue and Sun is Boston's Brightest Comedy Talent Search.

Thu 4th, Sat 6th - Chance Langton, Tom Gilmore and Pat Lenihan, Thu. 11th - Sat. 13th - Judy Gold, Paul Elwell and David Waterman

Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. This is the only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Wed 3rd. & Thu 4th. - Jim Dunn. Fri 5th. - Jamie Foxx. Sat 6th. - Jim Dunn.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, which features both national celebs and local favorites. Show times: Fri at 9pm, Sat at 8pm and 10:30pm. Cover $10. Always packed and second-hand smoky. Casual dress.

Fri 5th. & Sat 6th. - Brian Longwell, Jim McCue, Tom Liszanki. Fri 12th. & Sat 13th. - Karl Yarde, Spike Tobin.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See above. Show times: Fri and Sat at 10pm. Cover $9.

Fri 5th. & Sat 6th. - Bob Seibel.

Nick's Comedy Stop 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. This comedy club is one of Boston's most popular attractions when it comes to local and national acts. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

Wed 3rd. - Vinni Favorito, Thu 4th. - Paul DiAngelo, William Stephenson, Rick Aviles. Fri 5th. & Sat 6th. Rick Aviles, William Stephenson, Brad Mastangelo. Sun 7th. - Kevin Knox. Mon 8th. - Billy Martin. Tue 9th. - Jim Lauletta. Wed 10th. - Vinnie Favorito. Thu 11th. - Eddie Brill, Phil Taliaferri, Paul DiAngelo. Fri 12th. & Sat 13th. - Alan Havey, Paul Gilligan, Anthony Clark.

Stand-up Comedy Cafe (formerly The Original Connection) at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. Named by USA Today as the Number One comedy club in the country. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Rated by Rolling Stone and Vanity Fair as the nation's top comedy club. Noteworthy headliners have included Roseanne Arnold, Robin Williams and Steven Wright. Shows are Sun-Thu at 8:30pm, Fri and Sat at 8:30pm & 10:30pm. Tickets are Sun-Wed $6, Thu $8 and Fri & Sat $10. Every Tues Open Mike with Vinnie Favorito. Every Weds. Humpty Night Comedy Show with Steve Kimbrough. Every Sun: Live Dating Game with Billy Martin.

Thu 4th - Chris McGuire, Fri 5th & Sat 6th - Al Romas, Dave Fitzgerald., Mon 8th - Dr. Starr, Thu 11th- Jennifer Hoag, Fri 12th & Sat 13th - Jim David, Mon 15th - Larry Miles

Stitches 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Every Tue at 9pm and Fri at 10:30pm: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Wed: The Candles, a Grateful Dead cover band. Every Thu: Cross Comedy. Every Sun: Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10; no dress code.

Fri 5th. 8:30 & Sat 6th. - Frank Santorelli, Bill Campbell, Steve Hurley. Fri 12th. 8:30 & Sat 13th. - Jeff Stilson, Larry Myles, Ken Dubner.

AROUND TOWN



Award-winning writer, director and performance artist Robbie McCauley will be premiering "Turf," a new performance theater work exploring issues of education, race and class relations in Boston. This mixed-media work, which includes 10 Boston area actors, examines the impact of the 1974 court order to desegregate Boston's public schools. "Turf" includes stories, music, slides and video images, dialogue and the words of living witnesses to reflect the range of emotion felt by individuals relating to the 1974 federal mandate and its aftermath. In an effort to keep the presentation of "Turf" close to the various communities it was generated from, The Arts Company is presenting the piece in four neighborhood locations: March 5 and 6 at The Boston Center for the Arts in the South End, March 12 and 13 at the Charlestown Working Theater, March 18 and 19 at the Strand Theater in Dorchester and March 26 and 27 at the South Boston Boys and Girls Club. All tickets are $8. For more information, call 728-1480.

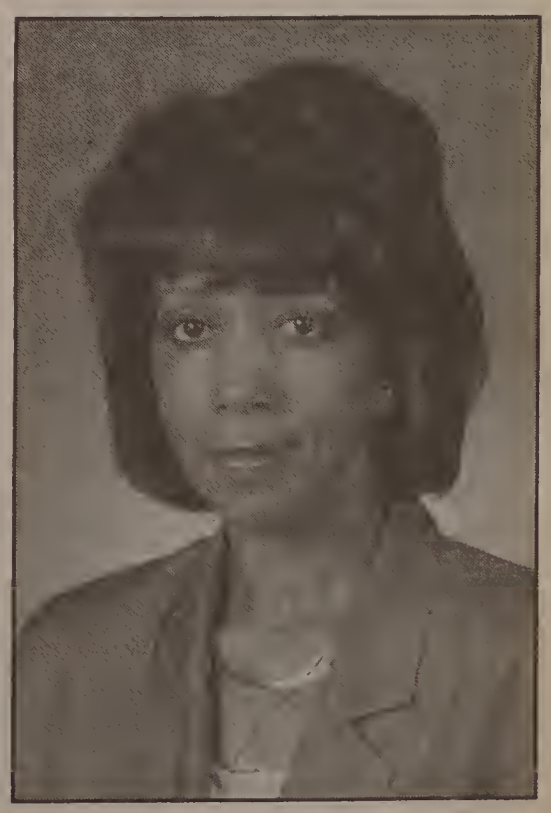
The Wang Center Metropolitans and the Museum of Fine Arts Council, two of Boston's brightest young professional groups, will join together to present an unprecedented evening of creativity and culture. On Friday, March 5, the Copley Plaza Hotel Ballroom will explode with sound as the 1993 "Culture Jam" gets underway. The event begins at 8 PM with contemporary jazz, then a variety of vocalists, dancers, saxophonists and other performers will take the spotlight and up the tempo. At mid-party time, DJ Izzy of Chunky Monkey fame will command stage with his blend of hot dance music. Funds from this event will be used to benefit both the Wang Center's educational outreach youth program "Young at Arts," and programs at the MFA. Black tie is optional. Cash bar. Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Advance ticket purchase is recommended. For further information call, 267-9300, extension 268.



Worth catching: Starting March 10, Shakespeare and Company, headed up by Tina Packer and Dennis Krausnick, will present "Berkeley Square." This Boston premiere is slated for The Boston Center for the Arts, located at 539 Tremont Street. This play, the adaptation of an unfinished novel by Henry James, is billed as a comedy of manners and ghosts. The show will run Tuesday through Saturday at 8 PM; Sunday at 3 PM; Thursday and Saturday matinees at 2 PM. Tickets are $17.50-$25. Call 426-ARTS for more information.



One of 1992's most acclaimed musical productions, Guys and Dolls, is coming to the Colonial Theatre for a one-month engagement, from March 11 to April 11. This award-winning musical stars Lorna Luft as the perpetually engaged Miss Adelaide, and Lewis Stadlen as the bet-on-anything Nathan Detroit. Richard Muenz plays the highest better of them all, Sky Masterson, and Patricia Ben Peterson is Sarah Brown of the Save-a-Soul Mission. The opening night performance will benefit the Salvation Army. For specially priced benefit tickets call the Army at 542-5420. Tickets for all other performances are $20-$60, and are available at the Colonial Theatre's box office, all TicketMaster locations or by phone 931-2787. Call 426-9366 for more information.



If you don't already know what the Women's Educational and Industrial Union is, listen up. First of all, contrary to their name, they're *not* an actual union. And although they were formed way back in 1877, by one of America's first female physicians, they still pursue their goal of supporting New England women in a wide variety of ways. They offer advice and career resources for women in career transition. Their retail store offers a variety of often home-made gift items. They hold special events, like the recent February 14 Victorian Bridal Show. If you're interested in learning more about what the WEIU can offer you, try to either attend their **1993 Amelia Earhart Award** on Tuesday, March 16 from 6 to 8 PM, awarded this year Deborah Jackson, president and CEO of Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries (tickets are $35) or one of **The Robert D. Hale Book Review Series** on March 5 at 10:30 am at The New England Hall, 225 Clarendon Street ($50 for non-members). Call 536-5651 for more information.

Hasty Pudding Hoopla

or, How a Little Oatmeal Pot Gained National Acclaim.

By Susanne E. Schantz

Chevy Chase stands center stage, a bemused expression flitting across his traditionally deadpan face. A tall man, dressed in a conservative, well-tailored tux, he bestows a tired but benevolent smile on the crew of blond-bewigged men frolicking around him. It is late on this Tuesday night, and everyone looks exhausted, yet exuberant. The champagne is flowing freely all around because, after a year's worth of intense work, the Hasty Pudding Man and Woman of the Year Awards, and opening night of this year's production "Romancing the Throne," are over.

So how exactly did this rag-tag group of nervous Harvardites manage to pull a star of Chase's magnitude to attend their theatrical satire, and grace their history-worn stage? Not to mention Whoopi Goldberg, who dominated the very same platform one week before. They did it the same way the Class of 1967 pulled in Lauren Bacall and Bob Hope, the Class of 1984 got Sean Connery and Joan Rivers and, last year's crew nailed Michael Douglas and Jodie Foster. They used The Two H's: Harvard and history.

The first part is easy: Harvard's national fame and recognition need no further explanation. But there are other ancient social groups at Harvard: the Porcellian, for one, and the Phi Beta Kappa. What gives the Hasty such caché over these other, distinguished organizations?

Pudding and pantyhose.

This is where the history/explanation part comes in. It all harks back to September 8, 1795, when a "secret" society was formed by a group of wayward Juniors, for the mawkish-sounding purpose of "cultivat(ing) the social affections and cherish(ing) the feelings of friendship and patriotism." All mush aside, the Pudding started out as a quasi-serious club, quickly creating their very own constitution (based very loosely on the founding father's version, written a mere eight years before).

Thanks to the almost anally meticulous record-keeping of Harvard College, a copious amount of notes from the very earliest Pudding meeting are still around, written by the likes of then-club secretaries James Russel Lowell and Theodore Roosevelt. These crates of notes give testament to the literary youth of the club, and show a world where poets orated personally-crafted poetry, celebrations were planned and, of course, pudding was consumed. Actually the pudding, namesake of the club, was even written into their club charter: "Two members," it reads, "selected in alphabetical order, should provide a pot of Hasty Pudding for every meeting."

Today, the idea of 20-year-olds sitting around, reading poems and eating oatmeal may seem a little unlikely. But, like every enduring organization, the Pudding has kept up with the times. Today, the Pudding crew still hangs out in the fraternity-style Members Room, complete with requisite pool table, Salvation Army-issue sofas and faded chairs, but today's Puddings are a '90s lot. You're just as likely to see a fashion magazine as a literary journal lying on the coffee tables, and the dress code has changed from formal to way casual. And, unlike the organization's early days, there are female Puddings, now.

But a lot of the underlying Pudding tenants haven't changed. Such as the annual Theatricals, although even those didn't first occur until December 13, 1844. The plays were born when one inspired senior, Lemauel Hayward, arranged a surprise performance of Bombastes Furioso, which was to be performed in his Hollis Hall dorm room. Since the Pudding had no female members at that time, the role of Distaffina, the play's heroine, was performed by member Augustus Hinchman. (Women weren't actually allowed in the club until after it had been requisitioned in 1943 as an Officer's Club for the Navy, and even then, it wasn't female students, but officers' wives that graced the place.)

Hayward's description of that first event pretty well sums it up: "The play went off splendidly – Distaffina wore a low neck and short sleeves, and on her introducing a fancy dance, the applause almost shook old Hollis down." Needless to say, the delighted Puddings decided to do it again. And again.

Tanya Fenmore, sophmore and student publicist for the Pudding, explains how the history of the Theatricals are still the reason for the events' continued success. "You take these very contemporary college students," she explains, "people that are into musical theater, but also jocks and football players, and they all come together with this one goal of putting on this Harvard highlight in four weeks or less. The show's so special," she continues, "because yes, it has 90s contemporary students, but it also has the tradition. That's what really makes the show bond, and stick together, and it's what people are coming to see."

It also helps, continuity-wise, that all the Pudding performances seem to follow a set pattern. All shows were, and still are, musical comedies with big choruses and lots of dancing, jokes about Boston society, costumes, wigs and exaggerated scenery. And the heroine, as one Harvard Alumni Bulletin put it, "always has a baritone voice."

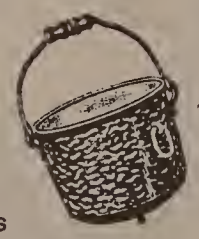
"We still have something called the pun run (a running series of puns on one topic) and the kick line where everyone's in drag," Fenmore says. "These kids from the '90s are still doing the same thing they did in the 19th Century."

By 1882, the ambitious Crimsonites were not only writing their own plays, but performing them before an appreciative public. It's not hard to imagine the plays currently put on at the Pudding being performed before that same, whooping Hollis crowd back in 1844. Only the subject matters have really changed.

As far as Hasty Pudding events, however, much has changed since the early days. In the beginning, annual dinners were the only affairs held at the club, and they were far from the galas they are today. Pudding, of course, would be the staple, and poets, such as Oliver Wendell Holmes, would be invited to write and read an Ode.

Today, as any self-respecting Bostonian knows, the Hasty Pudding Man and Woman of the Year is a national event. The cost of putting on this show, which started out at $6, today totals up at $250,000 (none of which, by the way, is

Pudding People



Once members of the Hasty Pudding Theatricals society left the fold and took off their make-up and wigs, some became, well, famous. For a typically diverse variety of reasons. Like becoming Governor of this fair state, and Herman Munster. A list of some of the Hasty's brightest:

- **Philips Brooks, Class of 1885.**
  Claim to fame: Wrote lyrics to O Little Town of Bethlehem.
- **Oliver Wendell Holmes, Class of 1861.**
  Claim to fame: Supreme Court Justice.
- **Henry Cabot Lodge, Class of 1871.**
  Claim to fame: Senator, Congressman.
- **William Randolph Hearst, Class of 1885.**
  Claim to fame: Newspaper magnate.
- **Archibald Cox, Class of 1934.**
  Claim to fame: Law professor, Solicitor General of the U.S.
- **Jack Lemmon, Class of 1947.**
  Claim to fame: Actor.
- **Fred Gwnne, Class of 1951.**
  Claim to fame: Actor (and Munster).
- **Doug Kenney, Class of 1968.**
  Claim to fame: Co-founder, National Lampoon.
- **William Weld, Class of 1966.**
  Claim to fame: Any questions?





"The Fattest Calf", 1915



"Suede Expectations", 1990

funded by Harvard itself). And each year, a new crop of bright-eyed, inexperienced Harvard undergrads learns first-hand about the pressures of putting on a national theater presentation.

Still out of breath days after the final event, Fenmore explains what the experience feels like. "Once the press releases go out," she says, "the phone doesn't stop ringing. I'm the phone from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; I can remember the night before Woman of the Year, which was my moment of most stress. I was a basket case. I remember having organized everything to the last detail, from the parade to the security to the press passes."

Typical to the business, however, just when Fenmore thought she was safe, something went wrong. "We had invited Lady Soul, who sang with Whoopi Goldberg in Sister Act, to come and sing for Whoopi. But something got fouled up, and we couldn't get mics and amps. So," she continues, "we picked up Whoopi at 11:30 at night, and at 2 a.m., the morning before show time, we were scrounging around campus, looking for mics. It worked out, but none of us could breathe through the whole day. And this is all while I'm supposed to be in school."

It doesn't help that the people these students are working with are stars; not just local heroes, but honest-to-God big shots. Like Gertrude Lawrence, who was the first woman honored, back in 1951. And Lauren Bacall, Elizabeth Taylor, Candice Bergen and Cher.

Males haven't been awarded as long; it wasn't until 1967 that the first fellow was allotted a pot (in the Pudding's case, the recipient was Bob Hope, which was considered a huge coup at the time). Since then, actors like Warren Beatty, Sean Connery, Bill Murray and Robin Williams have all been recipients. Imagine; one day, your only pressure in life is passing your Bio. exam. Next day, it's making sure Steve Martin's day goes smoothly. Not exactly small potatoes.

Even for a college senior, it must be hard not to get star struck. "The first people I met were Kevin Costner and Glenn Close," says Scot McMahon, one of the current producers of the Hasty Pudding Theatricals. "It was unusual, suddenly being face to face with these people you usually see on a screen."

"Chevy Chase," he continues, "was a constant piece of comedy in action. It was funny to pick him up at the airport. He got off the plane and started with the one-liners right there. We also had a seminar with him where the whole company asked him questions. He had serious answers for things, but he was very funny. You have to be up pretty early in the morning to pull one over on him. With the roast (part of the Man of the Year ceremony), it was like, whose roasting who up here?"

So back to the original question: how is this small theater group pulling in such big names? "At this point we have a lot of momentum," explains McMahon. "When this all started out, we drew in the first couple of people because it was a novel production, even though the show is actually very old. We're on our 145th show now."

Actually, McMahon explains, the Pudding Pot has become such a popular and media-covered award that some people actually write in, nominating themselves. "We have people write in and say they'd like to be Man or Woman of the Year," he explains, "or they know someone who should be. Someone said Angela Lansbury would be good, which is serious, but we've also had people nominate themselves, or their grandmother. Every year we get one letter from the

Make Your Own Hasty Pudding

So maybe you couldn't get into Harvard. Or you made the Harvard cut, but didn't make the auditions for the Theatricals. Take heart. You can still make your own Hasty Pudding.

Why else do you think the society got started in the first place? According to a 1892 Boston Journal article, the founding documents, written way back in 1795, actually stated that, "Two members, selected in alphabetical order, should provide a pot of Hasty Pudding for every meeting."

So what the hell is Hasty Pudding? On paper, it certainly doesn't sound that appetizing. The Oxford English Dictionary describes it as an English pudding made by stirring flour into boiling milk or water until it reaches the consistency of a thick batter; in some parts, the preparation was similar, but substituted oatmeal for flour.

Apparently the U.S. version of this concoction (which involves cornmeal rather than flour, and is topped by salt and milk or molasses) is inexpensive, wholesome and "palatable." Robert De Niro, Hasty Pudding Man of the Year, circa 1979, even whined about missing out on this weird treat. "I'm having a good time," he said, peering into his award's depths. "However, I'm a little unhappy because there's no pudding inside."

To the loyal Pudding boys, this mush was a stuff of bizarre wonderment. Consider the words penned by would-be Pudding and poet Joel Barlow (1793):

"Thy name is Hasty-Pudding! Thus our sires
Were wont to greet thee fuming from the fires...
Such is thy name, significant and clear,
A name, a sound to every Yankee dear,
But most to me, whose heart and palate chaste
Preserve my pure hereditary taste."

Or check out the ode written by Washington Allston (1799), American Romantic painter and Pudding penman, to the oatmeal chefs:

"With hasty-pudding thou dost fill our bellies,
Pudding more soft & rich than nicest jellies.
With joy & rapture how each brother hops,
When first he puts thy pudding in his chops."

Despite these lyric masterpieces, it is possible that the reason the Crimson boys chose this sticky mixture wasn't because it was such good eating. The aforementioned Boston Journal article also describes an "olde tyme prank," wherein naughty Pudding pranksters would "dispose of all their surplus cornmeal batter on the tops of the posts leading into the college yard."

S.E.S.



agent of a down-and-out actor, nominating him or her."

And it's not always easy to decide who, out of so many stars, the Theatricals should chose. "They should have made a lasting and impressive contribution to the world of entertainment," explains McMahon. "It's a lifetime achievement type of thing. Sometimes people turn it down. What happens is we have people who can't make the event because they're shooting a movie or something like that. One of the criteria is you have to come here and accept in Cambridge."

Like any growing organization, changes have to occur from time to time. The Hasty Pudding society is no exception. There was, for instance, the big division of the 1970s, when the Theatricals and the Social Club decided to separate.

"They used to be one and the same organization," says McMahon. "They split in the 70s. The club (which boasts such historical members as John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy) is a social group. Basically, they hold parties and have a membership list and things like that.

"The Theatrical," he continues, "are just concerned with putting on the show. We're really separate, but it's a mutually beneficial thing. A lot of people who are in the Theatricals are in the club. The club benefits because the officers get to meet the men and women of the year. And if you've been in the Theatricals for two years, they can automatically join the club."

To someone not in the Theatricals, however, there are stipulations to getting access to membership. "You have to be 'punched'," says McMahon, referring to a version of being "tapped" for membership. "You have to be asked to join (the club). It really depends on you knowing someone who's in the club now. They are limited to a number of members."

Despite all the big changes that have happened since the days Puddings sat around chugging oatmeal, the founding members would be reassured to note that today's Puddings still consider some of the old stories the best. Like the one about the 1919 Theatricals show, called "Crowns and Clowns."

"It was a spoof on the Russian Revolution," says Mc - Mahon. "Apparently, there was a group of communists here in the States that heard we were making fun of the whole thing, and they sent in a threat; you know, cut letters from a magazine pasted onto a paper. It said, like, 'Beware, don't do this show or you will be damn sorry,' with a big black hand painted in the middle of the page (representing) some group called The Society."

What did they do? McMahon sounds proud as he said, "Of course, they did the show and the building's still here, so..."

The current Theatricals presentation, "Romancing the Throne," runs at the Hasty Pudding Theatre until March 23. After that, the show hits the road, zooming for a whirlwind two-day tour of the Big Apple, at the at Pace University theater on March 26 and 27, then onto a Spring Break-length performance in beautiful Bermuda. What actor could ask for a better run?

Source: The Hasty Pudding Theatre; A History of Harvard's Hairy-Chested Heroines, by Anthony Calnek



The oldest existing photo of a kick line—Hamlet, 1893.



Bye Bye Verdi kick line,1987



Step Lively kick line (1933).

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There's a Wealth of St. Patrick's Day Events to Enjoy!

GET UP YOUR IRISH!

By Kathy Matheson

What?! You mean you didn't get invited to State Senate President William Bulger's annual St. Patrick's Day breakfast? What are you, a common taxpayer or something?

Some people will tell you that all the state employees get March 17 off because of something called "Evacuation Day" - the day the British army was forced to flee Bunker Hill during the Revolutionary War. Oh, come now. How many city hall clerks do you think you'll see paying homage to the colonial militia by climbing those steps at the Bunker Hill monument in Charlestown? They're only kidding themselves if they think we don't know they're feasting on corned beef and cabbage, washing it down with, what else, some green beer.

Well, if you're one of those - horrors! - private sector workers who don't get the day off, take heart. There are still ways you can celebrate this most Irish of all Irish holidays, especially since the main event - the **St. Patrick's Day** parade - actually takes place on Sunday, March 14.

But before we get to the parade, try stopping in at the **"Medieval University and Faire"** at Harvard on March 13. For only $3, you can transport yourself from 1993 in Cambridge, Massachusetts to 1193 in Cambridge, England. At Memorial Hall and Sanders Theatre, you can see medieval combat and craft demonstrations, as well as a medieval marketplace, complete with dancers, musicians and storytellers. Call 496-2222 for more information.

The next day, get up your Irish! Celebrate Irish-American pride at the annual South Boston parade, which winds down Broadway starting at 1 pm. Be sure to get there early if you even want a chance at seeing the bands and stuff.

The Chieftains, the Irish band of world-repute that have garnered an international following for their Celtic music, perform at Symphony Hall on March 14, at 8 pm. Although they have played with artists such as Emmylou Harris, Van Morrison, Jackson Browne and Elvis Costello, that night they will be joined by the **Belfast Harp Orchestra** and step-dancer **Kelly Anne O'Sullivan.** Call 266-1492 for ticket information.

If you're planning to host an all-out bash at your house or apartment, it might be a good idea to go to a cooking seminar called **"Party Food"** at Boston University. Cookbook author, syndicated columnist and teacher Barbara Kafka leads demonstrations on how to make fun, easy and inexpensive knoshing food The seminar takes place on March 16, at 6 pm. The fee is $60; call 353-9852 to register.

Elvis Costello and the Brodsky Quartet play one of only four U.S. dates right here in Boston on Shamrock Day itself, March 17. Britain's oh-so-mellowed angry young man recorded his new album, "The Juliet Letters," with this string ensemble and will perform at 8:30 pm at Symphony Hall. Don't look for him to play classics like The Angels Wanna Wear My Red Shoes, Oliver's Army or Radio Radio, but naturally it will be a great concert.

And then, of course, there are the bars. Granted, most watering holes will be decorated from head-to-toe in green streamers and shamrock paraphernalia, and no doubt they'll serve green beer. However, there are some traditional Irish pubs where the enjoyment is in the native clientele and the atmosphere. Even though they'll probably have green beer, too. Here is a partial list of Irish haunts worth catching, broken down by area:

• **Allston/Brighton:** O'Brien's, Kinvara and the Allston Ale House on Harvard Avenue are all winners; The Kells right around the corner on Brighton Avenue is the new kid and the Green Briar in Brighton on Washington Street is a good bet for a good time.

• **Boston:** The Purple Shamrock on Union Street next to Faneuil Hall; The Black Rose at the foot of State Street; The Claddagh on Columbus Avenue in the South End; Crossroads, at the corner of Beacon Street and Mass. Ave. at the edge of the Back Bay; Mr. Dooley's on Broad Street; The Sevens on Charles Street in Beacon Hill (OK, so it's not all that Irish, but it's still a great bar); and that favorite of the state politicians, J.J. Foley's on Kingston Street just outside of Downtown Crossing.

• **Brookline:** Corrib Pub on Harvard Street; the Tam o' Shanter and O'Leary's, both on Beacon Street.

• **Cambridge:** The Black Rose (yes, there's another one!) on Church Street, and the Plough and Stars on Mass. Avenue.

And, if your hangover has worn off and you're still in the mood 10 days later, the Jamaica Plain Arts Center, 659 Centre St., hosts the **Gloucester Hornpipe and Clog Society** on March 27 at 8 pm. How could anyone resist?



Illustration by Melissa Longfellow

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Groundhog Day

"Funny, time after time"

This is a classic Harold Ramis film, despite the odds against a film based on repetition being anything but annoying. Bill Murray gives a vintage performance as weatherman Phil Connors, a man stuck in time and in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Andie MacDowell (under-used as Connors' new station producer) and Chris Elliott (as cameraman Larry) add to the comedic mix as Connors finds himself forced to deal with the same situations, people and television shows over, and over, and over again. **T.S.L.**

Lorenzo's Oil

"A Brave and Daring Brew"

Based on the lives of Augusto and Michaela Odone, Lorenzo's Oil is the story of a couple's efforts to save the life of their son from adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). In this gritty, painful and brilliant picture, the parents (Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon) not only push the medical establishment for answers, but take up ALD research on their own. While keeping their marriage and their son alive. Nolte's Italian accent is annoying for a while, but it is the only false note in an otherwise important film about the power of determination in the face of helplessness. **B.C.**

Love Field

"On Shaky Ground"

Love Field is a modest tale surrounding two separate journeys that merge into one. Michelle Pfieffer does a good, albeit shrill, job as Lurene Hallett, the Southern housewife on a bus pilgrimage to J.F.K.'s funeral. On her trip she meets, and becomes involved with Paul Cater (played superbly by Brian Kerwin), a quiet black man traveling with an abused orphan he is attempting to save. Small but powerful moments of racial drama almost make this film great, but its insistence at attempted "big screen" moments make it a toss-up. **A.L.**

Scent of A Woman

"Pacino Reeks of Hoffman"

A blind, grouchy, former military officer (Pacino) takes his new prep school "babysitter" (Chris O'Donnell) on a Thanksgiving weekend extravaganza in New York City. While the youth frets for Pacino's safety (and about his own problems at school), Pacino overtips waiters, dances the Tango and correctly identifies the perfume (not to mention the hair and eye color) of every woman he meets. **B.C.**

Matinee

A B-Movie That Earns a B-Plus

The scene is Key West, 1962, and the latest B-movie thriller from "Shock Expert" Lawrence Woosley (John Goodman) is coming to town. The timing is perfect: the Cuban Missile Crisis has just begun, and the fear outside the theater mirrors the melodrama inside. Writer Charlie Haas (*Gremlins*) provides us with a fair enough script, replete with irony, some romance, sentiment, and of course humor. Director Joe Dantre recreates 1962 in excruciating detail. The jokes were best coming from Goodman, but the remaining members of the cast are on the level of *The Wonder Years*. Matinee tends to overreach itself by trying to fit in romance, drama and comedy in one nostalgiac package, but for entertainment value and laughs, the movie earns a strong B-plus. **T.S.L.**

Falling Down

A Darkly Comical Urban Nightmare



D-FENS (Michael Douglas), an ordinary man who has gone over the edge is confronted by gang members in "Falling Down"

BY TIM LEMIRE

In the early goings of Falling Down, Michael Douglas' character (John Q. White Guy with starched shirt and pocket protector) sits on a graffitied stone to mend a hole in his shoe. Douglas' bad day is getting worse. Two menacing Latinos accost Douglas and tell him the graffiti says that he's on their turf, punctuating their ultimatum with the F word.

"Well, maybe if it was in f — ing English," Douglas beams back, "I might be able to f — ing understand it."

The scene is a funny one, indicative of the keen balance of drama and black humor in *Falling Down*, which also stars Barbara Hershey as Douglas' estranged wife, and Robert Duvall as Officer Prendergast. Duvall is a retiring desk jockey who, on his last days as a cop, works to bring in Douglas, who outdoes Bernard Goetz in refusing to be victimized by urban society.

Douglas' character is initially identified by the license plate of his car — D-FENS — which he abandons in a traffic jam at the outset of the film. Saying he just wants to "go home," D-FENS makes his way across L.A., exchanging his briefcase for a duffel bag of guns and forging a path of chaos as his anger at the annoying minutiae of city life — line item budgets, fast food chains and over-priced sodas — boils over.

The script borrows heavily from David Mamet's play *Edmond*, in which an equally ordinary guy abandons his wife and home and crosses town in search of truth, while having several perilous encounters along the way (mostly with minorities) that reveal the ugliness of American bigotry, violence and urban ruin.

Falling Down is more darkly comical than *Edmond*, and hence more palatable for the broader cinematic audience.

Falling Down

Warner Brothers
Directed by Joel Schumacher
Starring Michael Douglas
Robert Duvall
Barbara Hershey

Rated R

Human beings cannot bear very much reality — "urban reality," as *Falling Down* proclaims itself — and so severe drama is cushioned by dark humor.

Barbara Hershey is Beth, who throughout the movie receives phone calls from her ex-husband D-FENS, and although Hershey is given little more to do than fret and furrow her brow over her husband's imminent arrival ("I'm coming home," he tells her, "I am past the point of no return."), her anxiety is visceral, expressed without hysteria, and one feels in Hershey's pleading not only desire for a safe future but a note of longing to redeem her past with her husband.

Robert Duvall is exceptionally controlled and subtle in his portrayal of the unobtrusive and avuncular Officer Prendergast. Thankfully, the makers of *Falling Down* opted not to make him a grand hero type: a desk jockey who slips into a phone booth and emerges as RoboCop. Duvall's Prendergast is more like Colombo without the Socratic humility, and eminently likable.

Ultimately, the viewer wonders what the moral is to this "tale of urban reality": stay away from geeky white guys on hot days? The more D-FENS is portrayed as a sociopath, the more easily we can dismiss him as a freak of inner city nature, nothing to worry about because he's insane and we are sane; we are in no danger of becoming like him.

Douglas keeps D-FENS' character restrained in his outbursts, and manages to create pathos in his moments of breakdown. Yet when D-FENS strikes out violently, Douglas looks too casual to be normal; he swipes away people as easily as he swipes away an irritant fly at the start of the movie. At times we identify with him, and at other times, we distance ourselves from his obvious psychosis.

Falling Down, while hardly incendiary for its own sake, is sure to inspire discussion and a greater amount of press regarding its treatment of urban issues, racism and violence. It is a film worth seeing — and surely worth considering. ❑

IN CONTROL OF HIS DESTINY

An Interview with John Turturro

If you've seen *Barton Fink*, then you know John Turturro. If you've seen *Miller's Crossing*, then you know John Turturro. And after you've seen *Mac*, which opens March 3, you'll never forget John Turturro. After cameos and supporting roles in films like *To Live and Die in L.A.*, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, *The Color of Money* and *Do The Right Thing*, John Turturro landed the title role both in *Barton Fink* and again in *Mac*, where he also makes his directing debut.

Portraying the explosive on-screen personality of a man whose temper rests delicately on a precipitous ledge build of family values and the lure of the American Dream, *Mac* is truly the vision of a man who's not obsessed, but certainly blessed with a fondness for control. In this film, the severing of family relationships is sometimes even seen as an acceptable solution to inherent problems.

It is with *Mac* that Turturro has finally achieved a level of moviemaking satisfaction—without having to play Hollywood's advanced game of back-scratching. Blessed with the autonomy to choose his own cast, he has hand-picked a group which includes his real-life wife Katherine Borowitz, who plays his on-screen wife Alice. In *Mac*, Alice's frankness more than once saves *Mac* from a certain financial doom.

Set in Queens in the '50s, *Mac* is loosely based on the lives of Turturro's childhood role models, particularly his father. Though the story line is simple, written around the life of a skilled carpenter named *Mac*, and his two brothers Vico and Bruno, Turturro gives us a good view into the passion behind *Mac*'s pursuit of the American Dream. Hard decisions, and even more difficult choices between family and career, are exposed in this film, which shows a world depicted often in still-life, but rarely portrayed on film.

"I never saw that particular world depicted in a film before," says Turturro, weary from a non-stop press tour. "It's about people striving to do something real. Having your ups and downs. It started as a play and developed into a screenplay – it finished as a screenplay in 1987. I hadn't really seen that world on film before. If you look in paintings or photography, these artists have tried to capture them [the builders] for years. They're just people that I like. It's vital."

The importance of such a topic is evident not only in Turturro's choice to star in *Mac*, but also to direct the film; but he did not make the decision without some reservation. After analyzing the demands of the role and the anticipated demands of directing the project, Turturro went ahead and assumed the additional role of director.

"I had done the role before so that's the advantage over a first time person. I know when to shut the engine off and it would have been difficult directing someone else, to be honest."

Turturro made the choice to direct *Mac* after speaking with several producers whom he was considering, including Nancy Tenenbaum (*Sex, Lies, and Videotape*) who accepted the position of producer only after several discussions with Turturro.

"I was a big fan of John as an actor," Tenenbaum recalls. "At that meeting, I found him to be amazingly inspiring and passionate, and I felt that no one else but he should direct this film." It comes as no surprise that, given how impressed she was by Turturro, she quickly gave up her role as adviser and came on board as his producer. Tenenbaum was not the only one who suggested to Turturro that he assume the role of director.

"I had originally thought of hiring another director," admits Turturro, "but all of the people I considered were film makers who wrote and directed all their own material. I was encouraged by the film makers I know well, like Spike Lee, Joel and Ethan Coen, and Martin Scorsese, to think about doing it myself. It took me a while, but I realized that it was really my vision that I wanted to see up there."

You won't wonder for too long about which elements belong in a vision of John Turturro's. Some of them – like the generous blocks of time he offers to individual character development, particularly that of *Mac*'s in this picture – set the tone of the film. Turturro gives scenes enough time to develop their own foundation and carry the weight that they deserve. It's obvious that he has spent time ensuring that background characters and their accompanying noise levels were played to perfection. In *Mac*, scenes which included his mother's moans and wails couldn't have been more perfectly woven into the more central lines and action at the front of the scene. With Tenenbaum and co-producer Brenda Goodman's deliberate hands-off approach to working with Turturro, this film pulls together with the ease of a project that enjoys – and sets – its own pace.

"I met other directors and producers and wasn't that interested in them," says Turturro. "Nancy asked me to show her a rewrite. She had worked on some interesting films, and never asked me to compromise or water it down. After speaking with other younger directors, I thought, 'I'll do it.' I thought it would be a good test and I wanted to show people what I could do. I feel privileged to have gotten the chance to do it."

It comes as no surprise that Turturro finds it easy to parallel the work ethics of *Mac* (who wakes his brothers up each morning at the crack of dawn) to his own.



Actor/director John Turturro enjoys a brief moment in Boston's historic North End.

"There are many things that are similar between the two of us. I had the advantage of going to school (Yale School of Drama, where he won the Carol Dye award for excellence in acting), and articulating better, but there are a lot of similarities. Some of his characteristics directly parallel mine, but having heard some of the lines in different ways from different people, you could say that I was inspired by a lot of different sources. But it's more of a parallel of my dad's life."

In some of *Mac*'s scenes, co-stars Michael Badalucco and Carl Capotorto play *Mac*'s semi-committed (to the family business) brothers with such conviction and zest that scenarios flow at a comfortable pace. In fact, Turturro and gang spent several months trying out scenes, editing, rewriting, changing and improvising. "Over a period of months, we'd videotape it and put it in. Michael really improvised a lot and he really caught it on film. We improvised a good amount during rehearsals and then put it into the script."

Whether or not *Mac* is a commercial success remains to be seen. Turturro refuses to reflect or predict on its popularity, but asserts his position when saying, "I won't be influenced by it." Nor will the decision to direct again be similarly affected. "I'm not looking for a director's job [laughs], but if I do direct again, I hope it's something that will be as motivating as this."

Mac opens Wednesday, March 3. ❑

KEY

A Winner

A Toss Up

For the Birds

CRITICS CHOICE

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Sommersby	A	A	A	T	T	A	–	A	A
Scent of a Woman	A	A	A	A	A	B	T	A	B
Untamed Heart	T	A	T	T	–	T	–	–	–
Groundhog Day	A	A	T	A	A	A	–	A	A
A Few Good Men	A	A	A	A	A	B	T	T	A
Aladdin	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Homeward Bound	A	A	T	A	A	–	–	–	–
Loaded Weapon 1	T	T	B	B	B	–	–	T	T
The Vanishing	T	T	T	T	A	B	–	T	A
The Temp	B	B	B	B	B	–	–	–	–

When Irish Eyes are Collecting

Master Paintings from The National Gallery of Ireland

BY JENNIFER MCCANN

Straight from the Emerald Isle is an exhibition of 44 European paintings from one of Europe's most prestigious museums. "Master European Paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Mantegna to Goya" is the name of the exhibit being featured at the Museum of Fine Arts through March 28.

Spanning four centuries, the exhibit includes paintings created by such renowned artists as Jacques Louis David, Francisco de Goya, Diego de Silva Velazquez and Thomas Gainsborough. The reason for this showing is very straightforward; the National Gallery of Ireland is currently under renovations and, not wanting some of its "most precious masterpieces" to gather sawdust, has sent these works to four American museums, including the MFA.

MASTER EUROPEAN PAINTINGS FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave.
Boston
On View Through
March 28, 1993

This extraordinary exhibit begins with a look at paintings from the Renaissance and Baroque periods, covering the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries. Included are portraits by Wolf Huber and Conrad Faber, with works by Diego Velazquez and Claude Lorrain featured in the second gallery. The last two galleries cover the 18th and 19th centuries where artists such as William Hogarth of England, Irish portrait painter Sir Joshua Reynolds and French master Jacques-Louis David are represented.

In addition to this exhibit, a series of lectures has been produced by the MFA to focus on the individual works from the National Gallery of Ireland, on both a personal and a historical level. The first of these, titled *Hispania/Hibernia: Spanish Paintings in Ireland* takes place on Thursday, March 4 at 7:30 pm in the Remis Auditorium. *W.B. Yeats: Museums, Pictures and Statues* will take place on Wednesday, March 10 and *The Taste for Dutch Art: Netherlandish Paintings in the National Gallery of Ireland and the Samuel Collection* will be the last lecture, featured on Wednesday, March 17.

"Master European Paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Mantegna to Goya" will be on exhibit through March 28 in the MFA's Graham Gund Gallery. Organized by the National Gallery of Ireland in cooperation with the Art Institute of Chicago, the exhibit is funded by a grant from the IBM Corporation and an indemnity has been granted by the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities. ❑



"Kitchen Maid with the Supper at Emmaus", ca. 1618 -19, Diego de Silva Velazquez (Spanish, 1599 - 1660), Oil on Canvas



"Judith with the Head of Holofernes", c. 1495 -1500, Andreas Mantegna (Italian, 1430 - 1506) Distempter on linen, mounted on millboard

STAGE NOTES

BY NANCY LEONARD

The New Repertory Theatre in Newton Highlands is presenting the Boston premiere of Athol Fugard's "My Children! My Africa!" on February 25 - April 4. The play is a tale of racial conflict and friendship in a small South African school. It stars Allen Oliver (who has been appearing at Providence's Trinity Repertory Company), Donald Swaby, and Eliza Gagnon. Joanna Zazofsky (formerly known as Joanne Green) is staging the work. For tickets and information, call 332-1646.

The Fenway Community Health Center, which has been one of the leaders in the fight against AIDS, is sponsoring a gala benefit party, "HOT HOT TROPICS" on Tuesday, March 30, at Avalon, 13 Lansdowne Street from 8 pm to 1 am. Buster Poindexter and His Banshees of Blue, Lesley Gore and others are to be special guests. General admission tickets are $50. VIP contributors, who donate $125, will also be invited to a pre-party buffet dinner at Venus DeMilo, Lansdowne Street, from 6 - 8 pm, and a private reception with dessert and dancing at Axis, also on Lansdowne Street, from 8 - 11 pm. Eartha Kitt and Chez-Zam, a troupe of performance artists, will appear at the buffet.

Tickets are available in advance by calling 247-CARE. The festivities include a chance to win a 1993 Toyota Corolla, and a week's stay in Cancun with airfare included. Raffle tickets for these prizes are $50 each, and are available with a credit card from the same phone number, or from the Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Dream of the Red Spider

Simplistic and Far From Tantalizing



Alvin Epstein and Jonathan Fried in Dream of the Red Spider

BY NANCY LEONARD

For all its hyperventilation and sexually charged atmosphere, *Dream of the Red Spider*, in its world premiere at the American Repertory Theatre, is really quite simplistic. Author Ronald Ribman seems to have written a minor allegory about the illusion of power and the randomness of life, which director Ron Daniels has then tried to pump up into a major cinematic affair. But the directorial vision does not equate with mythmaking. We're told the few things we need to know, and shown little more. Despite the earnest philosophic intentions, there's little substance amidst all the decoration.

The play is set in a fictional South American country, in a time of trouble and hardship, with a plague of red spiders on the outskirts of the city. The country appears to be ruled by Luis Gutierrez, El Commandante (played by Jonathan Fried who's wonderful as the slow-witted, mechanized El Commandante), though he is actually a robotic invention of the former revolutionary, Don Emilio Valverde, who is the real strongman behind the throne. Don Emilio -- whose idealistic visions have long since turned to ashes — is an elderly widower, authoritatively commanding his troops through a portable phone while hiding behind the walls of his estate — safe from assassins aiming at his creation. Alvin Epstein, who plays Valverde, captures his torment, if not his power.

Meanwhile, in what seems a separate matter from the nature of ruling power, a malevolent minor official named Uyttersprot is planning betrayal. He plucked a young girl from a fish plant, transformed her into a nightclub entertainer, and sent her into the arms of Don Emilio. Violet seduces the old man with sex and the dream of restored youth, setting him up for destruction.

In the final scene, placed in a kind of existential void, Uyttersprot confides that an accident set him on his course. He hoped that with his evil deed, God would appear and explain why a runaway cow trampled his pregnant wife. The only appearance, though, is by Gutierrez, who is prepared to assume real power, thinking he's a real person now that his creator is gone.

Ribman intended this work to explore the human desire for "certainty" in public and private matters. But his play is innaccurately dramatized. He spends too much time on some things — drawing the romance out to excessive length, and lingering at the Carnival celebration — and needlessly portrays what we've already been told. He also slights important matters, and keeps a good deal obscure until the very end. It's disappointing, but somehow not a surprise, to learn that despite an army of fumigators, the spiders are purely metaphorical. Mostly, the playwright needs to make the connection between Don Emilio and his creation much more forcefully at the outset, so that we get a feeling of tyranny in the land and of Gutierrez's own ambitions. Right now, Don Emilio's fall hardly resonates, because we have no sense of his pivotal role.

The direction adds a dark energy and tacky gloss to the proceedings, particularly when it focuses on Violet's tarty mission. The first act seems like a soap opera with intellectual pretensions: the artsy staging standing for substance and portentousness. The second act contains an indulgently erotic Carnival scene, with lots of frenzied commotion, glittery beasts of burden, and a looming neon-lighted spider that's ill used in the action. The black void, with Don Emilio ignominiously suspended in a burlap sling, is born in chaos, then imagined dimly as a luggage storeroom, starkly lit from various angles. Ominous rumblings fill the air throughout the action.

There's a cinematic sensibility to the production design, as it moves through the very different settings, for example, from the silvery, subterranean nightclub to the sun-drenched estate with its yellow walls and wilted palm. The design team -- Riccardo Hernandez (sets), Catherine Zuber (costumes), Frances Aronson (lighting), Maribeth Back (sound) — certainly played a strong role in establishing the atmosphere. But the collective artistry all seems externally imposed. The feverish, large-scale vision adds little and outdistances the material. The two plot-like themes remain small and transparent amidst the embellishment, never working their way up to myth or even much intellectual challenge.

The additional performers, locked into the surreal action, conduct themselves with skillful authority. Black-garbed Jack Willis is grandly enacing, then nearly sympathetic, as Uyttersprot. Maggie Rush plays Violet with bold seductiveness and annoying self-interest (and just a whiff of hesitancy in the characterization). Remo Airaldi and Candy Buckley are funny as "loyal" military confidantes, and the latter has a stand-out turn in the Carnival frenzy. Though Ribman would be faulted for being too obscure, his concerns in *Dream of the Red Spider* may be overly apparent. In any event, his allegory seems small-scale and far from tantalizing in the hyperbolic ART production. Perhaps Daniels, like El Commandante, had his own agenda. ❑

Letter From The Editor

To our readers,

In the two year period I've been with *The Improper Bostonian*, I have witnessed many changes here at the paper.

We began with a small staff (five to be exact), and have grown to the numbers currently reflected in our masthead. Our circulation has grown, our coverage has expanded and most importantly, our readership has increased and remained loyal. You have supported *The Improper Bostonian* in a time of economic uncertainty — a time in which we have relied on your support and feedback, for which I have been unquestionably grateful. When Mark Semonian, our publisher and friend, committed to bringing Boston an alternative to its current selection of entertainment magazines, I was eager to be one of the first to hop on board. Mark — and our staff — all began, with an uphill battle to plough through the recession while making a name for ourselves in Boston. This fight still goes on, but with each day and each new issue, we are making progress.

It is this thought of progress and the absence of daily contact with our staff that I will miss the most when I move on to the West Coast where I have accepted a new position. The paper will continue to flourish, the staff will remain and I hope that you, the reader will continue to support *The Improper Bostonian* for years and years. And while you're reading, I will be occasionally reflecting and sometimes lamenting on my time with the paper — a time which has brought plenty of joy, some hair-greying frustrations and of course a good share of crazy times.
Sure, there will soon come a time when I'll be relaxing in my new home, missing those special memories — like Underwear Day (our staff parades around in nothing but underwear every Thursday). But what this editor leaves behind more than anything else is a family filled with the most creative people he's ever met. Best of luck to the staff of The Improper Bostonian and you, the Improper reader.

Tobin A. Streett
Editor In Chief

THE ARTS CALENDAR

DANCE

ARTDANCE/DANCEART
at the Dance Complex
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
See an evening of original choreography by Thomas Vacanti and Skip Warren on Mar. 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 8pm. The three works they will present definitely stretch the definition of "ballet" to its absolute limit. Call 267-5516.

BOSTON BALLET
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Boston Ballet presents *FireWorks* Mar. 4-14. Featured will be "Etudes," by Harald Lander and set to Czerny; "Brief Fling," by Twyla Tharp and set to Colombier & Grainger; and "Raymonda, Act III" by Fernando Bujones and set to Glazounov. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

ISRAELI DANCE FESTIVAL
at Kresge Auditorium
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
M.I.T. Hillel presents the 17th annual Israeli folkdance festival on Mar. 14 at 3pm. Call 253-2982 for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
On view through Mar. 14 is the work of color photographers who were honored with the 1993 Leopold Godowsky Awards. (Godowsky was the co-inventor of Kodachrome film.) Subjects range from the religious clashes in Ireland to medieval walls.



MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Close-Up/Still Life" through May 23. Drawn mainly from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features images by photographers such as Steiglitz, Abbott, Moholy, Steichen, Ray and Brandt. Parallel themes are brought up to date by contemporary photogs such as Coplans, Spano and Nixon.

CLASSICAL

BOSTON LYRIC OPERA
at the Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St., Boston
The BLO concludes its 16th season with American composer Carlisle Floyd's *Wuthering Heights* on Mar. 10, 12, 14 & 16. This marks the first time in nearly two decades that the tragic tale of Catherine and Heathcliff has been professionally produced. Call 248-8660 for times and ticket information.

COLLAGE NEW MUSIC
at the Tsai Performance Center
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
One of the nation's most prestigious contemporary music ensembles, CNM presents works by Lazarof, Qualliotine, Martinu and Torke on Mar. 14 at 8pm. Call 721-4222 for tickets.

COLONNADE HOTEL
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

JORDAN HALL
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
Boston Baroque presents an all-Mozart program Mar. 5 at 8pm, featuring the sacred Mozart of the church as well as the "naughty" Mozart of the movie *Amadeus*. Call 641-1310. As part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series, guitarist Christopher Parkening gives a Sunday matinee performance on Mar. 7 at 3pm. As part of the Emerging Artist Series, mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt gives a recital Mar. 14 at 8pm.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
A quintet leads you on a musical journey through the life of Mozart on Mar. 7 at 3pm in Remis Auditorium. Call 267-9300 x300 for more information.

MUSICA SACRA
at All Saints Church
1773 Beacon St., Brookline
Come see the New England premiere of Arvo Part's *Passio*, a setting of the St. John Passion, on Mar. 13 at 8pm. Call 864-7998 for ticket information.

SYMPHONY HALL
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
As part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series, you can see the Cleo Laine & John Dankworth Jazz Quartet on Mar. 5 and the world-renowned Irish band The Chieftains on Mar. 14. Both shows are at 8pm. Call 931-ARTS for tickets.

TOURS

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING CO.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at noon.

MASS. BREWING COMPANY, INC.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1pm. For more information call 455-1935.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

SAMUEL ADAMS BREWERY
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2pm and Saturdays at noon and 2pm, the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
The Cine Club presents a series of "Contemporary Swiss Cinema" from Mar. 5-7 at 8pm. First, see the color-animated *Trans-Enfance Express* and then see *Journey of Hope*, a story about a Turkish couple that flees their poor village in Turkey for the wealth of Switzerland - it won the Oscar in 1991 for best foreign film. Both are subtitled in English. Costs $5.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
at Harvard's Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge
The HFA presents *A Tale of Springtime* until Mar. 3, while the Japanese film *Saviour of the Soul* runs Mar. 5-10. Call 496-6046 for more details.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents the best of the Hiroshima Animation Film Festival on Mar. 3 at 6pm and 8pm; on Mar. 5, see the films of Andrzej Wajda: *The Shadow Line*, a semi-autobiographical account of Joseph Conrad's first voyage as captain, at 5:30pm; and *The Girls of Wilko*, an Oscar nominee about a man who dallies with five ladies, at 7:45pm.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

OTHER SIDE CAFE
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Apr. 1, you can design your own bicycle at a cutting-edge interactive computer station, featuring spectacular 3-D color graphics. Also, see R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Through Mar. 28, the Sackler is showing "First Under Heaven: The Henderson Collection of Korean Ceramics." Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

by Leslie Semonian

"What is something you have always wanted to do?"



Bruce, 25, Needham
"I've always wanted to take a basketball down the lane and slam dunk right over Michael Jordan."



Gary, 47, Wethersfield, CT
"I would like to pilot an amphibious plane throughout the northeast United States."



Joanne, 28, Brookline
"Travel around the world with endless funds and endless time."



Sona, 50, Belmont
"I have always wanted to be an Olympic figure skater who can also sing opera."



Rebecca, 60's, Wellesley
"Travel in a time machine to the roaring 20's and be a flapper."



Bob, 24, Marshfield
"I've always wanted to bungee cord jump off the John Hancock building."

that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture, Mar. 10 to May 30. From Shakespeares's *Twelfth Night* to the recent movie *The Crying Game*, cross-dressing has challenged audiences to think in new ways. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Master European Paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Mantegna to Goya" is on view through Mar. 28. This collection, which has rarely been outside Ireland, includes works by David, Gainsborough and Poussin. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 3 and part two until September.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit through May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures!

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Through Mar. 13, see an extensive exhibition of model ships on display. For Women's History Month, enjoy a guided tour by "Rosie the Riveter" each Saturday in March from 11am-1pm. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
at Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Through Mar. 3, the A.R.T. performs George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House*, about Britain's aristocracy on the eve of World War I. Through Mar. 10, see *Dream of the Red Spider*, about plots to overthrow Paranoid Dictators. Call 547-8300 for times and ticket information.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
In celebration of Women's History Month, the Playwrights' Platform presents a series of one-act plays. See the musical *Louisa May and Hester Prynne* on Mar. 5 & 13 at 8pm; *Spirit and Flesh*, about the first woman stockbroker who also ran for U.S. president in 1872; *Crossover Madness*, about singer struggling to retain her identity; *Don't Take No Wooden Nickels*, where a father and son have a bittersweet reunion; and *Journal*, a presentation of remembrances from famous women's diaries; all are on Mar. 6 & 12 at 8pm.

Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. ***A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*** through the end of spring. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, ***Shear Madness*** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

Chekhov Theater
at 949 Comm. Ave., Boston
Chekhov Theater presents Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull*, the tragic farce of rivalry between generations for leadership in art, society and personal relationships. Performances are Mar. 4, 5 & 11 at 8pm.

Cicatrix Theatre
at the Charlestown Working Theatre
The Charlestown Working Theatre re-opens with the new play *Itchin' for It*, a rhythm & blues "thrance" to the music of Otis Redding and Etta James. The show begins Mar. 18. Call 242-3285 for times and ticket information.

Colonial Theatre
106 Boylston St., Boston
See *Guys and Dolls*, the feel-good musical that had Broadway going for a long time. Runs Mar. 11 to Apr. 11. Call 931-2787 for times and ticket information.

Double Edge Theatre
5 St. Luke's Road, Allston
The DET presents *Song of Songs* Mar. 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 8pm. Drawn from Solomon's biblical ode of divine and human love and faith, the performance moves in and out of the world of the Muslim, Christian and Jewish cultures of Medieval Spain, the Rabbinic period, early common era and modern times. Call 254-4228.

French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
Riverside Theare Works presents the classic musical *Annie* through Mar. 21. Come enjoy the story of the little orphan, Daddy Warbucks, Miss Hannigan and the dog, Sandy! Call 361-7024 for times and ticket prices.

Huntington Theatre
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Undiscovered Country crystallizes the world of the Austrian-Hungarian empire in 1911, just before its end. In beautiful Vienna, the wealthy middle class has everything; this is a poignant portrait of an era whose end is foreseen only in the hearts and minds of its people. Runs Mar. 5 to Apr. 4. Call 266-0800 for times and ticket information.

Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St., Boston
See *The Liar*, a classic French comedy about a young man who cannot stop telling lies. Through Mar. 14. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket prices.

Merrimack Repertory
at the Lowell Auditorium
50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell
The MRT celebrates love and romance with Lanford Wilson's *Talley's Folly*, through Mar. 6. For more information, call 508-454-3926.

MIT Theater
at Kresge Little Theater
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
MIT presents Shakespeare's romantic comedy *Twelfth Night* Mar. 4-6 at 8pm. Call 253-2530 for ticket information.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
The Mystery Cafe presents *Let's Kill the Boss* every Thur. at 7:30pm, Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6 and 9pm and Sun. at 7pm. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the Boston premiere of *My Children! My Africa!*, a searing drama and devastating portrait of people living under the yoke of apartheid. Runs through Apr. 4. Call 332-1646 for times and ticket information.

Out of the Blue Theater
at the Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Out of the Blue presents three farces in each performance Mar. 11 to Apr. 3, Thu-Sun at 8pm. The triple-header features Chekhov's *The Marriage Proposal* and *The Bear* and Neil Simon's *The Defenseless Creature*. Call 576-1253 for tickets.

Performance Place
277 Broadway, Somerville
Theatre in Process presents memorable melodies, merry musings and muckraking in a two-part musical variety show entitled *Ben & Brad in Berlin to Berlin*, through Mar. 20. It takes you from the Kaiser in Berlin to Irving Berlin's Broadway. Call 254-1125 for times and ticket information.

(continued on following page)

ARTS

Hungry i



Fine dining nightly

and Sunday Brunch.

Reservations Suggested.

71½ Charles Street
Beacon Hill, 227-3524

(Theater Continued)

Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St., Boston
A Chorus Line, Broadway's most successful and longest-running theatrical production plays a limited engagement through Mar. 7. Call 1-800-233-3123 for reservations.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from ***Nunsense*** have suddenly taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

Williamstown Theatre
at the Guest Quarters, Waltham
With special guest stars Ed Asner and Marsha Mason, the WTF presents ***Hotel Oubliette***, a play inspired by the rash of memoirs by released American hostages. It explores what happens when tow emotionally disconnected men are chained to a post with an endless amount of time stretching before them. On Mar. 7 at 7pm, it will be simulcast on WGBH 89.7 FM. Call 492-1623.

LECTURES/READINGS

AIDS Action Committee
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The AAC hosts "When Cupid's Positive," a workshop for HIV-positive gay men examining the issues of HIV disclosure and dating. On Mar.12 at 6:30pm; call 437-6200 x499 to reserve a seat.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
On Mar. 9, explore the nature of Buddhist psychology and practice brief meditations from different traditions; Mar. 16, explore the magnificent environments of Alaska. Both lectures start at 8:15pm and cost $2. Also, you can take a wedding cakewalk Mar. 14 from noon to 4pm when the Blacksmith House Bakery will display their luscious wedding cakes. Call 547-6789.

Jamaica Plain Arts Center
659 Centre St., JP
Northeastern University professor Robin Chandler speaks on "Contemporary African-American Art" Mar. 16 at 7:30pm. Prof. Chandler also surveys traditional art Mar. 9 at 7:30pm. Each lecture is $10.; call 524-3816.

Java Caffe
558 Tremont St., Boston
Every other Tuesday at 8pm come to Bad Poetry Night! Neophytes are encouraged to attend this "neo-beat-expressionist-rant-n-rave-pop-speak that puts a snappy spin on the SLAM." Call 426-8246 for more information.

M.I.T.
at Kresge Auditorium
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Internationally-acclaimed Isabel Allende will present "A Conversation wit Isabel Allende" on Mar. 15 at 8:30pm. Author of four international best sellers, she has been compared to Nobel Prize-winning novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Allende is also the niece and goddaughter of Salvador Allende, the former president of Chile assassinated in a 1983 military coup. Free.

WORKSHOPS

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Writers' Workshop! Aspiring writers should keep Mar. 3, 10 and 17 open at 8pm: the first night, two fiction authors share their publishing experiences; the second lecture features the publishing experiences of three non-fiction writers; while the final night hosts a discussion on "Working with Agents and Editors."

GALLERIES

Asihuah-Irving Gallery
286 Congress St., Boston
Israeli artist Elie Shamir exhibits his new works on canvas as well as B&W photographic prints through Mar. 6. Shamir's work involves classical myths and symbols put into today's context.

Ben Kupferman Gallery
115 Atlantic Ave., Boston
Unique workshop featuring original hand-wrought silver and gold jewelry. Sculptures in broze, concrete and 'found' objects are also featured.

Levinson Kane Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston
Through Mar. 14, Stephen Huneck will transform this gallery into a studio apartment, complete with furniture that he made. Gallery patrons are encouraged to "experience *his* work as if in *your* home."

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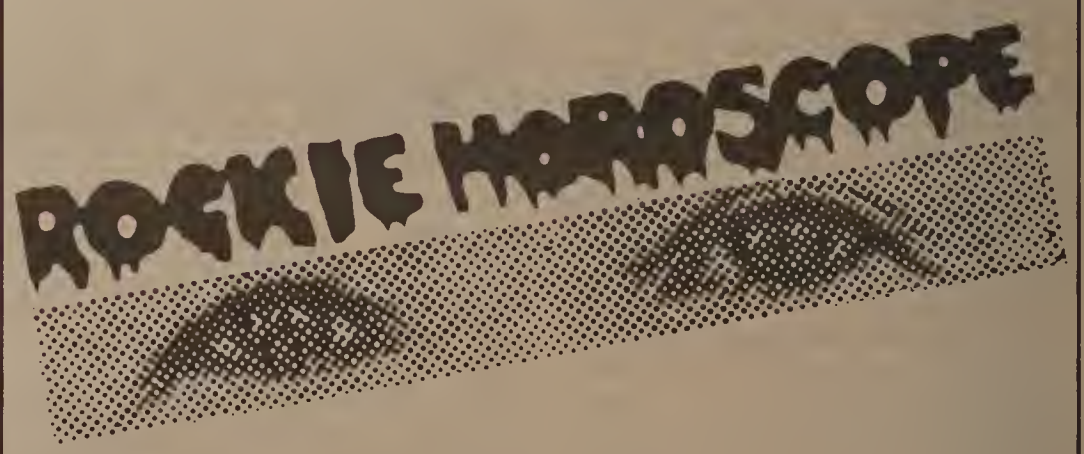
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NEW IN THIS ISSUE...



... For a Different Slant
On Your Future.

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DAVID'S

An Eclectic Tour of Europe

BY R.E. BRUNSON

To step into David's is to step into another world. This new restaurant, at the location of the former Bnu, has a European flair with overtones of the Spanish surreal. The graceful wrought-iron tables and chairs, red and orange walls, and three stage-like facades provide an almost theatrical setting for the imaginative interpretation of cuisines from around the Mediterranean. The menu is divided into selections of Tapas, First Courses, Pastas, and Main Courses. Several specials are also available nightly.

To begin our Mediterranean adventure, we started with Spain and a 1990 Rioja Reserva wine ($19). Our journey continued to Provence with the Pistou soup ($4) and Fried Chicken Livers with Red Pepper Aioli (a special, $3.50), then on to Italy with David's Antipasto for Two ($11.50). The chicken livers soon appeared – brown and crispy outside, tender and pink inside, sitting on a silken pool of red pepper aioli (garlic mayonnaise). In a blink, they were gone. The Pistou soup was filled with fresh zucchini, carrots, leeks and white beans. It was finished in the traditional way with pistou, a basil mixture similar to pesto, and grated parmesan cheese. The homemade soup was pleasant but bland and should have been heartier. The antipasto for two (which could have satisfied three) arrived on a white plate covered with crisp romaine lettuce and a delicious selection of antipasti that included thick slices of prosciutto di Parma, marinated mussels, tender artichoke hearts, gorgonzola cheese, roasted peppers and grilled flatbreads.

For main courses, we stayed in France and ordered Bouillabaisse Rosco (market price $21.95), the Roast Garlic-Glazed Chicken ($15), and the Roast Fennel-Crusted Monkfish ($14.50). The bouillabaisse, a classic dish from southern France, arrived in an oversized bowl brimming with a hearty tomato saffron broth and chunks of tender monkfish, shrimp, calamari, and a lobster tail. In the center of the bowl stood a collection of mussels with a large lobster claw dramatically perched in the middle. On the side were two large croutons spread with the traditional hot rouille sauce. The dish was delicious and almost too large to finish.

The roast garlic-glazed chicken was also very pleasing with its outer coating of pureed garlic. It was very tender and surprisingly juicy with a fragrant garlic flavor that went all the way to the bone; the garlic lovers at the table went wild. It was accompanied by crisp French-style green beans and two oven-roasted farci. For the farci, two slightly carmelized onions were filled with a mixture of rice, parmesan cheese, onions and red peppers – a tasty compliment to the garlic.

Rounding out the trio of main courses was the Roast Fennel-Crusted Monkfish. The monkfish, a meaty whitefish, was covered in roasted fennel seeds, sliced into medallions and arranged on an exotic tasting honey saffron sauce. The dish also came with the red pepper aioli for the less adventurous and was accompanied by warm red potatoes in a vinaigrette with chopped red peppers. Our tour not quite over, we turned our attention to dessert.

Bypassing the selection of after-dinner coffees and wines, we made a dessert side-trip to the States for David's Devil's Food Cake ($5) and ended up in Italy for the apple and apricot crostada (a special, $5). The triple layer chocolate cake was almost five inches tall, so tall that the mound of whipped cream beside it seemed to be there to hold it up. The cake itself was dense, moist, and tangy (made with buttermilk) and covered with a smooth chocolate frosting – an American influence that was greatly appreciated. However, as much as the cake was loved, the crostada had star quality and received a nomination for dessert of the year from one member of the party. The simple rustic-looking tart was placed on a cloud of brown sugar marscapone, and drizzled with an orange scented caramel sauce. We ordered seconds and would have ordered thirds, if there had been room. After the last bite, we found ourselves already planning the itinerary for our next trip to David's. ❑

DAVID'S

$$
123 Stuart Street, Boston
367-8405
Lunch: Monday-Friday
11:30-2:30 pm
Dinner: Tuesday-Thursday
5:30- 10:30 pm
Friday & Saturday
5:30- 11:30 pm
Sunday, 4:30-9:30 pm
Credit Cards: AX, MCX, VISA, DC
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Boston Globe columnist John Robinson(far left) talks the talk with (left to right) Cornucopia owners Nicholas Lazarus and Kristine Platt, and former Cornucopia Mgr. Jerry Wolf at the new Cornucopia opening on the Wharf.

Where Bostonians Compare Notes



Two time winner of Boston Magazine's **"Best of Boston Award,"** Diamond Jim's is the city's favorite place to sing-a-long. Whether you want to step up to the mike and sing, or just sit back and listen, make a note to join us soon. Open Tuesday through Saturday nights. No cover charge and no minimum. For more information call 617-421-4900.

DIAMOND JIM'S
·P·I·A·N·O· B·A·R·
65 Exeter Street at The Lenox Hotel

APPETEASERS

By Peter McNamara & Chris Francescani

How Sweet It Is

A newly-minted must for any chocolate lover, **The Chocolate Report** provides dedicated sweet-tooths an everything-you-ever-wanted-to-know-about-chocolate-but-didn't-know-who-to-ask guide to domestic and international chocolate. Author Lise Stern, who also penned *The Cookbook Review*, reveals the results of an extensive taste-test involving 90 domestic and imported dark, milk, and white chocolates available in the U.S. **The Chocolate Report** also provides a complete list of up-to-date sources for every domestic and a half-dozen imported chocolates, as well as addresses for U.S. manufacturers and cooking schools that specialize in chocolate. If you love chocolate, or know someone who does, this report is indispensable. The price is $5 a copy, which readers should send to The Chocolate Report, c/o The Cookbook Review, 60 Kinnaird St., Cambridge, MA 02139.

Moka's Sunday Slams

Moka, a California-style cafe on Dartmouth Street, is hosting **Boston's Best Poetry Slams** (a 90's take on oral tradition) every Sunday evening beginning at 7 p.m. Featured artists read original work as well as published writings, and the audience is encouraged to participate. The cafe (which now provides table service) encourages a relaxed environment to complement their reasonably-priced menu of health-conscious food. Located at 130 Dartmouth Street in the South End, *Moka* features other entertainment including folk music concerts. For more information, call the cafe at 424-7768.

Eat It In The Raw

The Copley Plaza Hotel has just introduced an all-you-can-eat seafood buffet in its **Copley's Restaurant,** every Friday night from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.. It features a raw bar with peel-n-eat shrimp, oysters and littleneck clams. Weekly entrees will vary, and will include seafood pastas, casseroles, cakes, and broiled items. For reservations and more information, call 267-5300.

Wedding Cakewalk

In search of your dream wedding cake? You won't want to miss the **Wedding Cakewalk**, at the *Blacksmith House Bakery*, at 56 Brattle Street in Cambridge. This historic bakery occupies the colonial building which was the home of Longfellow's immortalized blacksmith, Dexter Pratt. The bakery has been operating since World War II, when it was established to help refugees from war-torn Europe find a new life and trade in this country. The *Blacksmith House Bakery* is not only historically renowned, but is acclaimed throughout New England for its custom-decorated wedding cakes. For over fifty years, the *Bakery* has been designing wedding cakes in the grand European tradition. The Cakewalk takes place Sunday, March 14, noon to 4 PM, and admission is free, and complimentary champagne will be served. RSVP 354-3036.

Winter Vintner Series

Le Bocage Restaurant in Watertown continues its weekly "Winter Vintner Series" this Wednesday, March 10, with a four course meal accompanied by a group of wines from Mellea Vineyards, located in Western Massachusetts. Michael Shaps, the winemaker and general manager of the winery, will be pouring four of Mellea's vintages , including the 1991 Vidal Blanc and the 1989 Royal Oak. A "less formal" approach has been designed for the evening, though expert vinters will be on hand to discuss and answer questions. Le Bocage was named "one of the top five French Nouvelle restaurants in Boston," by the 1993 Zagat Restaurant Guide. For reservations, call 923-1210



Joe Pesci poses with the staff at Il Panino in the North End recently.

Juicy Details

This has been a hot calendar week for restaurant openings. **The Fishery**, in Central Square, Cambridge opened on Wednesday night, **Whiskey's**, formerly **Hunter's**, has opened at 885 Boylston St. in Back Bay. **Venetian Gardens** has opened in Dorchester. **Giuffre's** has reopened under new management in the North End. And, finally, the opening of **Cornucopia on the Wharf** was held Tuesday. The **Park Square Building** is accepting bids for space in its complex, and word has it that two restaurants, one a high-scale Italian restaurant in Coolidge Corner (rhymes with Lorenzo), and the other a fairly well-known brewhouse (no clues on this one). Also, it has been brought to our attention that **Joe Pesci,** having read the *Improper's* review of **Trattoria Il Panino** in the North End, has been spotted there on several occasions over the weekend. **Embarrassing Moments:** Rumor has it that a certain local columnist was caught mooning *Julia Child* and company at a recent fundraiser for the AIWF. ❑





In Vino Veritas: Boston Wine Expo Debrief

BY JONATHON ALSOP

What a relief last month's Boston Wine Expo was! In the absolute dead of winter, the sight of some 6,000 wine lovers lined up to show a little spirit made me momentarily hopeful for Boston's wine culture. Then again, maybe it was just a result of the 373 different wines I tasted.

For me, the high point of the Wine Expo was our dinner Friday night with Larry McCulloch, wine maker from Chamard Vineyards in Clinton, Connecticut, and his wife Jill, who handles Chamard's marketing. Larry and Jill brought their wines, and I made dinner: bread and cheese, sautéed portabella mushrooms and a monster London Broil au poivre. Should you get the chance, here are some ideas about Chamard's wines:

• '90 Chamard Suffolk County Chardonnay, $9: nice nose of fresh fruit, some butter and spice, excellent tropical fruit flavors, rich and tasty, very friendly and easy

• '90 Estate Reserve Chardonnay, $11: bright golden color, aromas of super-ripe pears and apples, rich and smooth fruit with deep mineral flavors like a good French Chablis, excellent; available from the winery.

• '88 Pinot Noir, $10: bright ruby color, nose of earth and cherries, black raspberry flavors with lots of spice, light in alcohol, very good on its own but an amazing match with the portabella mushrooms. However, this is a limited release, and therefore no longer available retail.

• '89 Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, $13: bright purple color, lively fresh fruit nose, simple tannins, juicy, spicy, very enjoyable but not of the same epic proportions as the '88 that followed. This was a limited release, and is also no longer available retail.

• '88 Estate Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, $13: an astounding wine, dense and opaque, aromas of dried fruit, blackberry and currants, beautiful soft tannins, layers

Tastings Around Town

• Brookline Liquor Mart, Allston: Saturdays 2-4 pm and Tuesdays 5:30-7 pm. 3/6 & 3/9: "Varietal Series: Pinot Noir," a blind tasting with $12 and $50 PNs side-by-side, often a lesson in blind humility. 3/13 & 3/16: "New Rhones," an outstanding tasting of '90 Chateauneuf-du-Pape and '89 Guigal Cote Rotie and Hermitage, absolutely not to be missed.

• Blanchard's in Allston: tastings every Friday 5-8 pm and every Saturday 2-5 pm.

• Winecellar of Silene, Copley and Waltham: Fridays 4-6:30 pm and Saturdays 2-4:30 pm.

• Marty's in Allston: Saturdays 1-3 pm.

• Bauer on Newbury Street: Saturdays 4-7 pm.

• Kappy's in Sudbury and Mall Wines at Fresh Pond in Cambridge: Saturdays noon-6 pm. • Chestnut Hill Wine Cellar, in the old Chestnut Hill Mall by Star Market: every Saturday, 4-6 pm.

ner & tasting featuring wines of South America and southern California, at The Armadillo Cafe in Allston, 3/9, 6:30-9:30 pm, details & reservations 232-1020.

Friends of Wine

The Boston Chapter of Les Amis du Vin, the international wine society, had been defunct – or more accurately, disregarded – for eons, until Cathy Lederer from Chestnut Hill Wine Cellars took it upon herself last fall to try and bring the thing back to life. Chestnut Hill's wine director Claude Chartier is handling the wine business for the new Chapter, Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery in Westport has signed on as the affiliate winery, and I'm the director, at practically NFI (no financial interest). We've got a schedule of Les Amis du Vin tastings, wine dinners, tours and events set up through June of this year for all budgets and levels of experience. For more information, call Claude at Chestnut Hill Wine Cellars, 232-1020, or you can call me at the magazine and leave a message, 232-3507. ❑

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BRUNCH BOARD

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AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ

1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Bost..., .232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music wlth our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m

BOSTON DOWNTOWN CAFE

210 Washington St., Boston 338-7037
Serving breakfast from 8am to 3pm.Boston Downtown Cafe offers homemade delights ranging from poached eggs on english muffins with lox and Mornay sauce to carrot gingerbread and raisin pancakes. The cafe also features a Disaster Tour of Boston on Saturdays at noon. For $10 get a 45 min tour of the city's most famous disasters and a fabulous lunch.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standarAmerican breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accptd.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR

300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and a traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY III

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped wlth poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

BEST *Winner of the Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston Award*



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Dinner Sun–Wed 5:00–10:00 pm
Thurs–Sat 5:00–11.00 pm

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

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ANOTHER SEASON
97 Mount Vernon St., Boston 367-0880
A, MC, V, $$
A classic restaurant with a modern menu served in style is what you will find at Another Season. Luncheon is served Tuesday-Friday, featuring light, fresh fare. Dinner is served Monday through Saturday from 5:45 to 10:00pm. The diverse menu offers wonderful specials and a creative three-course prix fixe menu for $22.00 (Mon. - Thurs.) Private rooms are available for parties, meeting and weddings. For these special events all menus are custom designed to suit the needs and tastes of the client. For reservations, information or a copy of the prix fixe menu for Fall please call 367-0880.

AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am -11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303 M, V, A, $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383 A, MC, V, DC $$
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo Wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that *feels* like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. All around you are floor to ceiling windows that look out over the streets of Boston's North End. The English-style ales are all robust top fermented, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30AM to 12 midnight Sun.- Thurs. and until 1:00AM Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA
15 West St., Bos. 338-4600 A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

DURGIN PARK
340 Faneuil Hall, Bos. 227-2038
MC, V, A $$
Famous for ample portions and brusque and burly waitresses, this Boston institution serves up New England clam chowder, succulent lobster and thick prime rib for cheap. Eat at long, family-style tables with other patrons. Indulge in oysters at the newly refurbished raw bar. Lunch is also served at the piano bar. Reserve for parties of 15 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

FOSTER'S BAR & GRILL
5 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

THE CAJUN YANKEE
1193 Cambridge St.Cambridge, MA 576-1971
MC, V, D, $$
Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings to Boston the best of the bayou. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep-fried cheese, stuffed avocado with chipotal salsa, and blackened scallops. Entrees include: New Orleans seafood platter, sauteed crawfish, and blackened prime rib. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday through Saturday.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties inclued Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p m. weekdays. Super Buffet Special 12 - 4p.m. every day ($5.75). Take out/delivery and catering services available.

JAE'S CAFE & GRILL
520 Columbus Ave., Boston
421-9405 $$ MC/V/AMEX
Nestled in Boston's South End, this two-floor, charming restaurant offers quality food with a Korean accent. Whether you choose one of the curry dishes, vegetable entrees, or selections from Jae's complete sushi bar, the courteous service and very reasonable prices are the perfect complements to any of their delicious meals. Desserts are also not to be missed. Full take out service available.

KASHMIR
279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$
Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

caffé paradiso
est. 1966

gelati



sorbetto



apertivi



liquers



cognacs



scotches



soft beverages



panini



pizza





255 Hanover Street
Boston

349 Newbury Street
Boston

3 Water Street
Boston

1 Elliot Street
Cambridge

Kebab'N'Kurry
30 Massachusetts Ave., Bos. 536-9835 A,D,MC,V $$
This small basement restaurant offers an extensive menu. The nan (Indian bread) is superb, often stuffed with potatoes and other goodies. Order a maharani thaali (Queen's platter) and sample a variety of dishes including; dal (lentils), paneer (cheese in a curried sauce) chickpeas and basmati rice. Open daily for lunch (except Sun.) and dinner.

Legal Sea Foods
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos. 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal". One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod. Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch and dinner. Sat./Sun., dinner menu only in town; lunch available. in the suburbs.

Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m.. Oar bar open til 2am.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

Moon Villa
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4am for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049 V, MC, A, DC
$
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's feature extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
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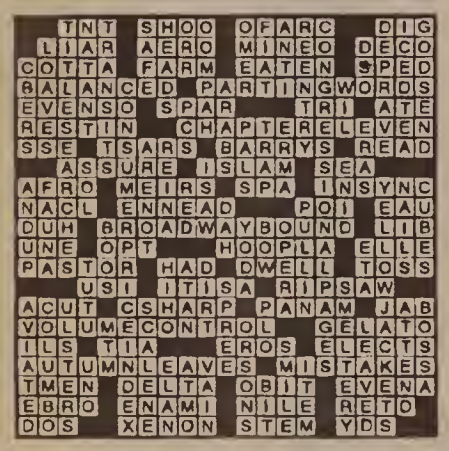
Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
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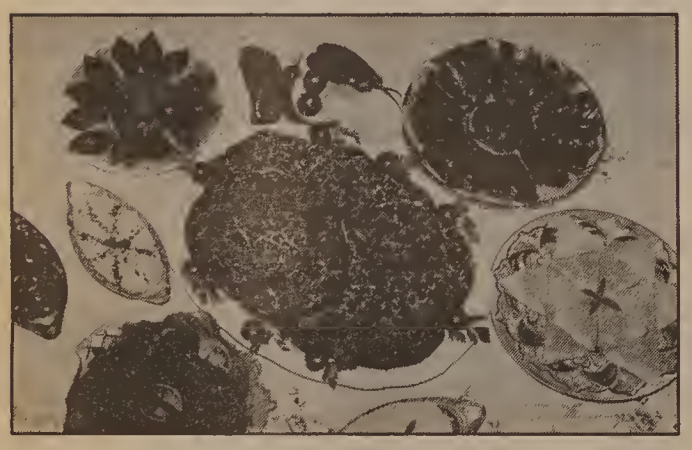
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86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
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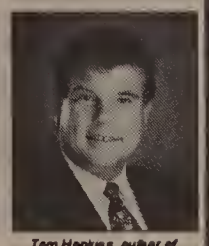
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Elvis Goes Irish

Costello Breaks Classical Ground With *The Juliet Letters*

BY SANDER WOLF



Classic Costello - Elvis with The Brodsky Quartet

"There's so many people to see/So many people you can check up on and add to your collection," sang Elvis Costello in his 1978 break-through song, "Accidents Will Happen." Now, in 1993, Costello has taken that philosophy one step further by substituting "musical styles" for "people." *The Juliet Letters* (Warner Brothers), his new album recorded and co-written with the Brodsky Quartet, is nothing more than a document proving that Costello has augmented his vast collection with yet another form of musical expression.

Of course, as most fans know, new musical adventures are not so novel for Costello. 1991's *Mighty Like A Rose* featured the Dirty Dozen Brass Band fleshing out his jazz tunes, 1986's *King Of America* found Costello playing blues, his 1977 debut album, *My Aim Is True*, had obvious Buddy Holly roots, and he's even released an album of country covers entitled, *Almost Blue*. For the most part, however, Costello tends to stick to his own post-punk, alternative-pop hybrid. It's that formula that has brought him his biggest successes, with songs like "Alison," "Pump It Up," "Everyday I Write The Book," and "Veronica." But after the dismal (and deserved) semi-failure of 1991's *Mighty Like A Rose*, a new direction, or at least diversion, is a welcome and justified progression.

And a diversion is exactly what *The Juliet Letters* is. It's definitely different, and for more than just the obvious stylistic reasons. First of all, it's a concept album. Costello has previously released albums with vague themes attached, most notably *Spike*, *Armed Forces* and *King Of America*, but he has never adopted an idea so completely. Loosely based – as the liner notes explain – around "this professor in Verona who answered letters addressed to Juliet," *The Juliet Letters* follows through by extending the premise to the point where the album contains only songs that take the form of different types of correspondence. The topics and forms include junk mail, letters of rejection and graffiti scribbled on a wall (to name a few), but most stick closely to the concept of letters, written without the expectation of a reply.

Second, a majority of the songs (or since this is "classical music," maybe they should be referred to as pieces?) are co-written by Costello and members of the quartet. Costello has had some writing partners in the past (including Paul McCartney, Nick Lowe, Clive Langer and his wife, former Pogue, Cait O'Riordan), but none of them were an integral part of an album, and most of the collaborations were only for a couple of isolated songs. On *The Juliet Letters*, it's as if Costello has formed a new "band," with Michael Thomas and Ian Belton on violins, Paul Cassidy on viola, Jacqueline Thomas on cello and himself spitting out his trademark vocals.

Performed live in the studio, the album is initially breathtaking for its sonic power alone (especially for those expecting some angry electric guitar), which is probably why the brief introduction, "Deliver Us?" is an instrumental. The album's extensive liner notes (written by Costello) give some insights into how the band worked together and what each song was written about, so a lengthy discussion here wouldn't make much sense (and it would make even less to disagree with the songs' writers). There are some songs, however, that deserve specific mention.

"I Almost Had A Weakness," with its tango phrasing and tempo is one of these. Written as an "eccentric aunt's curt reply to a begging letter," the song accurately captures the aunt's fury and regret about almost giving in with lyrics like, "Thank you for the flowers/I threw them on the fire/And I burned the photographs that you had enclosed/GOD they were ugly children/So you're the little bastard of that brother of mine/Trying to trick a poor old woman/'Til I almost had a weakness."

Another standout from the twenty-song album is "Jacksons, Monk, And Rowe." Lines like, "As the sun beats down and life begins to complicate/Will we both incinerate/If we touch that brass name-plate?" decorate the song with the disillusionment perpetrated by the firm named in the title, while the strings provide an able and hum-able hook.

The album's lightest moment comes on the song "This Offer Is Unrepeatable." With laundry-list lyrics from the Beloved Entertainer it winds away like the mailed equivalent of "Crazy Eddie's" ridiculous advertisements, performed in the style of some sort of twisted opera. "Taking My Life In Your Hands" is constructed in a more tragic vein, telling the story of a person who has created a fantasy-life by mailing letters to a fictitious love that return unopened. Here, where the melancholic power of strings can really step to the forefront, the Brodsky Quartet makes full use of the opportunity, soaring through the song with easy grace.

The only problem with the album is that while both the Brodsky Quartet and Elvis Costello are in top form, the combination subtly dilutes the power each would have had individually. It's a delicate, debatable balance between what the album is and what it could have been, but as a whole it suits its purpose. Silencing naysayers, *The Juliet Letters* is another brave, collectable adventure for Costello that proves he hasn't given up, or even slowed down. ❑

Elvis Costello and the Brodsky Quartet perform March 17 at Symphony Hall.

Classical Preview

BY PETER CATALANO

Wuthering Heights is coming to Boston March 10th, 12th, 14th and 16th. No, it's not the Bronte novel, but Carlisle Floyd's opera version, which has been missing from the stage for almost 20 years. Floyd himself is directing this production, with lyric opera music director Stephen Lord conducting the entire debut cast. Tickets range from $28-$60 and reserving seats is easy: simply call the ticket office at 248-8660 and use your credit card. Several dinners, cast parties and special events – including a screening of the 1939 film version of *Wuthering Heights* with Laurence Olivier – have been arranged around these performances, starting March 4. Call the Lyric for more details.

Meanwhile, Benjamin Zander and his Boston Philharmonic showcase pianist Robert Levin are performing Mozart's last concerto on Saturday night, March 6 at 8 pm in Jordan Hall, and Sunday, March 7 at 4 pm, Sanders Theatre, Harvard. Levin has distinguished himself as the only musician around who can improvise the candenzas of these concerti, cadenzas which performers in Mozart's day were expected to do as a matter of course. Not even Keith Jarrett has the chops to improvise this way in public. Tickets are a bargain and can be reserved by calling 861-8530.

Talbot's clothiers has joined up with the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series for their presentation of emerging artists in the area. Current shows include soprano Lorraine Hunt in recital at Jordan Hall on Sunday, March 14, 8 pm. If you've never attended a recital by a top vocalist like Hunt, take advantage of this opportunity to hear her in the intimacy of Jordan Hall; there'll be lots of dreamy French romantic music. Call the Celebrity Series for reservations at 482-2595. ❑

KEITH RICHARDS

Rockin' The Road With The Winos In Tow

BY POLLY CAMPBELL

Slamming off the opening chords to Eddie Cochran's "Something Else" at the first of his three Orpheum shows last month, Keith Richards seemed strangely within reach; not so much an international rock star and guitar hero, but more like a man who, after thirty years, is still completely in love with what is simply classic rock 'n' roll. Just as the uncomplicated riffs he and The Stones originally took from Robert Johnson and Chuck Berry sounded true even though they were borrowed, it hardly matters now that many of the songs on Richards' third solo album – *Main Offender* (Virgin) - are slacker re-writes of the best moments on '88's tension-driven *Talk Is Cheap*. The songs themselves may not be timeless, but the torn and frayed sound of his voice and guitar are, and, with Richards, that's what matters.

At the Orpheum, what mattered was Richards and his guitar and those songs. There were no props; the only backdrop was the X-pensive Winos, who, despite their sterling playing and Richards' obvious inclusion of them as equals, hung back like a well-taught back-up band. Only veteran Stones "sidemen" sax player Bobby Keys and vibrant back-up singer Sarah Dash really sparked any of their own personalities off Richards', and this was more due to his obvious affection for them (singing "Time Is On My Side" with his arm around Dash, hauling the fleeing Keys back onstage to be introduced) than to any effort of their own.

The two hour set rolled by to the solid mid-tempo pound of the Winos, combind with the huge, authentically basic grind of Richards' guitar. The same spare riff-rhythms all ran through "Hate It When You Leave," "Wicked As It Seems," "999" and "Runnin' Too Deep" – and who would want to vary them when they form the foundation for so much of what is standard in rock 'n' roll today. The only low points were "Words Of Wonder," which Richards dragged out far too long on a phony reggae back-beat, "Gimmie Shelter" and "Time Is On My Side." These two Stones classics should have been show-stoppers, but were made sluggish by slow tempos and Dash's voice – brilliant, but at times over-poweringly perfect in contrast to Richards' stubble-chinned growl.



Still crankin' after all these years

Although he grinned through much of the show, up close it was painfully clear that time hadn't been on Keith Richards' side for quite a while; seeing this small frail man, with the line-worn face of an amiable Frankenstein was distracting. But stepping back far enough to ignore visual reminders that Richards is a guy who has never said no to anything, what remained was the way he moved with his guitar; jabbing up with his right elbow to rip into a chord, kicking his right leg back to swing the neck forwards. Small moves, nothing showy, every movement focused on gathering wood, steel and electricity into the backbone of a sound that time can't touch.

Towards the end of the show, the Winos kicked up their heels a little, actually managing to sound tough in "I Could Have Stood You Up," then plummeting into a glorious, gigantic version of The Stones' "Happy." "God bless you, Boston," shouted Richards, in his only non-mumbled crowd-address of the evening, "We hope to leave you happier than we found you!" Considering the noise made by hundreds of people singing the familiar chorus, Keith Richards and his Winos kept them, and left them just that way.

Openers Soul Asylum had the thankless task of playing to a hall one-third full of this largely suburban audience who, judging from the shouts for "Keith!", hadn't heard of them and didn't want to. However, the band seemed capable of jump-starting from nothing, tearing through "Without A Trace," "Cartoon," and "Runaway Train," Next, they slided smoothly into "Black Gold" (the latest radio song from *Grave Dancers Union*), at which the audience took its nose out of its collective draft beer cup and sat up and yelled in recognition.

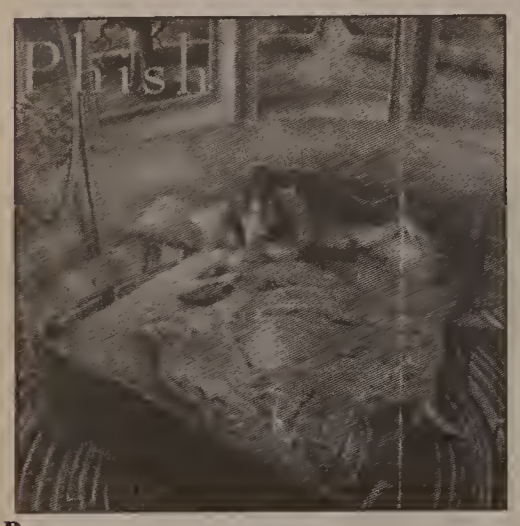
Soul Asylum managed to hang on to their attention for the rest of the set, slash and burning through the Guns 'n Roses-styled "April Fool," with Dave Pirner snaking around behind the mike stand, hair standing up to gravity, displaying more knee than jean. "This song is a joke," he explained. The crowd wasn't so sure. But what really got Keith Richards' fans going was the portion of the Allman Brothers' "Jessica" that guitarist Dan Murphy ingeniously grafted onto the band's own "SomebodyTo Shove." "More!" howled the leather-clad mountain behind me as the lights went up. "Finish it!" ❑

UP & COMING WHERE, WHEN & WHY

BY POLLY CAMPBELL

Eighteen reasons to wait two weeks before moving somewhere with a shorter winter: on **March 3rd** the Bon tons roule all over the place when Lousiania boy **Zachary Richard** brings his zydeco/R&B/All-American groove to **Nightstage** (9:00 show). Tatooed hard rock pounders, **Warrant** share some introspective (not) sounds at **Axis** (openers, Spread Eagle and Slammin Gladys, 8:00 Show). On the **4th,** legendary Jazz bassist (*and* Ella Fitzgerald's ex!), **Ray Brown** brings his Trio (Benny Green and Jeff Hamilton) to the **Regatta Bar** for a three night engagement ($10-$14). But if you'd rather just bang your head against the seat infront of you, really fast, you can see industrial metal workers **Pantera** at the **Orpheum** with Sacred Reich (7:30 show, $19.50).*Or* , there's **Black 47** doings the celtic/soul/punk thing at the **Paradise** (18+, all 2/14 tix honored). On the **5th**, people's poet, **Henry Rollins** spews spoken word genius at the **Paradise.** Hopefully you didn't need me to tell you about it because it's sold out. (7:00 show, 18+, no stage diving!). Later that night, also at the **Paradise**, pick up your feet to **Bim Skala Bim**. If you like the name, you'll like the band (10:30 show, 18+). Reconstituted, smoothed-out punk rock survivors **Gang of Four** are at **Axis** on the **6th**. On the **7th**, funk's mad scientist, **George Clinton** descends on the **Providence Performing Arts Center,** while over at the **Middle East** you can see Athens, GA. power-pop trio, **Five-Eight** with Drunken Boat..At the **Green Street Grill** on the **8th**, members of Mente and the Satantics trade bad taste for good breeding to become idols of the idle rich, **Upper Crust**. You'll hear songs about servant trouble and love among the pedigrees, you'll laugh so hard you'll forget the recession. Better yet, it's free. On the **11th**, rich-toned jazz singer **Abbey Lincoln** kicks off her first of three nights at the **Regatta Bar** ($10-$14) and left-of-center pop band **Too Much Joy** are at the **Paradise** (8:00 show).On the **11th**, **Saucer** (formerly Big Dipper) play beautiful songs about snowmobiles and giant worms and love and other important things. Openers include ex-Cavedog Mark Rivers' new band, The Crumbs, along with Corndolly and The Mies. It's all upstairs at the **Middle East**. On the **14th, Daniel Ash** (ex-Bauhaus) and his lush, chiseled cheek-boned sound are at the **Paradise** with Pure (8:00 show, 18+), while jazz revolutionary **Charlie Haden** makes a rare appearance with his Liberation Music Orchestra at the **Somerville Theatre** (7:00 show, $10-$14). On the **15th** you can hear **Suzanne Vega's** wispy voice and powerful songs at **Axis** (openers, Kitchens of Distinction, 8:00 doors, $15). Or, finally, you can pretend you're in New Orleans with the **Revolutionary Snake Ensemble** brass band at the **Green Street Grill.** And after all that, who needs the Bahamas? Right?...Right? ❑

ALBUM REVIEWS



PHISH
RIFT
ELEKTRA

Phish has come a long way since their early days as a rhythm and blues cover band in Burlington, Vermont. Ten years of touring, promoting and building up a solid cult constituency has fine-tuned these players into a progressively-minded troupe of highly versatile musicians. They are as comfortable with lingering blue-note ballads as they are with sixty mile-an-hour bluegrass, funk jams and jazzy instrumentals. This doesn't, however, guarantee that their studio work is always worth getting excited about. So adept at crossing the lines defining genre and tempo, somehow Phish seems wholly unable, or unwilling, to cross that all-important line between live music and studio musicianship.

The band's latest studio release, *Rift* – following on the heels of the oh-so-eclectic *Picture of Nectar* – only serves to reaffirm this fact: it just doesn't capture the soul of the band. Cuts like "Horn" and "Fast Enough For You" show promise as live ventures, but are dulled by the confines of the studio; they lack excitement.

The cult-following Phish has spawned is founded on an appreciation of spontaneity, an element that is disappointingly missing from most of *Rift*. Harnessing spontaneous energy and channeling it in the studio is no easy task, but Phish – such an ambitious musical outfit otherwise – doesn't even seem to try. With the exception of a couple of fun, campy cuts on *Rift*, we can, in good conscience, toss this fresh Phish back into the water.

–CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI



DUKE LEVINE
NOBODY'S HOME
DARING RECORDS

Duke Levine doesn't make it tough for listeners to enjoy his proficient guitar work, and this may be his weakness. There aren't any forays into uncharted musical space, no wild and daring guitar solos, no earth-shaking riffage. What there is on *Nobody's Home* – his second all-instrumental release with the Duke Levine Group – is steady, technically fluent guitar work, characterized by his signature light, tasteful touch. During his almost twenty years as a serious guitar student, Levine seems to have focused his abilities on technique, rather than innovation. Still, *Nobody's Home* shows him to be one of the sharpest guitarists in Boston, the definition of a musician's musician.

Nobody's Home is a sampling of what Levine calls "roots fusion" – combining the basic elements of blues, rock, country and soul into an easy-listening package of light rock that, for all its fine-tuned technical effort, lacks much feeling. There are a few signs of life though. Cuts like "Attack of The Mutant Guitars," (featured in the movie *Passion Fish*'s soundtrack) "Stop, Do Not Go," and an inviting cover of Woody Guthrie's "Vigilante Man," do come across with some fervor. But overall, Levine seems to be exchanging pleasantries with his guitar rather than opening up a heated debate and coming up with something really exciting. His obvious talent and extensive road experience with the del Fuegos, Otis Rush and Bob Moses prove that he is capable of much more.

–CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI



THE THE
DUSK
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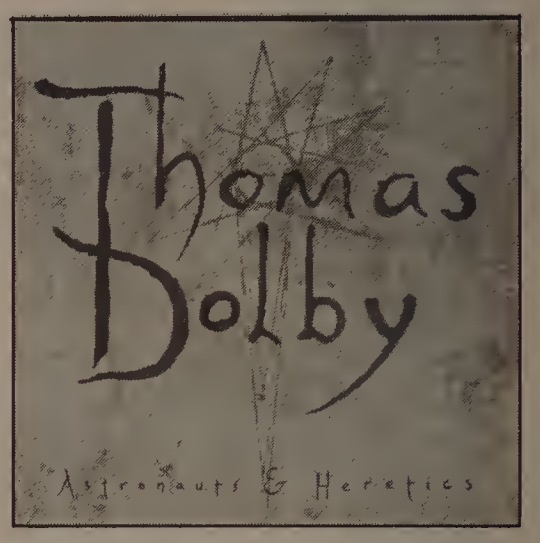
The hauntingly soothing sounds of The The are once again evident on their latest release, *Dusk*. Acoustic guitar, harmonica, and the way Matt Johnson's vocals breathe and change tone all combine to create a music that seems to exist in a trance-like state. D.C. Collard's honky-tonk piano is strong in "This Is The Night," while guitarist Johnny Marr brings shades of Jimi Hendrix's "Voodoo Child" to "Sodium Light Baby."

Throughout much of *Dusk*, Johnson grapples with his favorite subjects: lust, unfulfilled desires, loneliness and wrongs in the world. "I got it blue. I got it bad. I got the sweetest sadness I ever had," he sings in "Dogs of Lust." And although "Slow Emotion Replay" is getting the most airplay at the moment, tracks such as "True Happiness This Way Lies," "Love Is Stronger Than Death" and "Dogs of Lust" are the best. Definitely worth checking out.

–ANGELA WOOLDRIDGE

THOMAS DOLBY
ASTRONAUTS & HERETICS
GIANT RECORDS

What may be more important than the songs on Dolby's new album are the musicians that contributed to it, and the way in which their playing was recorded. The album features bizarre, but well-placed guest appearances by Eddie Van Halen, Bob Weir, Jerry Garcia, Ofra Haza, Eddi Reader, Leland Sklar, and Budgie, all precisely recorded direct to computer disk without the use of moving tape. Once again, Dolby has conquered a technology that's ahead of his time.and used it in the name of rock and roll.



It's been a long time since Dolby last released a full album and "Eastern Block" – the standout sequel to 1981's "Europa And The Pirate Twins" – is his way of updating us. The new improved version of this song intertwines a simple Bo Diddly beat with samples from the older song and views on European unification, as seen through the eyes of a distant unfulfilled love. The quaint story of "I Love You Goodbye" is sweetened with violins, accordions, and descriptive lyrics like, "I would never normally go bowling/On a Friday morning in New Orleans/but I like to come here to remember/The kind of places you took me." The rambunctious, jamming groove on "Silk Pyjamas" temporarily veers the album away from its serious side, describing a city girl transplanted to a town "with no underground train."

But the album isn't all smooth sailing. "Close But No Cigar" isn't as lucky as its title suggests, "Cruel" is only slightly redeemed by Eddi Reader's supple vocals, and "I Live In A Suitcase" is burdened by its lyrical premise, taken several steps too far. Still, in spite of its defects, *Astronauts & Heretics* is an addictive comeback for the deserving Dolby, even if the master of technology still has some things left to learn.

-SANDER WOLF

OPERATION WINTER RESCUE

State of Emergency in Armenia!

The People are Starving and Freezing.

Please Help by Donating:

Non-perishable Foods — any size packaging (no glass containers)
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Collection Centers

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St. James Armenian Church, 465 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (923-8860)
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St. Stephen's Armenian Church, 38 Elton Ave., Watertown, MA (924-7562)
Mon.-Fri., 10 am to 4 pm, 6 pm to 9 pm; Sat., 10 am to 4 pm

Collection Deadlines March 8 and April 5 for ships provided by U.S. Government

Monetary donations will be used to make bulk purchases.
Make checks payable to church of your choice earmarked "Operation Winter Rescue."

Coordinated by U.S. Fund for Democracy and Development
ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

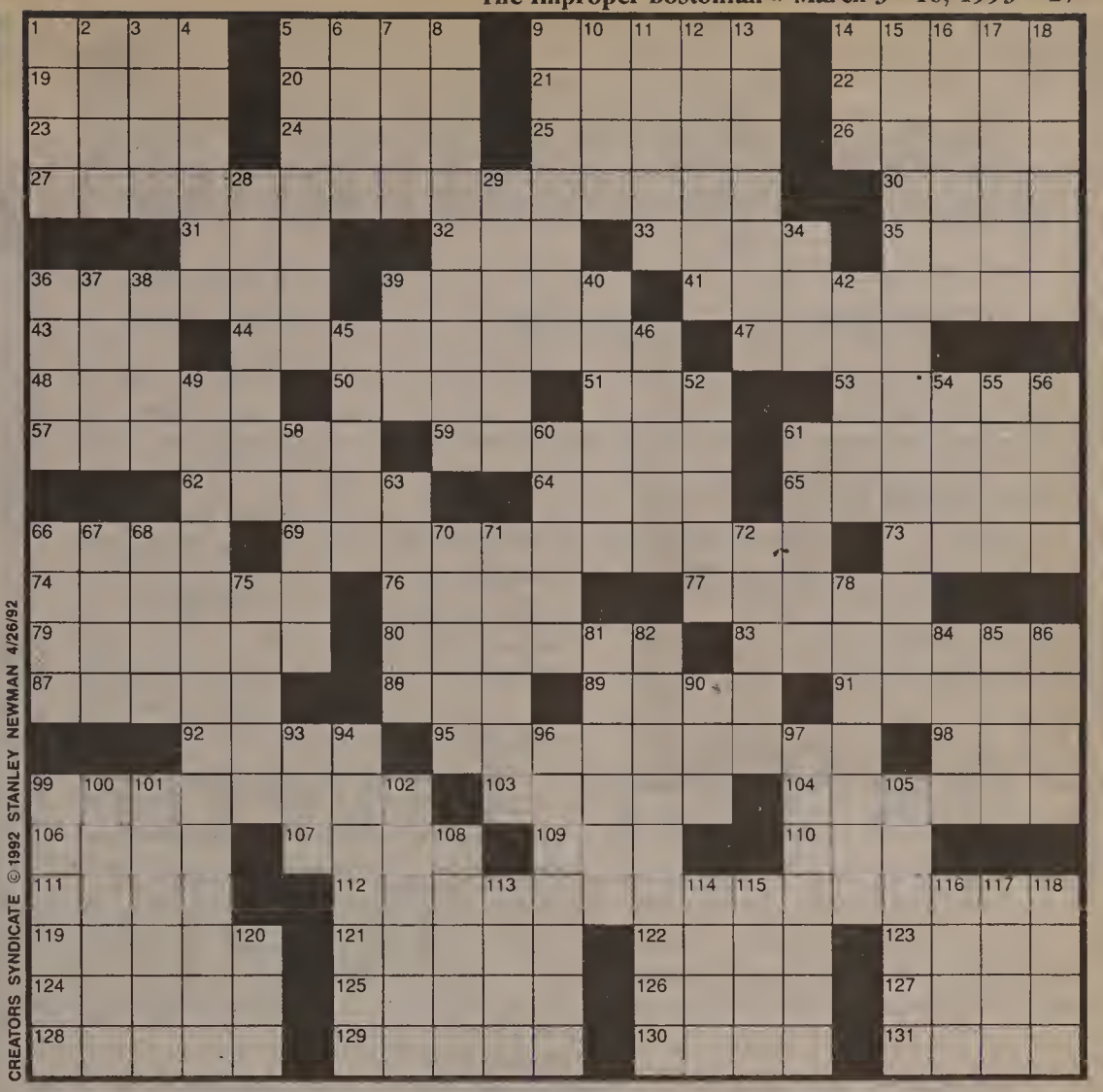
P.S.- The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has adopted a resolution on February 11, 1993 urging "The people of the commonwealth to contribute warm clothing, medical supplies and food as generously as possible to Operation Winter Rescue.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

THE JONESES: Keeping up with them

by Wayne Robert Williams



ACROSS

1 "One-hoss" carriage of poetry
5 Thin nail
9 Of the soft palate
14 Fairy-tale villains
19 Long ride?
20 Mrs. Burt Reynolds
21 Novelist Calvino
22 Characteristic
23 Dairy-case product
24 Snacks on
25 Metal fastener
26 Word form meaning "middle"
27 John Paul JONES' ship
30 Pain in the neck, maybe
31 *"Certainement!"*
32 Language suffix
33 Recipe direction
35 "Take __ Train"
36 Tie types
39 Pollen component
41 Shoddy manufacturing
43 Above, poetically
44 Tom JONES hit of '71
47 Slangy affirmative
48 One of The Judds
50 Not at all interesting
51 Tiny circle
53 Brake parts
57 Cryptogram maker
59 Hang one's hat
61 Maestro Toscanini
62 Tears
64 Tear
65 Strayed off course
66 Latin-class verb
69 James JONES novel, with *The*
73 Engages in deforestation
74 Apply for a pension
76 Mother of the Titans
77 Ventro- opposite
79 "The Crab"
80 Shirt fabric
83 Paint like Seurat
87 Marcus Aurelius was one
88 S&L unit
89 Number
91 Be off
92 "__ Lang Syne"
95 Shirley JONES' TV family name
98 Be off
99 Eagle-eyed fishermen
103 Second most widely grown fruit
104 Egyptian god
106 Come down to earth
107 Mountain passes
109 UCLA, e.g.
110 "Boom bah" preceder
111 Crocus or gladiolus
112 Building designed by Inigo JONES
119 *Pomp and Circumstance* composer
121 Bolshevik alias
122 Bounder
123 Wise-owl link
124 Amiens' river
125 Straight up
126 Football score
127 Requirement
128 Volcanic rock
129 Office furniture
130 Aussie birds
131 Blocker and Dailey

DOWN

1 Unkempt one
2 Hawaii County seat
3 Mass conclusion
4 Long-range "Excuse me!"
5 Sully
6 Travel widely
7 Starter chip
8 Neglected state
9 Innards, anatomically
10 Depict distinctly
11 "__ Theme" (*Doctor Zhivago* song)
12 States of readiness
13 In an unruly way
14 Stock-listings abbr.
15 James Earl JONES film, with *The*
16 __ Cucamonga, CA
17 Whichever
18 Run of luck
28 Unlikely, as a chance
29 Tristan's love
34 Caviar, essentially
36 First-class
37 O'Casey or Connery
38 Gator's kin
39 Armenia, once: Abbr.
40 Whirled at sea
42 National Leaguer
45 Alchemist's element
46 Alpine announcement
49 Carolyn JONES TV role
52 Not so hot
54 Free from doubt
55 Seagoing staff
56 Pieces of turf
58 Join in
60 Give one's word
61 Ward off
63 Letter from Greece
66 Trajectory paths
67 Lion's fare
68 __ cost (free)
70 Roy Wilkins' grp.
71 Baggage handler
72 Pried (into)
75 Happen again
78 Oder River region
81 Staple, perhaps
82 Invoice add-on
84 Carson predecessor
85 One-tenth of DLXX
86 Elongated fish
90 Medical-research agcy.
93 Tour part
94 Spoke slowly
96 Is offended by
97 New Testament openers
99 Most crafty
100 Living room
101 Conundrum
102 Social stratum
105 Lanai or Leyte
108 Trig functions
113 Check (off)
114 Textile machine
115 Polynesian party
116 En route, in a way
117 Columnist Herb
118 Quarterback's colleagues
120 Scale tones

MAGIC 106.7
WMJX

Continuous Soft Rock

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Boston Magazine 1992

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About Last Night...

Looking for Love(seats) in All The Wrong Places

BY LAUREN DARE

Sometimes even I, the nightlife addict, get tired of the same old scene: the bars, the tired pick-up lines, paying for over-priced drinks that I deeply regret the next day through the polluted fog of a hangover. Sometimes something different is called for, something new and out of the ordinary, something really fresh and exciting, like... spending Friday night at Jordan's Furniture!

At this point, you probably think I'm kidding. Jordan's Furniture? Why would anyone want to go plop their tushies down on the "Antonio Moretti leathah sofer" set at Jordan's Furniture ("Main Street to Moody Street! Left on Spitbrook, right on Daniel Webster!") on a perfectly good Friday or Saturday night? There are no drinks available, they pipe in some kind of nightmarish Muzak on stereo speakers throughout the store, and the likelihood of scoring a hot date at Jordan's seems remote, at best.

JORDAN'S FURNITURE
289 Moody St., Waltham and Route, 24, Avon

Not, however, according to Barry and Elliot. Now I, like many of my New England contemporaries, have grown up listening to these two guys do their hokey radio spots in their unbelievable Massachusetts accents ("Sofer with a secret!"). And, like those same contemporaries, I have long been faced with one deeply troubling question: which one is Barry, and which one is Elliot? It's impossible to tell, listening to them chat away Siskel and Ebert-style, discussing LA-Z-BOYZ and recliners instead of picks and pans. They probably can't even tell each other apart.



Anyway, in a recent ad one of them suggested that Jordan's Furniture is the perfect place to come and spend a Friday or Saturday evening. Heck, they declared, it's a great time and you can even meet people there! Single's Night at Jordan's Furniture? Could this be true? Worth looking into anyway, so I called the corporate offices of Barry and Elliot trying to arrange a little personal tour, maybe have them set me up with some eligible guys who might be out looking at ottomans.

Sadly, Barry and Elliot were **both** out of town at the time and the receptionist wasn't that helpful when I asked if I could get in the Singles' thing on Friday night. So I decided, in true investigative journalist fashion, to go check out the scene myself. I shimmied into my hottest black skirt, had a couple of Absolut and tonics to prime up, and headed to the mecca of middle class furnishings.

Inside Jordan's, I discovered the world of "Undah Prices" in a veritable city filled with dinette sets, enough sofas to fill twenty hotel lobbies and enough home entertainment systems to make any Super Bowl fan weep. I strolled lingeringly through the armoires and dressers, passed quickly by the bunk-bed section (only masochistic children enjoy sleeping in a bed so narrow you have to strap yourself in to keep from falling into the lower bunk and landing on the unfortunate person sleeping below; then again, maybe that *does* sound like fun...) and moved purposefully to - you guessed it - bedrooms.

Barry and Elliot have lovingly amassed a collection of beds, all different styles, sizes, firmnesses, and colors. The minute I arrived in this bower of boudoirs, I started looking for the vibrating beds - you know - "Posturepedic With a Secret" but had to settle for motion-controlled, heated, user-friendly waterbeds. These proved to be worth taking for a test ride, and if I had met anybody at Jordan's, I would undoubtedly have asked him to join me for a little waterbed surfing. Since I didn't meet Mr. Right, or even Mr. Right Now, I am thinking about calling up Barry and Elliot when they return from vacation and asking them about truth in advertising. The only people this reporter saw at "Jordan's Furnitiah" were much too interested in how far the recliners went back and how many bags of doritos you can hide in the "secret" part of the Sofa With a Secret to ask me out.

So, if you want to try and sneak a quick roll on a waterbed at Jordan's my advice is to bring a friend with you; despite what Barry and Elliot say, I don't think you'll find the man (or woman) of your dreams cruising through the living room sets. But who knows? Stranger things have happened. And if you do, maybe you can get Barry and Elliot to throw in a layette set. ❑

BARS & CLUBS

Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, call our advertising department at 232-3507

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BILL'S BAR** 421-9678, Lansdowne St., Boston. Located in the midst of Lansdowne St., Bill's can be a great alternative to the dance clubs. It caters to a crowd consisting anywhere from punk to preppie. Bill's reputedly has the best jukebox in the city, programed by Peter Wolf. It's loud, clean and showcases live music occasionally. Casual and very relaxed.

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, wel!. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featurng glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. Attracts an older, quieter crowd. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**LUCKY JOHNNY'S** 731-6753, 1098 Comm. Ave., Boston. Classic Rock rhythms fill the air at this upbeat college bar frequented mostly by BU, BC and Pine Manor students. On weekends, it gets pretty crowded. So beat the lines and get there early. The barback grill is always open and the smaller underground lounge is a nice place to chat. Dress is a relaxed casual to somewhat dressy. Best of all, there's never a cover.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S**
734-0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PERRY'S** 367-1297, 199 State St., Boston. Upstairs young professionals follow their favorite teams on six TV screens. While downstairs, college students and young professionals dance the night away Wed.-Sat. Located in the Faneuil Hall area, the dress is casual and the popcorn is excellent! Lunch and dinner served 11:30am-11pm.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. It's central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

• **RED HAT** 523-2175, 9 Bowdoin St., Bos. You'll feel just like you're in a London pub. Dark and casual atmosphere. Attracts young professionals and Beacon Hill residents. No cover. Casual dress. One of the few places you can still get pitchers of mixed drinks.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WALLY'S** 424-1408, 427 Mass. Ave., Bos. Treat yourself to unadulterated Jazz nightly at Wally's. Neatly tucked away on Mass. Ave. not far from Northeastern U., Wally's is easy to miss. The only indication that you've arrived is a small white beer sign out front. The atmosphere is dark, smoky and crowded and above all authentic. Mon. is Blues night. No cover. Casual dress. Arrive early to get a seat.

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. No tank tops. Bring I.D. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

To have your clubs live acts listed in our 2/17 - 3/2 issue fax your listings to Christopher Francescani at 232-4305

W 3RD

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Bunratty's Shaky foot/ Ripe/ Flubber
Colonnade David Azarian Quartet w/Rick Peckham
Green Briar Karaoke
Middle East Sugarbitch/ Joywheel Bone Horses/ Wayne Stevens
Rathskeller Utopian Police Force/ Ariadne's Thread/ Cirrhosis
Regattabar The Billy Childs Trio
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
T.T. The Bear's Smear w/Delusions of Grandeur/ Bebe Gallini/ Smitty on Skis

T 4TH

Bills Bar D.J.Stew & Perry
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Bunratty's Modern Farmer/ Bachelors of Art/ Naked Lunchbox/ Outback
Christophers Mare Streetpeople Trio
Colonnade Gene Bertoncini
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Green Briar Standing Hamptons
Grog The Mystyx
Middle East The Keep/ Vanilla Trainwreck/ Red Tomato/ Freddy K/ Landfill
Rathskeller Spore/ The Queers/ Dirt Merchants/ Bad Dream House
Regattabar The Ray Brown Trio
Silhouette Lounge Hollywood Squares
Sticky Mike's Rapt Rascals
T.T. The Bear's Riley's Field/ Mind Over Matter
Turner Fisheries Larry Watson Quartet
Venus De Milo D.J.Stew & Perry

F 5TH

Avenue C The Sense
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Black Rose (upstairs) John Corcoran
Bunratty's Concussion Ensemble/ Trojan Ponies/ Willie Alexander/ Clean Snide
Christophers Marsia Harris & Adrienne
Claddagh Rich McDuff
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. She's Busy
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Green Briar Lounge 2000
Grog The Bobby Watson Band
Middle East Helium/ Twig/ Slant 6/ Incinerator
Rathskeller Bob Evans/ Big HunkO'Cheese/ Forty/ The Blue Demons
Regattabar The Ray Brown Trio
T.T. The Bear's God Street Wine/ Olivz and Mr. Stone's Country
Turner Fisheries Larry Watson Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz

S 6TH

Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Celtic Clan
Black Rose (upstairs) Eugene Byrne
Bunratty's Seka/ Scratch/ Razorwire/ Mung
Cambridge Brewing Company Harmony Rockets
Christophers Rick Berlin
Claddagh Rich McDuff
Colonial Inn- Concord, MA New Blue Velvet Band
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Commonwealth Brewing Company Search Party
Durgin-Park Restaurant Rob Young & The Reckless
Green Briar Swinging Johnsons
Grog The Toni Lynn Washington Band
Middle East Dog Faced Herman/ Tom Cora/ Ginger Butkis/ God is my Co-Pilot
Rathskeller Sidewalk Gallery/ Miles Dethmuffin/ Fed Footed Genius/ Sun God Dog/ Delusions of Grandeur
Regattabar The Ray Brown Trio
Somerville Theatre Thokoza
Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue
T.T. The Bear's TBA
Turner Fisheries Larry Watson Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno

S 7TH

Bill's Bar Hot Like Fire
Black Rose (downstairs) John Corcoran
Bunratty's The 360's/ Thinner/ Curious Ritual/ Jivehead/ The Madcap Laughs
Christophers Singer/Songwriter Night
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party w/Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero
Middle East Drunken Boats

m 8TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Black Rose (downstairs) Kevin Farley
Bunratty's Wild East
Green Briar Irish Session

T 9TH

Bill's Bar Slep Chamber/ Head cleaner/ Flail/ Blistersoul
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Bunratty's Seven Thunder/ Wiseguise/ Kind
Colonnade Tom Beckham Quartet
Middle East Severin
Regattabar The Bob Berg Quartet

W 10TH

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Bunratty's What Peggy Wants/ Landfill/ Feast
Colonnade Alex Ulanowsky Trio
Green Briar Karaoke
Middle East Monobrau/ Goodfoot/ Evelyn Swoom/ Outa Touch
Regattabar The Bob Berg Quartet
Sticky Mike's Marc & The Motorvators
T.T. The Bear's Hammer Boy w/Sun God Dog/ Mother Tongue/ Bub and Greed Seed

t 11TH

Bill's Bar D.J. Stew & Perry
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Bunratty's Bugsy Crunch/ Contagious/ Raw Deal/ Sarvela
Christopher's Roger Nicholson
Colonnade Garry Dial & Dick Oatts Quartet
Commonwealth Brewing Company One People
Green Briar Response
Grog The Midlife Crisis
Middle East Drew Townsend's Tex Mex Night
Rathskeller The Moon Dogs/ Cleopatra Jones/ Dig This!
Regattabar Abbey Lincoln
Silhouette Lounge Little Boy Blue
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
T.T. The Bear's Dante's Grin/ Deleriants/ Felons on Trial
Turner Fisheries Steve Soares Quartet
Venus De Milo Groov-E

F 12TH

Avenue C Undercover
Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Black Rose (upstairs) Shannon
Bunratty's Scatterfield/ Vindicators/ Nevermore/ The Revolvers
Christopher's Laura Wood
Claddagh John Corcoran
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Freyda & The Atta Boys
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane
Durgin-Park Restaurant Blue Spurs
Green Briar Response
Grog KAOS
Middle East Saveer/ The Crumbs/ Cordelia's Dad/ The Miss/ Sometimes Jones
Rathskellar Dreams Made Flesh/ Blister/ Slow Club/ Slump
Regattabar Abbey Lincoln
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
T.T. The Bear's Maggie's Dream/ Talking to Animals/ Bell Isle
Turner Fisheries Steve Soares Quartet
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz

S 13TH

Black Goose Jazz Piano
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Black Rose (upstairs) Shannon
Bunratty's Chloe
Cambridge Brewing Company Killer Buicks
Christopher's The Laurie Geltman Band
Claddagh P1`at Cottrelo
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Michael Hurley
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Commonwealth Brewing Company Wilson Blue
Durgin-Park Restaurant Rob Young & The Reckless
Green Briar Dennis Healey Band
Grog Shadow
Middle East Tackiebox/ Apollo Landing/ The Barnies/ Pie Wagon
Rathskellar Thumper/ Seventh House/ Beat Soup/ Welcom Down
Regattabar Abbey Lincoln
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
T.T. The Bear's Ultra Vivid Scene
Turner Fisheries Steve Soares Quartet
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno

S 14TH

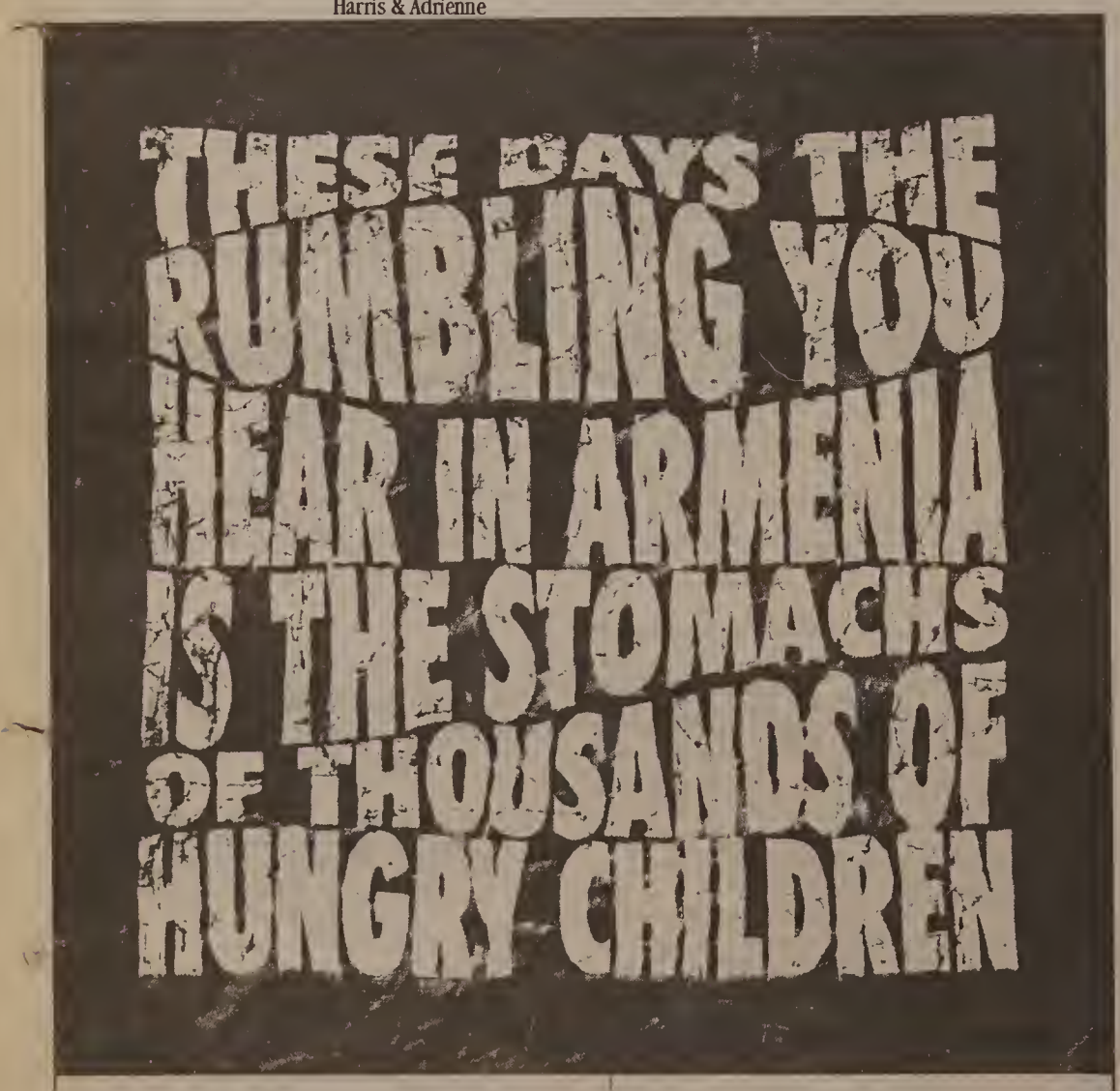
Bill's Bar R.D. Rhythm
Black Rose (downstairs) John Corcoran
Bunratty's Twig
Christopher's Joe Gramolini
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party w/ Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero
Middle East POND
Regattabar Roomful of Blues

m 15TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Black Rose (downstairs) Kevin Farley
Green Briar Irish Session

t 16TH

Bill's Bar Seka/ Peacock
Black Rose (downstairs) Eugene Byrne
Black Rose (upstairs) Celtic Clan
Bunratty's Spanish Fly/ Section 8/ Bill Hartzell
Colonnade Eric Zinman Trio
Green Briar Bill Cunninhan
Middle East The Inn/ Big Hot Sun/ Flubber/ Chaos Theory



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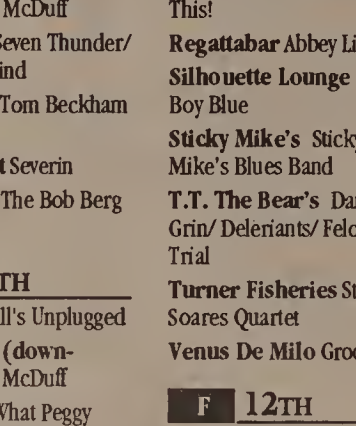
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ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — MARCH 3 - 16, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
Forward into the past. While Mercury, messenger of the gods, is retrograde (Feb. 27-March 22) old issues show up with alarming regularity, as do the people with whom you shared them. Although communication and travel hassles slow the pace of your current project, as a tradeoff you'll have more time to improve on the original. That is, if the fuckups (snafus?) don't drive you nuts. Venus, ruler of affection and attraction, is also turning retrograde on the 11th, so feel free to dump your current squeeze by claiming that you're so attuned to the rhythm of the universe, you felt this cosmic change of heart coming. You might even get away with this lame excuse because magnetic Venus in the sign of the single-minded Ram encourages self-centered activities, particularly passionate pursuits. Dissecting emotional entanglements will be the main activity until the Pisces-Virgo full moon (exact on the 8th at 1:46 a.m.) and the sun-Mercury meeting Monday night are history. Subtle advances in arts and technological smarts midweek, but while militant Mars squares (tests) judicious Jupiter, you might not notice your progress, just your prejudice. An excess of attitude means trouble; try to control your enthusiasm, expenses, pride and patriotic posturing before somebody does it for you.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
Further conversation during the full moon about career opportunities that originated at the new moon and, when the sun favors your mid-heaven midweek, action. Don't try to impose your opinion on significant others (e.g. your public, a public defender) because all they'll see is your militancy, not a cute Crusader Rabbit. While magnetic Venus is moving backward in your sign, you might not be as popular as usual, however you can still attract a long-ago love to fill in the empty spaces. Venus goes direct on April 22.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
A co-worker or fellow artist turns you on to an excellent opportunity, but until your birthday arrives, you won't see the full potential. Still, it pays to check it out, particularly if it leads to travel or study abroad. For the next two months while your Venus ruler is retrograde, you may feel you're in a social rut, and that's when an old emotional tie starts to look pretty good again. Blame or thank passionate Pluto, by retracing its steps through your marriage house, for giving you reasons to resuscitate the relationship.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Laughing all the way to the bank? Investment money and a career coup from info obtained before your Mercury ruler went retrograde. Congrats. If you want artistic approval or further financial backing, ask while the moon is full and the sympathies of parents, clients and employers are flowing freely. But don't ask casual friends for a favor or the union for its support. Your relationship to all groups – your place in their society, on their committee – is being reviewed, by them and by you, during the next six weeks.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Movement. You're headed far away from familiar territory, past the pedestrian, back on the path to perfection. Not a typical weekend for a homebound Crab, but while your moon ruler is full in "I'd never settle for second best" Virgo, and Mercury merges with the Pisces sun (and the Universal Mind), you're outta here. Stressful? Only while antsy Mars in your sign is challenged to do, be, spend more around the 11th. An alliance with a ballsy female at work might not be such an asset anymore.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Secretive Pluto turning retrograde lessens the anxiety over a family problem, but it's not really resolved. And Mercury retrograde in your house of taxes and investments means you'll be sorting through papers that were filed a while ago. Perhaps a payment from an insurance claim that'll cover further treatment, more job training or part-time help? No big deal, yet a positive development or a step out of debt, while buying into a friend's get-rich-quick scheme, while exciting and dramatic, is too much of a gamble now.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
The full moon in your sign can turn a weekend event into a special occasion, like a half-birthday party in Wonderland. Let emotions get the best of you because the ride can be quite a thrill and not nearly as scary as you expect. Besides, with a retrograde Mercury ruler remaking the acquaintance of faces from the past and reviewing your creative output, you won't have the time or inclination for business as usual. Except around the 11th, when the maddest plan a friend lays out makes momentary sense. Watch out!

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
Tragique! As your loving Venus ruler turns retrograde in your marriage house, a hot relationship can suddenly sour, leaving you stewing in your own juices for the next six weeks. Take precautions, don't leap (at a foreign-born fox) before you look and don't assume everything will work out for the best just because lucky Jupiter is in your sign. (It will, but not for a while.) The Virgo full moon focuses on your health house, the mind-body connection and water sports - find a hot tub to soak in.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
Babies and babes, fun and fertility – creative juices overflow during a full moon, especially when it shines on Pisces and Virgo lovers and friends. Music, art and poetry can add to the romance, but they shouldn't replace the sex, no matter how loaded you get. The problem with (and during) Pisces is escapism, holing up in the further regions of your mind, contemplating the vagaries of your soul. Because you're sooooo susceptible, curb that urge to space out, or, around the 11th, shoot the moon.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
The crib, emotional security and your family tree – issues firmly rooted in your unconscious can't help spilling out during this fecund and teary full moon. While you might catch a glimpse of a career opportunity and hear cheers from a support group, nothing has quite the impact as your homegrown anxieties. Once you realize that entirely too many planets, including your Jupiter ruler, are retrograde, all a Sag seer can do is take another look at the past for insights into the future. And fool around with a friend.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Approval rather than acclaim, but if all you get from your sibling or neighbor is a nod of acknowledgment, consider yourself a victor, not a victim. Cosmic influences are still working in your favor, despite the slowdown caused by four retrograde planets, so if delivery on a goodie for the house is delayed or a choice assignment is postponed, don't pile up a list of grievances. As long as your partner is all fired up and ready to slay a dragon on your behalf, consider yourself very lucky and nobody's goat.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
You can find money where you don't expect to; not in a pot at the end of a rainbow, maybe in an old painting at a garage sale. But for that, alas one has to leave the bedroom. While horny Mars and enthusiastic Jupiter have you going at it like superstars, chances are you won't take time out. Pluto turning around at the top of your chart could mean a turnaround in your business, a change in a parent's course of recovery (physical or financial), or the return of the bullies on the block — the IRS, FDA, EPA?

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
You don't have to be swamped by emotions or romantic notions unleashed during this full moon, but since your mind isn't on earthly things anyway, you may as well succumb to the fun of letting go. Dangerous? Not as long as you have someone with you with refined sensibilities and strong survival skills, e.g., an earth sign like Virgo. Buying and selling won't be profitable pastimes while Venus in your money house, but you might take out the pastels or refinish a table while you wait for Taurus to come around.

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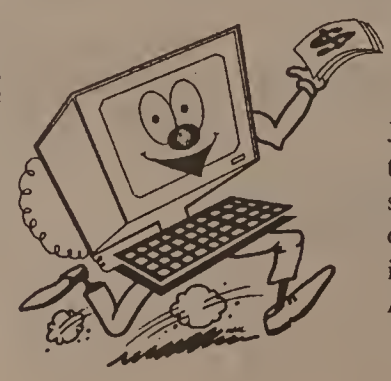
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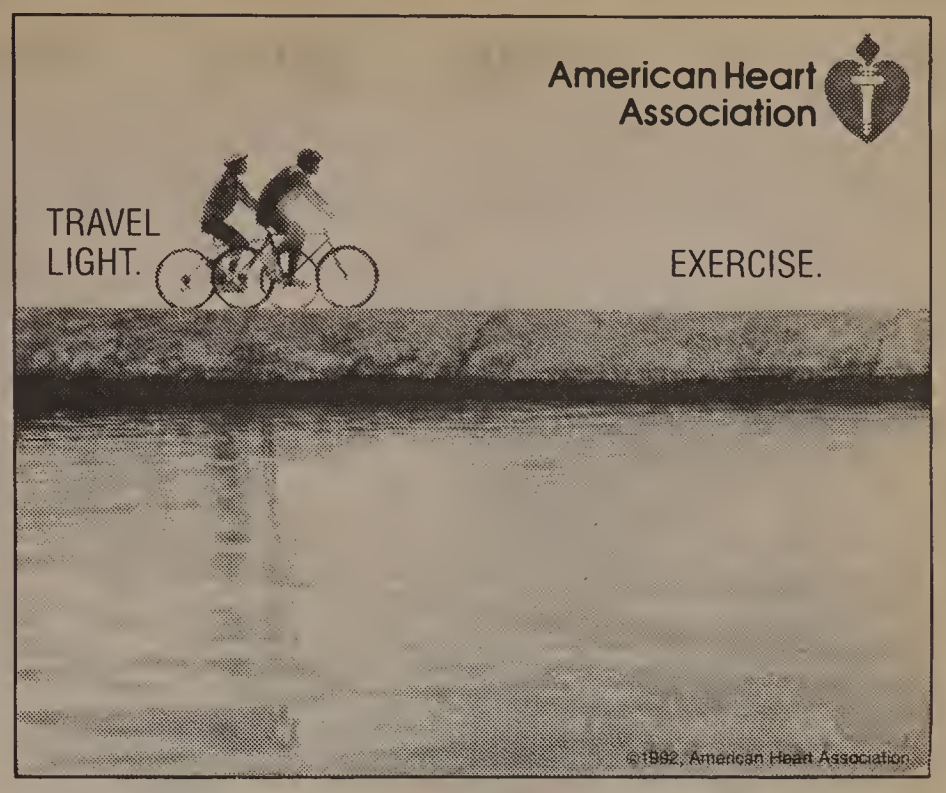
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Yo, Flipper,
If I had known my tuition was going directly into your pocket, I would have put your name on the check.
G.

Heather & Houman,
Thanks for the bagels. By far the best in Boston. Bagellicious is the best.
Dan

ISO:
If you like pina coladas
Getting lost in the rain
If you're not into yoga
If you have half a br.....(gag, strangle)

Big Dogs,
Stick with me. I'm almost there. As said before - "I'm back."
D.

Kevin,
Listen, asshole, you're no longer married to her so stop trying to tell her how to run her life. It's been three years, get yourself a life. Oh, by the way, keep those support checks coming; we're looking to buy a 93 BMW and a house on the Cape. Only 15 years. Cheer up; maybe next time you marry someone as special as dough you won't *&$%^@ it up. Maybe have a couple more kids. Oh yeah, that's right, snip snip. CU in court.
Mark

Lynne,
I love you dearly, but don't ever sing to me again. New England Telephone has filed a complaint against us...so has the FCC.
Love, your roommate

Jerry,
Suck it up, would you just? It's not that bad. You may have lost your job and your dog, but you still have me. Unless you keep up that incessant whining. Then you'll just have you. Wise up.
Kelly

Dear Mark of MIT,
You are definitely the most annoying individual I ever had the bad fortunate of being involved with. But...you are the only man who has ever satisfied me. Your tongue is God's gift to women on this earth. The Lord works in mysterious ways.
The Ace of Spades

Bonehead
Best of luck. Don't forget 5%.See you in D-Town
-The Doctor

TooBee,
Sure, they may have blond babes in bitty bikinis, endless 70 degree days, the heat without the humidity. But here you had...um...wait, it's coming to me. I thwear. OOOOOOH.
Shusee

Nate:
You are the saddest, most pathetic excuse of a human being that ever wasted space on this planet. I can see that nothing about you has changed, and nothing ever will. All I know is that if drugs and alcohol don't kill you first, someone will. Where do you get off telling me your son tragically died of pneumonia?? You're SICK and you need SERIOUS psychiatric help, pal. And here's a little advice: the next time you decide to make a total ass out of yourself and tell another outrageous lie, try not to get caught in it and at least have your mom back you up. Geez, was she ever surprised to hear her grandson passed away without her knowledge! And one more thing, you moron: don't even think about calling up my house and hanging up on me and my roommate any more, you gutless freak. If you do, expect a very unfriendly call from The Telephone Annoyance Bureau and the police. It seems that they have as much of an unpleasant history with you as I do. I hope you rot in hell...
From you know who

Susanne,
You're sooo innocent. A babe in the woods, as of yet unspoiled but soon to be experienced. Take this advice and heed its message well: Ready? O.K., Here goes: Drink, Drink, Drink. And when you're done . . .Drink. I'd say,"Stay unshaven, but this doesn't apply so just Drink. It builds character. Coglins Law: Beer is for breakfast.
Your Pal, T

Doom,
Don't feel bad, I'll probably get caught in a crossfire right before the earth opens. I recommend an increase in your dosage of Poodle Soufflées (don't tell Allison) to balance your loss. Who will you threaten with grievous bodily harm? Who will you torment with Black Magic and Voodoo? Whose promises will you doubt? Call me,
5%

TAS who else will take care of the lonely women at Buff's now? How will you ever be replaced in their, ah, hearts? And who will I give this hard time to? Sadness.

Laurie,
I watch the weather no matter where I am. May the rains be heavy, the disasters be many and may you smile throughout.
Thunder

To N.A.P.,
Can you say BUSTED? Someone we know ought to be feeling mighty stupid today, don't ya think? Nothing feels quite as good as the feeling of sweet revenge! Stay tuned, I'm sure this is not the end of it yet...
Your pal, Cheezball

Dear Mommy,
Please don't call me queer in front of my brothers and sister. It's called verbal abuse. Just because I'm an artist and love my daddy. You shouldn't be so mean to me.
Your loving son, Joey.

Yes, I like pina coladas,
Getting caught in the rain,
I am not into health food,
I am....(scuffle, scuffle)

To Pearl,
Thank God you're back to work. I've never missed anybody so much in my life. Don't go bursting any more bladders. Plus, Boston's drag queens and cross dressers couldn't coordinate outfits without your personal touch.
Your trusted friend,
Pumpkin

Steph:
When I said goodbye, I didn't really mean it. What I *meant* to say was...get the hell out and never come back! Sleeping around I could have forgiven. Even with my best friend. But with my *brother?* This ain't the swinging seventies. I don't know you any more, if I ever did. Maybe I should be relieved. I hope the two of you are very happy. And don't worry. I won't mention your little "discomfort" to him. Let him find out for himself. Love and kisses.
Your grateful-to-be Ex

J-I'm the LUCKIEST girl in the Whole Program—no, in All of Boston—no! In the WHOLE WORLD! You've even made me match my underwear to my hat! Riiight!! xxoo A

BCBSFC,
Your apathy has ruined the greatest of traditions. But all is not lost, we're coming anyway. Besides you're paying for everything. GUG!
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The Improper Bostonian

The Art of Waiting:

And Those Who Pursue It



Inside:

The Original Great Chef's Taste Fair

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Vivacious Vivaldi

A solution to the question of how to make music history and music appreciation lively and fun for children – almost irresistible, in fact – can be found in a new series of tapes focused on musicians. In one, "Vivaldi's Ring Of Mystery: A Tale Of Venice and Violins," we hear the story of orphan Katarina, who ends up in the music school presided over by Antonio Vivaldi. The whole spoken story (Vivaldi befriends our Katarina, and the students prepare a fateful concert for the Duke of Palermo to be played at Carnival time) is bathed in the luscious music of the composer, which is central to the tale and used as background throughout – now gripping and ominous, now lyrical and tumbling with his familiar fruity beauty. At one point, Vivaldi shows how he takes – or might have taken – a chattery battle between two of the young orphan-students, transforming it into a piece of music, full of musical "argument" back and forth. Vivaldi tells Katarina how, at a certain time in his life, "Sunshine flowed down into my fingers and I played, and played. I couldn't write music fast enough: concertos, sonatas, operas. I poured all of Venice into my music, all its laughter, its birds, its storms, all its seasons," (as in "Four"). The story, which involves exciting trips through the canals, a friendly gondolier, high-minded girl musicians, scary-masked figures, a Stradivarius that mysteriously appears and the exuberance of Carnival, leads Katarina to a discovery of her true, and, of course, noble origins. Without so much as lifting a laboring neuron, children – and their parents too – can absorb the ethos of Vivaldi's music while following this story (and a shiver runs through it) to its conclusion. $10.



Vivaldi's Ring Of Mystery
at Sandy and Sons
Inman Square
215 Hampshire Street
Cambridge
491-6290

The Moss and the Rose

The owner of this little cupcake of a shop called Terra has lived in Greenwich Village apartments, and it shows in the white, arty charm of the place. The windows are flanked by mossy columns wrapped in gold ribbon, a hint of the ingenious ways Tori Jacobs has persuaded nature to bloom in artificial, but sweet, everlastingness. She makes deep bowls filled with moss and dried roses, adorns them with acorns, or supports them with cinnamon sticks. Twigs, twisted and joined, become planters filled with joltingly bright primroses, and are also used for a proscenium 'cage' defining the shop. Over there, on the large-size single brass beds, are durable white duck duvet covers, hand-painted with distinctive patterns – bunnies, old phones, 1920's dancers, all decorative enough to be slipcovers for a daybed. On them sit brightly-painted lacquered salad bowls; curled inside them are the shop's fluffy home-making kittens, Zoe and Max. Tender artifacts suggestive of a distant summer afternoon – like little girls' flowery hats, antique tea towels, runners and bits of terra cotta are another Terra theme. An enormous, ascetic wrought-iron chandelier – for candles – swoops down from overhead. As Terra is also quietly a gallery, hand-tinted pictures by Linda Cook are around and for sale. Tori is also the inventor of the comical Nipple Pillow, which is jampacked with those rubber tops of baby bottles interspersed, comically, with dried roses. Come summer, a little secret garden will be open in the back, selling the outdoor version of her distinctive indoor things. Open 11 a.m.-7 p.m. – just right for a post-work drop-in – and closed on Monday.



Terra House And Garden
204 Hampshire Street
Cambridge
497-5927

Spin Those Old Paper Towel Tubes Into Gold

I debated heavily about whether or not to buy the book – skinflintery begins with creative withholdings – but then borrowed The Tightwad Gazette secondhand. Some of Amy Dacyczyn's strategies involve transmuting mildly annoying household objects into the useful and amusing (she recycles things like 'pesky juice lids' into next-year's Halloween suit of armor). Many of her suggestions involve bypassing the ludicrously overpriced stuff by making your own, blending humble ingredients, such as the baby wipes made of paper towels and lotion and stuff, which you store in one old baby-wipe box (and mix the goo in yet another; you were a feckless shopper once). My favorite suggestion from this Maine-dwelling mother of six was the one where she said she sometimes buys coming-home presents in Maine, before going on a trip, rather than getting them out on the expensive road.

Because this book – and I do recommend you buy it, it's amusingly composed and compiled – is part of a chatty back and forth with the Community of Thrift in the form of a newsletter, you get suggestions like this: when drugstores etc. re-price items upward, sometimes items that are languishing in yesterday's price are hiding behind the newly-priced ones. Whole approaches to Christmas, weddings and birthdays are recommended, all swapping in wretched excess for ingenuity – the high-priced stuff can sit side-by-side with the figurative margarine, and bridesmaids get to keep their (silk) bouquets; that's their present from the bride. So many things lead two lives. Tightness has not made her spirit pruney, though. Dacyczyn deploys her resourcefulness bountifully, proving that one could get blood – or more practically, grape juice for the kids – from a stone. Since saving is a form of business, it's fitting one finds The Tightwad Gazette filed (at Wordsworth, at least) under "Business"...speaking of the letter T, not far from the Trump books. She also publishes a newsletter.

The Tightwad Gazette
by Amy Dacyczyn

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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March 17–March 30, 1993

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As the Massachusetts economy crawls towards recovery, Boston's waiters and waitresses are hustling like mad. Find out why this under-respected profession is suddenly looking better and better to many of Boston's best and brightest. Hear from those already making their living taking excellent care of your evening out; Boston's finest servers, who not only take pride, but care and joy out of taking care of *you*. BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

4 It Could Happen



And it did...our comedy editor got the glorious opportunity to worship first-hand in the temple of the Love Goddess herself, Judy Tenuta. Find out which of Judy's personalities she likes best, how she became the Petite Flower she is, and what exactly that accordian is for. Not to mention where/when you can catch this lady's whacked act for yourself.

BY ROSS GARMIL

30 Where the Elite Meet



Yvonne's, the chi chi, members-only club located upstairs at Locke-Ober's, presents the Improper young social-climbers with a clear rung-up...if you can get access. Our Last Call Lady takes a look at life in the upscale lane.

BY LAUREN DARE



On The Cover

Photographer: Mim Michelove
Models: Dottie Ladny
Dotty Fauscher
Location: Durgin Park, Boston

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Improperly Yours

Right off the bat, let me introduce myself – Susanne E. Schantz, new Editor-In-Chief. Pleased to meet you. Let me also introduce this column – "Improperly Yours" will be appearing in this space, every issue from now on. Why? Primarily to let you know what's been going on at the *Improper*, and in the city we call home: why we chose the cover we did, where that feature came from, what's been going on in the city, and why its relevant to you.

I joined the staff of *The Improper Bostonian* approximately one year ago; until two weeks ago, I was managing editor for our previous editor, Tobin Streett. Now, it's my turn. After watching this magazine grow this past year and a half, I'm excited by both where it's been and where it's going. It's been a wild ride; we're growing in leaps and bounds.

Expect to see some changes in your *Improper*. After all, like the rest of us, the magazine is growing up. Take this opportunity to talk to us. Feedback, like daily lunches at the corner deli, keeps us going and keeps us focused. Tell us what you like. Tell us what you hate. Just keep in touch. Like your mother, we love hearing from you.

Improperly yours,

Susanne E. Schantz
Editor In Chief



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AND ESPECIALLY, MARION AND LEON

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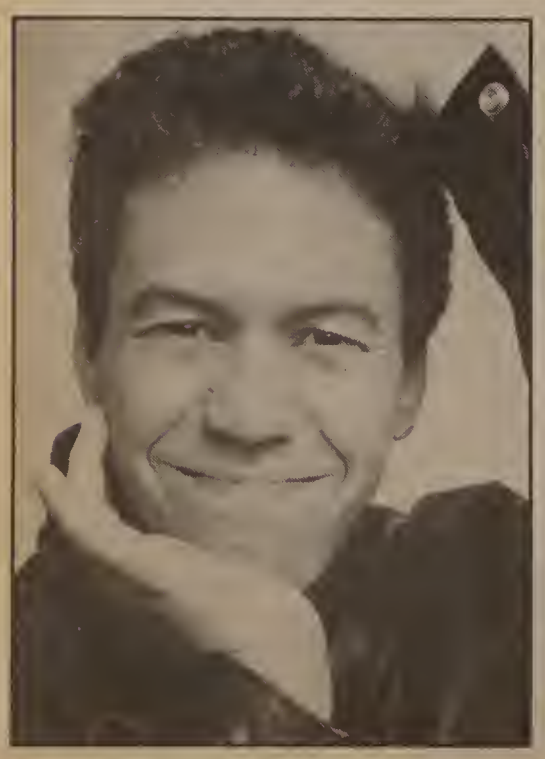
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AROUND TOWN

A cerbic voice, squinty eyes, exasperated demeanor: all hallmarks of comedian extreme **Gilbert Gottfried.** The man, the parrot (Gottfried was the voice of Iago in *Aladdin*), the scrunched-up legend, who has been touring the country's comedy circuit, will be pacing the stage at Nick's Comedy Stop on March 19 and 20.

If you missed the latest Disney mega-hit, perhaps you know Gottfried as the crazed accountant bugging Eddie Murphy in *Beverly Hills Cop II*, or from his other scene-stealing roles in movies such as *The Adventures of Ford Fairlain* (with Andrew Dice Clay), *Problem Child* (with John Ritter) or *Look Who's Talking Too* (with John Travolta & Kirstie Alley). Come catch his outraged musings a 8:30 or 10:30 p.m.; tickets are $15. Call 482-0930 for information and tickets.





What could be more romantic than a musical tale of knights, queens, Old England and honor? **Camelot**, that dashing story of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table, fits the bill perfectly, and will be in town from March 30 through April 4 at the Wang Center for the Performing Arts. As if this wasn't enough, check out this added bonus: Emmy- and Grammy-winner Robert Goulet, star of the original 1960 version, is back as King Arthur.

Sigh over quixotic Guenevere (played by Patricia Kies) and Sir Lancelot (Steve Blanchard); shake at the evil Mordred (Kenneth Boys) and Merlin (James Valentine). Tickets range from $30 to $55. Shows are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7 p.m. and matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Call 931-2787 for tickets and information.

There's Lauren Bacall, and then there's...**Bacall: By Herself**, the hilarious new musical starring James Beaman. This wacky show, which was brought back by "popular demand," takes place at the Club Cabaret, 209 Columbus Avenue. Hear this legendary film star's story told, tongue firmly in cheek, through monologue, song (all done live – no lip sync here) and with audience participation. This performance lasts four nights only – March 25, 26, 27 and 28 – all at 8 p.m. Tickets are $12, call 536-0966 for reservations.



Hot international sounds, wild dancing and spangled costumes set the tone for **Oba Oba '93**, an untamed new musical playing at the Shubert Theatre (265 Tremont Street) from March 23 to April 4. Feverish Brazilian music and dance are the premise of this production, which includes everything from carnival congas to Rio's lambada (yes, the forbidden dance is not dead). Seventy-five dancers, singers and musicians make up this crew, which has toured Europe and the States. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m.; Sunday at 7:30 p.m.; matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets run from $22.50 to $42.50, and are available at the Shubert box office, or by calling Telecharge at 1 (800) 233-3123.



Dieters of the world, cry in vain, because on Sunday, March 28, you are going to be tempted beyond human endurance. The name of the temptress is the **15th Annual Great Chefs Taste Fair**, and only a Hercules could withstand it. There will be celebrities – Victoria Kennedy, wife of Senator Ted, will be rustling up some Louisiana (her home state) Cajun dishes, former Bruins Gord Kluzak and Cleon Daskalakas will be dishing up their P.J.'s Big Beef Chili and signing autographs and Stacey Blain will be doing whatever Miss Massachusetts does – and there will be food, food, food. Dozens of top Boston restaurants are donating their wares to this event. Who needs to eat out at one restaurant when you can sample the menus of many?

And the cause couldn't be better – the **National Kidney Foundation of Massachusetts** is responsible for one million in kidney-related grants annually, primarily focused at research. Tickets are $15 and be purchased via Visa and MC (call 1-800-542-4001) – the event runs from 3 to 6 p.m. at Boston's Hynes Auditorium. For more information, see our Official Guide, page 19. Shown are Chef Ted Donaghue of A Steak In The Neighborhood (Sheraton Boston) serving Mike Neagle and JoAnn Dowling, co-chairs of the event, at a press preview.



Rating Boston's Waitstaff

THE IMPROPER TAKES A LOOK AT THE AREA'S FINEST SERVERS

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI



Angela Wooldridge

PAOLO DIECIDUE

IL PANINO
NORTH END, BOSTON

LOOKING FOR LOVE, HE FOUND A CAREER

Bo may know sports, but Paolo Diecidue knows food. After starting in the business as a 15-year-old dishwasher at Friendly's, today Paolo commands rank at one of the North End's most authentic Italian restaurants. What happened in between is the unique story of a waiter who deserves to be filed under "experienced."

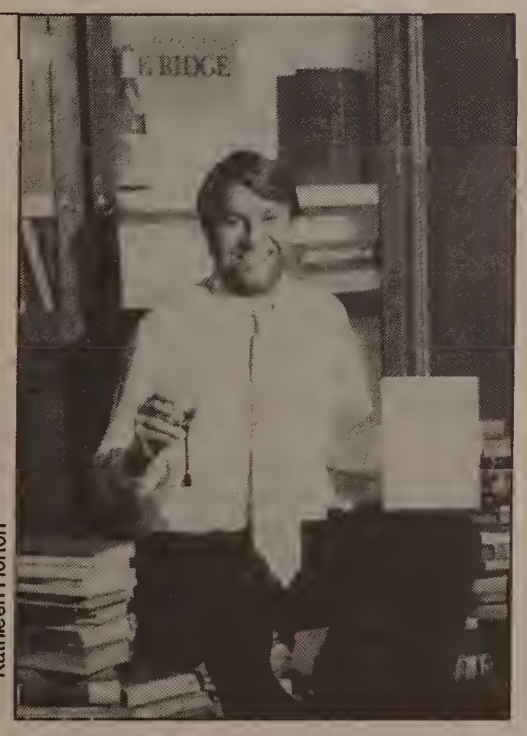
At 22, with things other than food service on his mind, Paolo "ran off," he says, "to Italy, in pursuit of a woman." A successful courtship was followed by a position at the restaurant run by the woman's father in Sciacca, Sicily, where he found himself utterly unequipped to handle the position. "I was faking it," he says.

The head chef, vice president and professor at a highly-esteemed culinary institute, finally forced Paolo to enroll in his school after the young man set himself on fire trying to flambé a dish for a customer. Six months of intensive study later, Paolo returned triumphant, armed with a *certificato* from one of Italy's finest waitstaff programs. When the love story with his Italian mate ended, Paolo returned stateside and resumed his career, and his love affair with food. "This," he says simply, "is what I love to do." A dining experience hosted by Paolo, who is currently working at Il Panino, will prove this to be true.

JACK HOLBROOK

MICHAEL'S ON THE WATERFRONT
BOSTON

WHEN IT COMES TO WAITING, JACK WROTE THE BOOK



Kathleen Horton

Jack Holbrook alone can dispel any lingering notions that waiters are underqualified to handle much more than they do. Having recently completed his third novel, Ussuriland, a geo-political thriller set in the near future, Holbrook is as dedicated to his night job, waiting tables at Michael's, as he is to his day job of cranking out intellectual fiction.

A University of New Hampshire graduate with a degree in English, Jack has been in the restaurant business since he was thirteen, when he started out by helping some friends in a pinch who needed a dishwasher. He has been waiting tables ever since. A staple at Michael's almost since the restaurant opened, Jack manages to support himself working several nights a week. The rest of the time he devotes to his writing.

A veteran to the trade, Holbrook feels that the worst is behind him in terms of bad moments. "I don't think I'll ever forget," he smiles, "the night when I spilt Irish Coffee, complete with creme de menthe and whipped cream, right down into the middle of this woman's bouffant hairdo....It kind of hung there, for a moment, right in the middle of her hair, and then it started filtering down *real slowly*. I'll never forget that." Neither, probably, will the woman.

BRENDA AUGUSTINOS

THE GRECIAN YEARNING
ALLSTON

SERVICE, FRILLS-FREE BUT FAST

Brenda Augustinos has seen it all. After moving to Allston from Nova Scotia at the age of 11, Brenda began waiting tables after school at what was then the Baker's Dozen, on the corner of Harvard and Commonwealth Ave. Since then she's worked at pizza joints, swanky hotels, soda counters and coffee houses. A brash, motherly type, Brenda asserts that years of experience all over this town have taught her that what people want is not tinseltown courtesy, but down-home commonality. "People don't like nice," she explains. "They want real."

"Real," to Brenda, includes a staple "Okay-raise-your-hand-if-you-want-coffee-cause-I'm-not-going-to-ask-twice" greeting to Sunday morning tables. One busy morning in the fall, Brenda was confronted with a customer to whom she'd given the wrong plate. After he refused to return it, citing hunger, she furrowed her eyebrows, leaned less than lovingly into his face, and queried, "You wanna wear it, son?" The plate of food was retrieved.

Beneath this rough exterior, though, beats the heart of woman who loves her work. "Half my customers," she smiles, "call me Mom."



Angela Wooldridge

Waiting For Good Dough

Why Boston's Waitstaff Get No Respect

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

Waiters are politicians. They're expected to please everybody at all times, often for all the wrong reasons. They are gamblers, speculating with an optional gratuity system. Waiters are salespeople, marketing a constantly changing product essential to everyone who draws oxygen. They are servants to strangers and recipients of misdirected malice. Frowned upon for their career choice, the overwhelming populace of waitstaff commands about as much respect with the general public as do gas attendants and cabbies. No other professional seems so easy to abuse.

While the Internal Revenue Service recognizes tips as legitimate income, most banks do not. They don't consider tips legitimate, and won't give loans against them. In the Help Wanted sections of major newspapers, advertisements for waitstaff positions are listed under general rather than professional help. Waiters as service professionals are considered semi-skilled at best, a second-rate indignity until finding something "real." The term itself implies a sort of waiting period for something more exciting to happen, a highly unpopular notion amidst the go-getter spirit of American ingenuity.

If they weren't making any money at this (which they are), waiter's sub-working class status might be explainable. Teachers make next to nothing for the amount of high pressure work they do, but *because* they make so little, theirs is a profession without prestige.

Not so with waiters.

They often make substantial amounts of cash. In a social system as financially-oriented as ours, where income and prestige dance cheek-to-cheek, it's ironic that waiters are not considered highly-skilled professionals.

Conversely, on the other side of the Atlantic, waiting tables is a lucrative, high-profile position. "Saying you're a waiter in Europe is like saying you're an accountant. It's a respectable trade," says Paolo Diecidue, a server with experience on both sides of the Atlantic. Formal training at prestigious European academies, which specialize in the finer points of well-bred hospitality, is the prerequisite to a good position. On the Continent, it is considered a *privilege* to serve. Reflecting a cultural disparity, Europeans revere their service industry – a phenomenon wholly foreign to Americans.

"It's unfortunate in this country that so many people are afraid of food," says Julia Child, a household name and Cambridge resident. "Food should be fun." Why, then, isn't food taken seriously in this country? "It's general stupidity," she maintains.

Having been raised on McDonalds and Burger King, the reigning Hatfields and McCoys of the fast-food industry, we tend to view our national waitstaff as a confederacy of dunces, scraping together a living in a profession for which most Americans consider themselves overqualified.

Douglas Coupland, in his critically acclaimed bestseller *Generation X: Tales For an Accelerated Culture*, comments on the emerging ranks of college graduates in America, who find no better employment opportunities available than what he calls a "McJob: a low-pay, low-prestige, low-dignity, low-benefit, no-future job in the service sector."

Contrary to Coupland's typically American attitude, the task of waiting tables is as real as any job. With Massachusetts residents battling an ever-so-slowly convalescing economy, the number of full-time waitstaff in Boston is multiplying rapidly. In a time when belts are pulled tighter than ever, it is paradoxical that a gratuity-based service industry, such as waiting tables, is drawing new recruits almost as fast as the burgeoning ranks of American lawyers.

In actuality, the food service industry is the fastest growing sector of the economy in most states. In others, it's the *only* growing sector of the economy. Major newspaper are constantly upgrading their "Food" sections, and food editors are gaining critical ground as they increasingly find themselves among the nouveau celebrities in big cities throughout the country. At the forefront of the food game are waiters and waitresses, the foot soldiers of these establishments, front-runners in the new religion of courtesy in this country.

The statistics tell all. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1,747,000 people were employed as waiters in 1990. This figure is expected to grow to 2,196,000 by the year 2005. Total food service employment is expected to reach 12.4 million by 2005 – up from 9.5 million in 1990.

"Waiters are important," says Vivienne Wildes, founder and co-director of the newly-created, Maryland-based Waiters Association. "A multi-billion dollar food service industry hangs on the women and men who carry the food to the guests. They need to respect their jobs. When they do, their customers and employers do as well. Waiters are the ambassadors of hospitality."

The Waiters Association (the brainchild of two career veterans, Wildes and Gerard Foley, who got their start at a mom-and-pop restaurant in Mountaintop, Pennsylvania) is a professional rather than labor organization whose goal is "to upgrade the status of wait-

(CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)



Kathleen Horton

Steve Davis

AUJOURD'HUI
FOUR SEASONS HOTEL,
BOSTON

WHO COULD ASK FOR ANYTHING MORE?

A waiter with a track record that includes L.A., Seattle, Kansas and Boston, Steve Harris is the first black waiter to ever be hired at The Four Seasons Aujourdhui restaurant. Having grown up devoted to his mother's table, Steve feels privileged to have been introduced to the world of food and wine, a world he tries to share with everyone around him.

Currently working at the AIDS pediatric center in Roxbury, as well as being involved with "Little Brothers for the Elderly," Steve has recently volunteered to start up a waitstaff training program at a soul food restaurant he frequents. "This is a way out [of the inner city] for a lot of people," he explains, "and I want to make people understand that."

Extensively schooled in formal dining, Steve prides himself on his detailed knowledge of food and wine. "I've been trying to pull people away from white Zinfandel for years," he says. Often, he adds, customers are not familiar with certain items on the menu, and are too embarrassed to ask for assistance. He tries, he says, to assist them by making recommendations, or explaining the preparation of a particular dish, but this doesn't always work.

"When all else fails," he says, "they go straight to the chicken."

Katie Callahan

LEGAL SEAFOOD
PARK PLAZA, BOSTON

SWEET DISPOSITION LEADS TO A LEGAL FORTUNE

Katie Callahan possesses one of those angelic personalities that even the most obnoxious customers can't help but warm up to. Soft-spoken and naturally friendly, she says that she loves meeting new customers, especially when they have personalities like her favorite, Willard Scott, who did a Today show taping with Katie at her restaurant several years back.

A twenty-four year veteran at Legal Seafood, Callahan was initially hired by George Berkowitz, the chain's founder, when he opened his first restaurant at Inman Square in the 1950's. Reflecting on the old days, she says, "When I first started, there wasn't any training. I told George I didn't have any experience, and he says to me, he says, 'You just treat my customers as if they were guests at your own table and you'll be fine.' That was my training."

At the original Legal Seafood, Katie says "We served fish & fries. The people would get up and get their own coffee. The most expensive menu item was the 'The Fisherman's Platter'-$3.95." But that didn't mean the money was always small potatoes.

"Two gentlemen [once] came in," Katie says, "I waited on them, and as they left, one of 'em says to me, 'I hope you have some Scotch tape.' I went to the table, and we taped together this piece of paper – it was a $100 bill."



Angela Wooldridge

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

ers in America to a career level." They feel that the term waiter is a non-generic one, referring to both sexes: "like teacher, or lawyer." Their monthly newsletter, *Hospitality*, published its first issue in January of 1993. Plans are underway to offer insurance benefits and networking to America's waiters, and the association, which is currently being funded by the two founders, is applying for non-profit status.

"By 'good service' we do not mean give-me-my-burger-in-30-seconds-or-I-want-it-free," Wildes continues. "We mean trained, pleasant, happy-to-be-here waiters, the kind customers can't wait to tip. Why not see this as a career for talented, spirited and motivated people?"

Irish-born Katie Callahan, who has been with Legal Seafood since George Berkowitz opened his first restaurant at Inman Square in the 1950's, does see waiting tables as such a career. She should know. She's been doing it for nearly thirty years. "It takes a lot of energy and discipline," she says; "You have to love your job." While there are good and bad waiters in both the professional and the temporary divisions of the industry, most seem to agree that the bottom line is attitude.

A long-time local waitress in the Faneuil Hall area commented that "the old pros," such as herself, have the experience and commitment to handle any situation. They are, she notes emphatically, professionals. But she explains, with some disdain, that the young, temporary waitstaff don't take their jobs as seriously. "The new ones come in," she goes on, "and they're nice and they're cute, but they're there to make a buck. Today it's supposed to be 'speedy.' How 'speedy' can you get? Honestly," she says, "I don't know how some of it gets by [the management]."

Brenda Augustinos, another veteran, explains the allure of the temporary position. "It's a quick buck," she says. "What other job gives you such flexible hours, and the ability to make large amounts of money in a such a short time?" She points to college students as an example. "They come in, work six weeks, and they've got enough cash for Spring Break."

College students. The inexhaustible pool of cheap, semiskilled, temporary labor. In a college town like Boston, students comprise a large section of the city's waitstaff. In contrast to lifers like Brenda and Katie, students find that waiting tables can be a lucrative complement, often times a subsidy, to higher education. Walk into any restaurant in Boston, and you will find a struggling-young-something. They're everywhere: young musicians, young writers, graduate students, young dancers, married couples, young republicans, young painters, all struggling to support themselves until they find their niche in an uninviting New England economy.

The "struggling-young-something" scene has regurgitated some surprisingly big names. C. David Pugh, author of *The Art of Waiting Tables: A Practical Guide For College Students*, remembers his fiancee, while they were living in Manhattan, spending an unusual amount of time at a local joint called Cafe Central. "She was always in there," says Dave. "She'd come back and tell me about this great bartender there, that they called Bruno." Well, Bruno turned out to be short for Bruce, and Bruce to be short for Bruce Willis, Hollywood hotshot. For Willis, and thousands of others like him, waiting tables is a means to an end, a way to pay the rent and still concentrate on whatever other career is being pursued.

Not all waiters, though, start off as part-time dream merchants. Paolo Diecidue, currently a waiter at Il Paninos in the North End, says he does it not for the money, but because "this is what I love to do." "For me," he explains, "to have a customer say that this or that was excellent, or that the service was exemplary, that just gives me goosebumps."

In an age of obsessively health-conscious Americans, when everything from dairy products to red meat is coming under fire from the palette police, chefs across the map are hustling, now more so than ever, to redefine the time-worn concepts of American dining. Steve Harris, a waiter at the Four Seasons Hotel, sees himself as being on the cutting edge of an increasingly popular industry. "Food is always changing," he says; "Four years ago people never would have thought to put rare tuna on fois gras and serve it. Today it's one of the most popular dishes in town."

He feels that as a professional waiter he is marketing a constantly changing product. "If you're serious about [waiting tables], you have to keep abreast of the changes in the industry. You have to read the food sections and know wine...because you bring this knowledge to the table with you, as a service to your guests." It was this type of attitude towards his job that landed Steve a $1200 tip one night last summer.

There is more to waiting tables, though, than just a good attitude. What the customer sees when he or she dines at a restaurant is only the stage on which the waitstaff perform, half dancing their way through the two-way traffic in and out of the kitchen, arms loaded with hot plates. Every night is opening night and each table a new audience. These impromptu players create the atmosphere, calculating reactions while they read their audiences: where to get involved, when to remain reserved, what to say and how to say it.

There's a world of activity that the customer never sees. Behind the scenes, in the kitchen, the staff scurries to meet stringent time requirements, coordinating the dining experience for anywhere from 20 to 120 hungry patrons. As with any live performance, problems inevitably arise. Anyone who's ever worked in a restaurant will tell you this. Meeting multiple demands, handling any one of the thousands of situations that arise every day in the restaurant business-whether it be an impossible customer, a shortage of coffee cups, or a broken glass in the ice bin, waiting tables demands an uncommon amount of patience and split-second decision-making. "Anyone who thinks that they can walk off the street and wait tables as well as our staff, and several people have imparted this sentiment to me over the years, has never done it before," says Bill Schmidd, an accomplished general manager in the industry.

So, gentle reader, next time you dine out be mindful of the fact that the production being put on for you is a multifaceted one, and that in addition to the actual performance, there is plenty of preparation and fervent activity that you never witness. When the curtain falls and the bill is dropped, if you have enjoyed your experience, let it be reflected in your tip. When your waiter extends courtesy to you in a professional manner, treat him or her as a professional. Tip big. ❑

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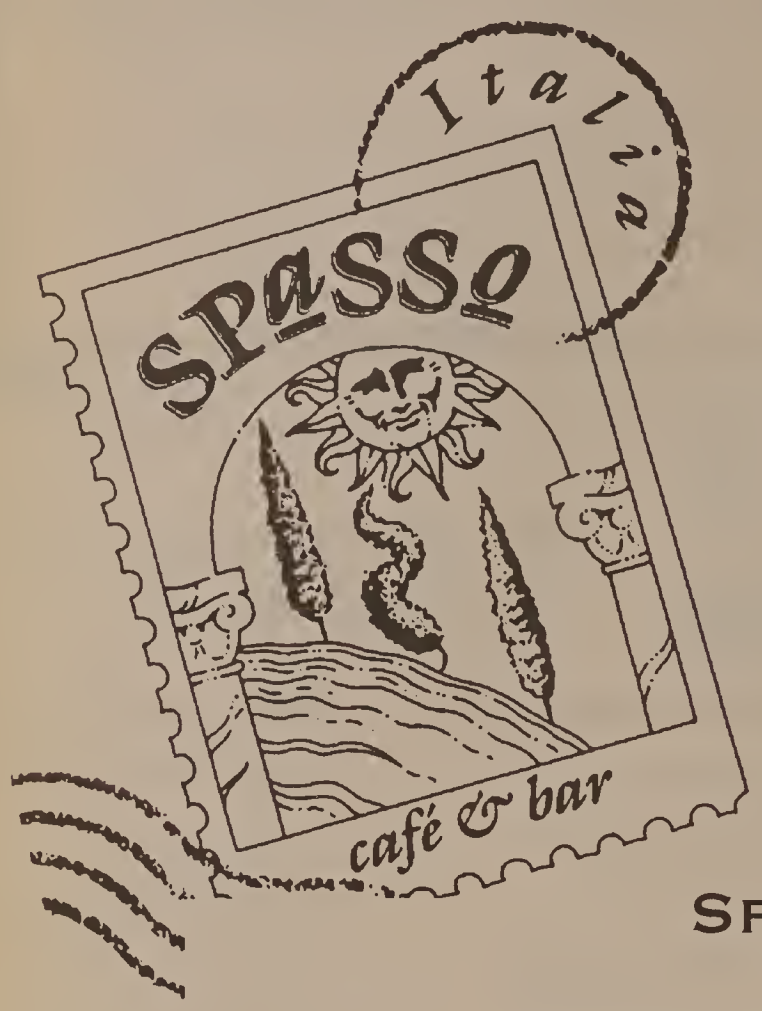


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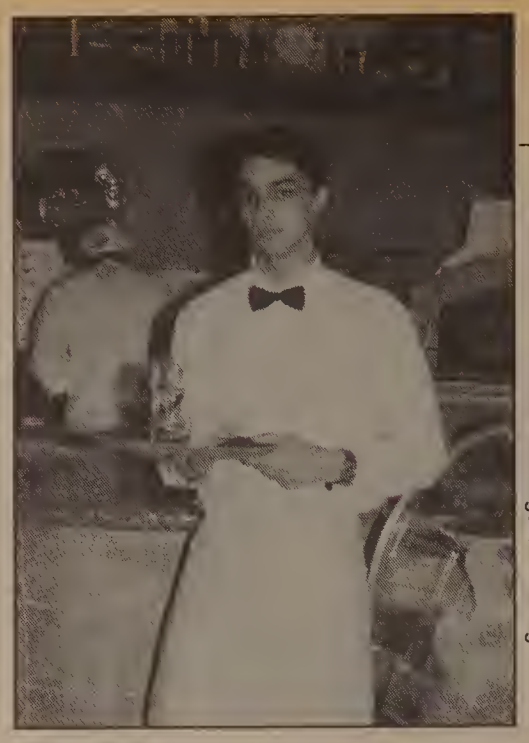


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Angela Wooldridge

JEFFERSON MEDEIROS

PAPA RAZZI
CHESTNUT HILL, NEWTON

BUSBOY WITH THE MOSTEST

Jefferson Medeiros loves people. You realize this the moment you meet him. "And how ah you today, my friend," he'll ask anybody who's nearby, a smile lighting up his face. According to Bill Schmidd, Papa Razzi's general manager, Jefferson isn't just a top-notch busboy, but "a saint, no question about it."

A busy night at Papa Razzi finds Jefferson weaving through the crowded dining room, 40 or 50 pounds worth of plates on his arm, laughing and smiling as if he were at a party. "I like the people very, very much," he explains.

When Jefferson is not busy clearing and resetting tables, he is patrolling the floor, looking to help: filling water glasses, seating guests, even taking orders. Jefferson is the closest thing to a surrogate waiter that any restaurant could hope to find.

Born and raised in Rio di Janeiro, Jefferson immigrated to America several years ago, and currently lives in Allston, with his wife and four year old daughter. When he's not at Papa Razzi, he works as a produce clerk at Star Market in Cambridge.

Recognized at the regional level by a company that normally reserves this honor for tenured employees, Jefferson is one of the most popular among a waitstaff that prides itself on a sense of humor and an uncommonly congenial relationship with the clientele. He does it with a wide smile, a great attitude and a belief in service with style.

JEAN BEURSTENS

LOCKE-OBER'S
WINTER PLACE, BOSTON

HIGH-QUALITY SERVICE



Kathleen Horton

Jean Beurskens left Belgium in 1965 with his wife and four year old daughter in tow to bake Belgian waffles with his father-in-law at the New York World's Fair. Twenty-eight years later, he's still in America, only now he has left the waffles behind and is serving clients at one of Boston's classiest bistros, Locke-Ober's at Winter Place.

That first transition occured when he was approached at the Fair by a Mr. Saloway, who proposed that Jean and his father-in-law open a restaurant called Rugbymen in Jamaica Towers. Unable to obtain a liquor license, the restaurant, like so many in this business, closed down soon after its opening. But Jean had decided to settle in America. He next took a job waiting tables at the Rib Room in Braintree, and, when that restaurant was sold, he got a job through a friend at Locke-Ober's. He liked it so much that he never left.

One of the upsides of working at a restaurant of Locke-Ober's caliber is that Jean finds himself constantly waiting on celebrities (one glance at the pricey menu will explain why). He reels off an impressive list that includes Rosalind Carter, the Kennedy family (regulars at the restaurant), Governor Connolly from Texas, Joan Crawford, George Pepard, Terry Bradshaw, and violinist Issac Stern, to mention a few. With a clientele like this, Jean says he rarely makes a mistake.

To contrast his high-pressure position at Locke-Ober's, he likes to paint flowers and still-lifes, but "no people," he adds emphatically. He gets enough of people, he says, at the restaurant. Any plans for the future? Without hesitation, he smiles and says, "Retire and fish steadily."



Mim Michelove

Dotty Fauscher

Durgin Park
Faneuil Hall, Boston

Serving up a sweet helping.

If you don't pay close attention, you could think that Dottie, a famous Durgin Park waitress, is schizophrenic. One moment she's a sweet, soft-spoken grandmother-type given to clasping your hand as she passionately explains her love for the profession, next minute she's a quick-witted, foul-mouthed little firecracker brandishing a button that reads "Beyond Bitch."

In reality, Dottie really *is* two women, both named Dottie, who share between them nearly 60 years of service at the world famous Durgin Park restaurant, located in Faneuil Hall. The two Dotties, like Yin and Yang, occupy opposite sides of the collective server experience.

"I've met some really wonderful people here at Durghin Park," says Sweet Dotty. "It's only the really old bastards that grab your ass," counters Saucy Dottie, "I tell 'em, I says 'You can't grab my ass, I got a girdle on, there's nothing to grab!"

Sweet Dotty, AKA Dorothy Fauscher, began waiting tables following the death of her husband. After several months at a steak house in North Andover, she came to Durghin Park, where she has been ever since.

Saucy Dottie, AKA Dottie Ladny ("Call me Dottie-Lamb. Everyone around here does," she says) started out thirtysomething years ago at an extinct bistro on Tremont Street, called The Mayflower. She saw an ad in the paper, applied to Durgin Park, met Dotty Fauscher, and has also been there ever since.

Watching these two in action is a thing of beauty. Customers enter the dining room while the interview is in progress, and request the two as their waitresses. While Dottie-Lamb seats them ("Sit over *there*."), Dotty greets them ("Hi, where are you folks from?"). Unhurried, Dottie-Lamb heads to the table with napkins and silverware. She throws the silverware onto the table and shouts, "Pass it around," as she drapes a napkin over the gentleman's head and walks away, muttering something about "You'll have to wait, I'm being interviewed."

Despite their disparate personalities, both are sweet older women who approach the waiting profession from very different angles. Dotty Fauscher, for instance, has a special affinity for the landmark restaurant. "When I retired, back in 1982, I would get homesick every morning around 11:30. So I came back, and here I am," she smiles. Her golden rule is "never, even though it kills you, lose your temper."

Dottie-Lamb Ladny, who comes across more like a lion, says she has a "Reputation for fooling around. [Patrons] come in here and I try and entertain 'em." One way she keeps them laughing is with her ongoing, off-color commentary. Like the time she turned to a gentleman as she grabbed a water pitcher, and, glancing at the man's broken arm, and exclaimed, "Well, you sure ran out of the wrong bedroom, didn't you?" She giggles, winking conspiratorially. "He laughed and laughed and laughed." Does she think that she's a good waitress? "I figure I'm doing pretty good for an old broad." So do we.

Dottie Ladny

Durgin Park
Faneuil Hall, Boston

A saucy staple of this Boston institution



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FLICKS IN A FLASH

Groundhog Day

"Funny, time after time"

This is a classic Harold Ramis film, despite the odds against a film based on repetition being anything but annoying. Bill Murray gives a vintage performance as weatherman Phil Connors, a man stuck in time and in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Andie MacDowell (under-used as Connors' new station producer) and Chris Elliott (as cameraman Larry) add to the comedic mix as Connors finds himself forced to deal with the same situations, people and television shows over, and over, and over again. **T.S.L.**

Lorenzo's Oil

"A Brave and Daring Brew"

Based on the lives of Augusto and Michaela Odone, Lorenzo's Oil is the story of a couple's efforts to save the life of their son from adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). In this gritty, painful and brilliant picture, the parents (Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon) not only push the medical establishment for answers, but take up ALD research on their own. While keeping their marriage and their son alive. Nolte's Italian accent is annoying for a while, but it is the only false note in an otherwise important film about the power of determination in the face of helplessness. **B.C.**

Love Field

"On Shaky Ground"

Love Field is a modest tale surrounding two separate journeys that merge into one. Michelle Pfieffer does a good, albeit shrill, job as Lurene Hallett, the Southern housewife on a bus pilgrimage to J.F.K.'s funeral. On her trip she meets, and becomes involved with Paul Cater (played superbly by Brian Kerwin), a quiet black man traveling with an abused orphan he is attempting to save. Small but powerful moments of racial drama almost make this film great, but its insistence at attempted "big screen" moments make it a toss-up. **A.L.**

Scent of A Woman

"Pacino Reeks of Hoffman"

A blind, grouchy, former military officer (Pacino) takes his new prep school "babysitter" (Chris O'Donnell) on a Thanksgiving weekend extravaganza in New York City. While the youth frets for Pacino's safety (and about his own problems at school), Pacino overtips waiters, dances the Tango and correctly identifies the perfume (not to mention the hair and eye color) of every woman he meets. **B.C.**

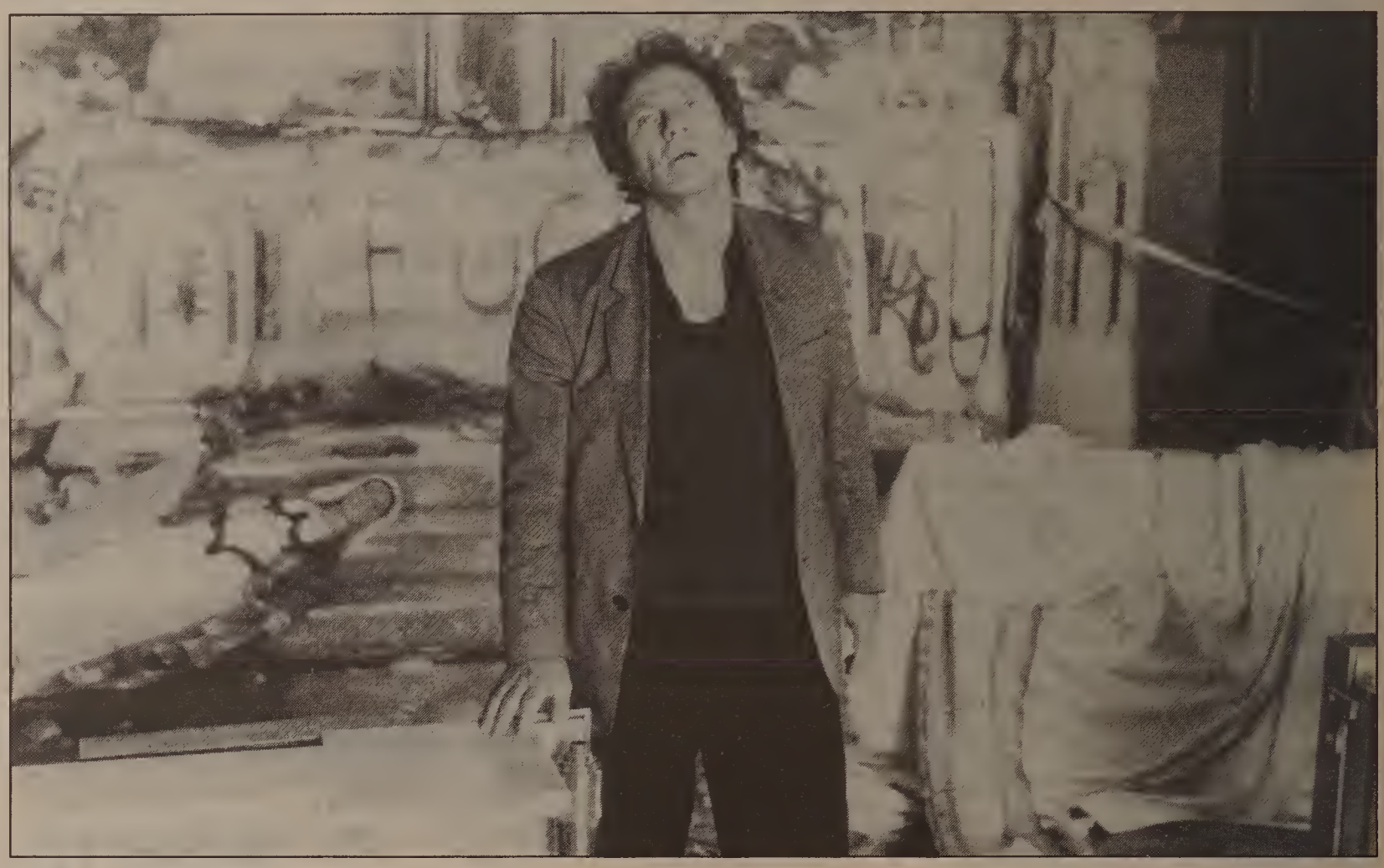
Matinee

A B-Movie That Earns a B-Plus

The scene is Key West, 1962, and the latest B-movie thriller from "Shock Expert" Lawrence Woosley (John Goodman) is coming to town. The timing is perfect: the Cuban Missile Crisis has just begun, and the fear outside the theater mirrors the melodrama inside. Writer Charlie Haas (*Gremlins*) provides us with a fair enough script, replete with irony, some romance, sentiment, and of course humor. Director Joe Dantre recreates 1962 in excruciating detail. The jokes were best coming from Goodman, but the remaining members of the cast are on the level of *The Wonder Years*. Matinee tends to overreach itself by trying to fit in romance, drama and comedy in one nostalgiac package, but for entertainment value and laughs, the movie earns a strong B-plus. **T.S.L.**

Bad Lieutenant

A Good, Gritty Look at the Mean Streets



Harvey Keitel in "Bad Lieutenant"

BY KAJ WILSON

Bad Lieutenant gets on your nerves, and under your skin. When Harvey Keitel's no-name, red-eyed, junkie cop isn't busy scoring, stealing or doing drugs (and giving the more suggestible viewers among us a nasty contact high), he's gambling – playing You Bet Your Life on the Dodgers – or indulging his taste for S&M sex shows and masturbating in front of teenage girls. There's nothing casual about the bad lieutenant's excesses and outrages. This is a man whose life is on an urgent downward spiral.

The baddest city of all, New York provides the most appropriate of backdrops for the bad lieutenant's story. The director, Abel Ferrara, makes the streets of Manhattan hum with criminal activity, providing a background noise which the bad lieutenant, like a good New Yorker, ignores as best he can. Finally, however, one crime does manage to get through to him, and shake him at his core. A nun is raped (in church....on the alter....with a crucifix).

His first reaction is cynical: he's a lapsed Catholic interested only in the reward money. But soon his spiritual longings – longings which include a sexual component – kick in. He sees the nun – naked, and bearing a strong resemblance to the Virgin Mary – being examined on a hospital table shortly after the rape. Later, he is shocked to learn that she refuses to identify her assailants; she's forgiven them. The nun, without any realization, provides the bad lieutenant a shot at redemption. After all, he's only the bad, not the evil, lieutenant.

There is something appalling, but at the same time comical and secretly liberating about watching the bad lieutenant shamelessly indulge himself. *Sid and Nancy*, another urban tale about junkies hell-bent on destruction, had a similar appeal. The characters are monstrous infants, all desire and appetite, with just enough wherewithal as adults to continue feeding the monster.

Bad Lieutenant

An Aries Film Release
Directed by Abel Ferrara
Starring Harvey Keitel
Zoe Lund

Rated NC-17

In spite of the excesses, the bad lieutenant is a believable character – there is something familiar about him. In one scene, a coked-up and drunk lieutenant, upon hearing over the car radio that his baseball team has lost, pulls out his gun and shoots his radio. Realizing what he's done in the middle of a city street, in broad daylight, he plops his police light on the hood of his car, turns on his siren and hauls ass down the street. As crazy as the scene is, it doesn't seem that farfetched, not if you've ever wondered if a cop speeding past you down the street is really responding to an emergency or is just in a hurry to get somewhere.

That the bad lieutenant seems at all accessible is the result of Harvey Keitel's extraordinary performance. This wonderful actor who played a cop in *Mortal Thoughts*, a cop again in *Thelma and Louise*, and a good-guy robber in *Reservoir Dogs* is not a dazzler – you aren't swept up and carried away by his intensity, technique, or charisma, although he demonstrates all three.

He wields his power subtly by imbuing even his wildest characters with an everyday, real-life quality. You feel like you know him from somewhere, that he might live near you (hopefully not too near). If this acting job has anything to do with it, the bad lieutenant is on its way to becoming a cult classic, and Harvey Keitel is finally going to get the recognition he deserves.

If you would like to see more of Harvey Keitel and the inspiration for *Bad Lieutenant*, we suggest renting Martin Scorsese's 1975 masterpiece *Mean Streets*. ❑

MAD DOG AND GLORY

Searing Comic Performances from Murray and De Niro



Despite initial reservations Wayne Dobie (Robert De Niro) eventually falls in love with his "gift" for a week, Glory (Uma Thurman) in "Mad Dog and Glory"

BY ANTHONY LEIBS

Mad Dog and Glory is an exhilarating odd-couple story, a surprisingly smart look at the complexity of male bonding. It might have gone wrong in a hundred different ways, but, somehow, it manages to stay true to its wised-up, unsentimental self.

Robert De Niro plays Wayne "Mad Dog" Dobie, a shy, lonely evidence technician for the Chicago Police (he photographs the corpses), who saves the life of loan shark Frank Milo (Bill Murray) when he breaks up an armed robbery attempt at a grocery store. Milo, needless to say, is grateful, and rewards Dobie with a one-week visit from Glory (Uma Thurman), a beautiful young woman whom he "owns" as part of a loan-repayment deal with her gambler brother.

In one of the few predictable developments in Richard Price's clever and sympathetic script, Dobie and Glory fall in love. But Price wisely focuses on the relationship between Dobie and Frank Milo, which is much more complex and interesting. The mobster and the cop recognize a mutual yearning: Dobie, the timid technician, joins the police in an attempt to force some excitement into his life – he'd rather be an artist.

Milo, the loan shark, would rather be a stand-up comic – he even goes so far as to buy his own comedy club. Milo craves public recognition, but his underworld job demands a low profile. He doesn't much like his simple-minded mobster cronies, but, like Dobie, feels trapped in his job. Both would like to be someone else. They may be on opposite sides of the law, but the two form a curious, touching bond.

As Dobie, Robert De Niro has once again transformed himself, this time into an average guy. It's harder than it sounds. In past films such as *True Confessions* and *Falling in Love*, De Niro was a flop as an everyman – without his intensity and eccentricity, he proved he could be as boring as anyone else. Here, with his bad haircut and a nerdy, polyester-rich wardrobe, he convincingly portrays the most ordinary of men. He has somehow made himself look physically small – nothing like his sinewy, muscular Max Cady in *Cape Fear*. When he flexes his muscles for Glory, the audience laughs. (One wonders what Dan Harvey, listed in the credits as "Mr. De Niro's personal fitness trainer," did to earn his money.)

MAD DOG AND GLORY

Universal Pictures
Directed by John McNaughton
Starring Robert De Niro
Uma Thurman
Bill Murray

Rated PG-13

But it is Bill Murray's performance as Frank Milo that is the real transformation. Taking his first stab at a dramatic role since *The Razor's Edge*, he is entirely believable as the complicated, unhappy Milo, equal parts charming, sinister and pathetic. Murray's acne-scarred skin and beady eyes are used to menacing effect, and it helps that he is physically bigger than De Niro – when his rage explodes, he's truly frightening.

But he's far greater than the sum of his unhandsome parts – for perhaps the first time, he's taking a chance with his acting. Murray has too often coasted through his films with little more than his ace comic timing and a deadly sense of irony, but here he handles every nuance and shading Price has written for him, and has allowed the nasty, bullying aspects of his personality to come through. In a movie that's filled from top to bottom with excellent comic performances, Murray more than holds his own. ❑

CRITICS CHOICE

KEY
A Winner
A Toss Up
For the Birds

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Sommersby	★	★	★	◎	◎	★	–	★	★
Scent of a Woman	◎	★	★	★	★	🐦	◎	★	🐦
Untamed Heart	◎	★	◎	◎	–	◎	–	–	–
Groundhog Day	★	★	◎	★	★	★	–	★	★
A Few Good Men	★	★	★	★	★	🐦	◎	◎	★
Aladdin	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Homeward Bound	★	★	◎	★	★	–	–	–	–
Falling Down	★	★	🐦	★	🐦	◎	🐦	◎	◎
The Crying Game	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Army o fDarkness	★	★	★	★	◎	◎	–	🐦	★

FLICKS IN A FLASH

FALLING DOWN

★ This dark comedy stands out

A bad day gone psycho, this movie portrays Michael Douglas (whom we only know by his license plate name, D-FENS) as a regular guy turned Bernie Goetz. We follow him on a path through the city, as he encounters, and deals with, traditional and expectable urban aggravations. Despite mediocre performances by co-stars Barbara Hershey (as D-FENS ex-wife) and Robert Duvall (a desk jockey cop pursuing the incensed Douglas), this film will strike a nerve with anyone who's ever had "one of those days," without D-FENS's mode of dealing with it. T.S.L.

ALIVE

★ Survivor's Tale of Strength and Spirit"

When a plane carrying a South American rugby team crashes in the Andes mountains en route to Chile, the surviving team of athletes find themselves marooned with little food, shelter or method of communicating with the outside world. Based on a true story, Alive is as much a tale of spiritual discovery as of physical endurance. The men who comprise the bulk of the cast are mostly new faces, with the exception of Ethan Hawke (Dead Poets Society) and Vincent Spano (Rumble Fish). Alive is a moving film — a story of strength and even humor. We follow the survivors daily struggles, and though the cannibalism scenes are not for the squeamish, Alive is a reminder of the fragility of our life on earth. T.S.L.

A FEW GOOD MEN

★ "Exciting, Moving, and Funny"

Rob Reiner hits on a fail-safe formula for his latest picture: big stars in a politically-relevant drama, climaxing in riveting courtroom exchanges in *A Few Good Men*, a film in which two Marines are on trial for murdering one of their own. Lawyers Tom Cruise and Demi Moore try to prove the death was accidental as a result of secret disciplinary orders from above. Tom Cruise reprises his usual hot shot character role with élan, while Demi Moore hands in a respectable and dignified performance as an internal affairs officer. Jack Nicholson, while convincing as a hard-nosed colonel, tends to lapse into Nicholson-ese, playing the sly, smart-mouthed speechmaker. *A Few Good Men* contains decent comedy as well as moving action, and winning lines are equally distributed. T.S.L.

ALADDIN

★ "Pure Magic From Disney"

Disney Pictures have outdonbe themselves yet again with a sure to be classic, in large part thanks to Robin Williams, lending his manic comedic talent to the Genie. The Disney animators keep pace with him, giving him, giving his imaginative rantings visual action, and William's rapid fire humor is only heightened with these visual aids. Although Prioncess Jasmine is as liberated as Belle in Beauty and The Beast, she cannot escape being drawn with comely cleavage and a 10-inch waist. Aladdin is a lovable poor boy, but for accuracy's sake wher did this Arabian kid pick up giving his monkey "five" and spouting "No way?" If you haven't seen an animated movie since childhood, go see Aladdin to recapture a feeling Disney introduced into many people's childhood: joy. T.S.L.

ARE YOU WHAT YOU WEAR?

The ICA Examines Cross-Dressing

BY KATHY MATHESON

"If you can't be pretty, at least you can be interesting."

These are the words one reads on the brightly-colored throw-pillows piled up in one of the installations at the Institute for Contemporary Art's most recent exhibit, "Currents '93: Dress Codes." That quote is also probably the best way to sum up an exhibit on cross-dressing that, depending on who you talk to, can be considered as a political statement, a lesson in cultural education, a defense of free speech or just a gratuitous exercise in frivolity.

It's certainly quite different from the ICA's last exhibit, where you entered to the sound of gunshots and visions of a man spinning around upside-down. This time, you enter to the hip-hop beat of the song "Supermodel (You Better Work)," and the serenades of a self-described trashy, Jewish, communist, safe-sex porno drag queen. "This show isn't really in-your-face," he deadpans. "It's in your crotch."

But more on that later.

Critics of the show as a concept, much less as an actual exhibit, will surely say that transvestites (cross-dressers), transsexuals (those who have undergone sex-change operations) and transgenderists (those who live as a member of the opposite sex) are such a minute segment of society that this exhibit is simply self-serving, and of no use to anyone.

"Dress Codes" certainly does make you think. Catherine Opie's installation, a mounted row of 10-15 color portraits (head shots), looks like a simple series of somewhat grungy-looking males posed against an identical yellow background. But upon closer examination, those mustaches and goatees turn out to be fake; in fact, all of the models are lesbian friends of Opie's. Not able to find acceptance as tough women, they pose as men in photos and, ironically, find acceptance because they have cross-dressed.

CURRENTS '93: DRESS CODES

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston Street
Boston, MA
On Exhibit through May 30
Call 266-5151
for More Info

Then there are the performance artists, Hunter Reynolds and Abe Rybeck. Reynolds seems to be the more demure of the two, as you watch him silently spin on a rotating pedestal. Fully made-up but not wearing a wig, the artist is dressed in a strapless, black satin ball gown with the names of 25,000 AIDS victims emblazoned in gold on the dress.

Rybeck, on the other hand, is the afore-mentioned trashy, Jewish, communist, safe sex porno drag queen. In any given performance, he may portray one or all of his characters: Millicent de la Femme, Rachel Tension and Madge, the Palmolive Lady. No matter which one you see, you're sure to hear him belt out an original tune such as "I Am What I Wear" (which, of course, is "Damn expensive!"), "Blame it on the Big Banana" or "This Is Not a Test."

Less flamboyant, but equally important to the exhibit are New York artists Lyle Ashton Harris and Mariette Pathy Allen, to name just two of many. Using a multimedia installation, Harris explores both gender and race as he tries to relate what it means for him to be a young, gay African-American in 1993. Allen, who has studied cross-dressing since 1977, displays many color photos in her documentation of transvestites' relationships with their families.

If "Dress Codes" starts to awaken some long-buried yearning within you, or if you just want to have some fun, the gift shop – which would double for another installation if it weren't for the cash register – is stocked with wigs, glasses, false eyelashes, cosmetics and funky clothes. For those of you who are really serious about experimenting with cross-dressing, the ICA is sponsoring workshops. The Drag King workshop takes place on April 10, and a "make-up, wig and fashion techniques" workshop will hit March 23, Apr. 20 and May 9.



Yasumasa Morimura, "Doblonnage: Marcel", 1988

With the opening of "Dress Codes," it's clear that the ICA has set out to challenge people's attitudes about gender, fashion and sexuality. The question now revolves around whether the public is willing to listen. ❑

"Dress Codes" runs through May 30.



Mariette Pathy Allen, "Jane on the Dunes", 1956

STAGE NOTES

BY NANCY LEONARD

The American Repertory Theatre will present Harold Pinter's "The Caretaker" in a two-week straight run, from March 17 - March 28 at the Loeb Drama Center. Jeremy Geidt, Jack Willis, and Mark Zeisler are in the cast; David Wheeler is directing. For information and tickets, call the ART Box Office 547-8300.

The ART also is continuing its "Pay-What-You-Can" program, in which 50 tickets are made available for every Saturday matinee performance, for patrons to purchase at whatever amount they can afford. These tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. on the Monday prior to each Saturday matinee performance.

The Huntington Theatre Company is presenting Tom Stoppard's translation of Arthur Schnitzler's "Undiscovered Country" from March 5 - April 4. The play, set in the last days of the Hapsburg Empire, focuses on a wealthy Viennese social set and the morally relativistic society in which they live. The 23 person cast includes Paul Roebling, Michele Farr, Katie MacNichol, and local favorites Munson Hicks, Sandra Shipley, and Chloe Leamon. Jacques Cartier directs. For tickets and information, call 266-0800.

The Charlestown Working Theatre plans to reopen March 18 with the Cicatrix Theatre Company's new play "Itchin' for It," which is scheduled to run through April 3. The rhythm and blues work, containing the music of Otis Redding and Etta James, is a tangle of love stories looking at the relationship between love songs and real life. Tickets are $12, with pay-as-you-go admission on Thursdays. For reservations call 242-3285.

My Children! My Africa!

Heartfelt Issues In Sparse Presentation



Donald Swaby stars as a South African youth struggling to break from the apartheid stranglehold in My Children! My Africa!

BY NANCY LEONARD

In its Boston-area premiere at the New Repertory Theatre, Athol Fugard's "My Children! My Africa!" is a spare, heartfelt cry for reason amidst bloody insurrection. While this gifted South African playwright forged his career in opposition to his country's stringent apartheid policies, this 1989 work warns about the dangers of succumbing to new tyranny in the name of freedom. That danger has been part of most every social revolution throughout history; it's startling that this modest three-character work so effectively confronts fundamental issues of political philosophy, sparking debate all round.

The action is set in Camdeboo, South Africa, in 1985 - primarily in the rundown Bantu enclave on the edge of town, known as "The Location." A dedicated teacher, Anela Myalatya - "Mr. M," for short - has arranged a debate between his boys' school and a posh girls' high school in Camdeboo. It's a pioneering event. His most promising pupil, Thami Mbikwana, will be arguing for gender inequality against Isabel Dyson. She is the rebel in her sober, sensible, middle-class British family, and wants to be a writer. Her opponent is from Capetown, a boy who came to the peaceful flatland town for his education, hoping maybe to become a doctor.

But times are changing, just as Thami has changed from an eager scholar to an impatient young man, doubting the system will bring improvement. At Mr. M's urging, the rival students join forces to enter a literature contest. Their preparations over the course of several weeks provide an opportunity for the playwright to explore the dilemma of dealing with the future. While the young people gain a friendship and greater insight, a school boycott puts an end to their collaboration. Unrest erupts in The Location, as whispered voices are fanned into shouting by Communist outsiders from the north. It may be too late for debating, but action can produce tragic, unintended consequences.

Fugard's play is constructed on terse scenes and monologues, and reaches its climax in some vivid, first-person accounts involving offstage mob violence. There are times when the work seems preachy and schematic, and in need of greater dramatic life. But his keen attention to theme and detail (for example, using breakfasts to portray contrasting lifestyles) and distinct personalization of the issues - three people, three vantage points - authoritatively advance the drama, and in the end, pack considerable punch. Fugard is cautioning against wasted lives. Liberation without education, he says, threatens to destroy the promise of all of Africa's children. The emerging leaders can be swallowed by the fury.

Director Joanna Zazofsky moves the action along expeditiously on a relatively bare stage. Three rectangular screens, suspended in blackness, provide a specific framework, beginning with a trifurcated map of South Africa and proceeding through photographs of various people and settings. It's an economical way to supply imagery, but generally those black-and-white images remain at some distance from the live action. There was a deliberate intention to have the actors speak as Americans, ultimately conveying a sense of universality. But without a specific South African accent or atmosphere, the production slights the great gulfs in that racial climate. As a result, the actors have a harder job keeping the complexities in sharp focus, and the challenge is not always met.

Allen Oliver - who has appeared in several roles at Providence's Trinity Repertory Company - gives a well-honed performance as the dutiful teacher, who is striving amidst bleakness and despair to create a generation of reasonable leaders to secure freedom for his people. Mr. M's dedication is strong, but his methods are moderation and persuasion. Donald Swaby, a student at Boston University's School of Theatre Arts, is personable and pleasing as the restless young man. He nicely captures the buttoned-down sensibility of the traditional system and the internal conflicts which mark Thami's passionate but dangerous course. This actor should have a bright future.

As Isabel, Eliza Gagnon performs with a certain hesitancy that seems at first appropriately schoolgirlish, but then somewhat shy on characterization. Though desirous of reaching out for change and appreciating her expanding horizons (at least until violence descends), the young girl should have more personality and conviction.

Eric Levenson's scenic and lighting design is serviceable, though his illumination could be more varied and active. Charlotte Asbury's costumes are fine and Billie Cox's sound design conveys some African resonance and music. Athol Fugard has moved on to confront the changing South African landscape. Here, he sounds a cautionary note - along the lines of sowing the wind and reaping the whirlwind. ❑

Bring this ad to the Wang Center box office and receive a *$5 discount* for Tues., Wed., Thurs. perfs. (Limit two tickets)

25th Anniversary Season in Boston

THE BANK of BOSTON CELEBRITY SERIES and WBZ–TV

present

ALVIN AILEY

AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

JUDITH JAMISON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Renee Robinson in Alvin Ailey's *Blues Suite.*

Photo by Jack Mitchell ©1992

MARCH 23-28 THE WANG CENTER (482-9393)

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE and PROGRAM

TUESDAY, March 23, 8PM	WEDNESDAY, March 24, 8PM	THURSDAY, March 25, 8PM	FRIDAY, March 26, 8PM	SATURDAY, March 27, 8PM	SUNDAY, March 28, 3PM
The Winter in Lisbon (premiere)	Fontessa and Friends (Revival)	Blues Suite	Fontessa and Friends	The Winter in Lisbon	The River
Shelter (premiere)	Forgotten Time	Cry	Treading	Frames (premiere)	A Folk Dance
Revelations	The Winter in Lisbon	A Folk Dance (premiere)	Shelter	Revelations	The Winter in Lisbon
		District Storyville	The River		

Ticket Prices: $36, $31, $26, $21

CHARGE TICKETS TICKETMASTER (617)931-ARTS

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER is sponsored by PHILIP MORRIS COMPANIES INC. with the opening night reception hosted by DAVIO'S Restaurant.

A portion of the proceeds to benefit a WBZ–TV "Here for You" charity.

1992–93 Bank of Boston Celebrity Series sponsored in part by Bank of Boston

ARTS

THE ARTS CALENDAR

DANCE

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Modern, jazz, blues and gospel: all are used to describe the Ailey style, but none can adequately describe the Ailey magic. Don't miss this company's performance Mar. 23-28. Call 931-ARTS.

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for *Cinderella*, that timeless fairy tale of enchantment and romance. Performances run Apr. 15-May 2. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Dance Umbrella
at the Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St., Boston
Bill T. Jones, considered one of the country's most powerful, virtuoso contemporary artists, returns to Boston Mar. 19-21 with the Arnie Azne Dance Company in an evening of boldly innovated new works. Call 931-1300 for times and ticket prices.

Irish Stepdancing
at South Station, Boston
Step into the spirit of St. Patrick's Day from 12-2pm on Mar. 17 when you can enjoy watching an eight-person troupe perform traditional stepdances in authentic costumes. Free.



PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
Lisa Garner presents "Day and Night" through Mar. 24. Her photographs capture the landscapes of the Southwest and southern New England during the day, and the cityscapes of Boston and New Orleans at night.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Close-Up/Still Life" through May 23. Drawn mainly from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features images by photographers such as Steiglitz, Abbott, Moholy, Steichen, Ray and Brandt. Parallel themes are brought up to date by contemporary photogs such as Coplans, Spano and Nixon.

CLASSICAL

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
The Boston Gay Men's Chorus performs the works of Beethoven, Raleigh, Morricone, Foster and a new cantata - *Hidden Legacies* - inspired by the AIDS crisis. On Mar. 27 at 8pm. Call 536-2412. On Mar. 28 at 3pm, pianist Russell Sherman gives a recital of works including the world premiere of a work by Gunther Schuller. The same night at 8pm, violinist Dorothy Bales performs with a chamber orchestra made up of New England Conservatory faculty members.

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

Spectrum Singers
at First Church
11 Garden St., Cambridge
"Choral Rarities from European Masters," to be presented on Mar. 27 at 8pm, will include Anton Bruckner's extraordinary *a cappella* motets and four rarely-heard sacred and secular works by Brahms. Call 469-3723 for tickets.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The Bank of Boston Celebrity Series presents the world-renowned Brandenburg Ensemble in a chamber music performance on Mar. 26 at 8pm. They will perform a program of Haydn, Vivaldi and Mozart.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at noon.

Mass. Brewing Company, Inc.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1pm. For more information call 455-1935.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Samuel Adams Brewery
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2pm and Saturdays at noon and 2pm, the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
The BPL presents a retrospective of award-winning films produced at Boston University's College of Communication over the past 20 years: documentaries, comedies, satires, animation and literary adaptation. Mar. 22 at 6pm.

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
As part of this month's focus on Switzerland, the Cine Club presents the films *Real Puppets Don't Die* (clay animation) and *In the White City*, the story of a disconnected sailor who jumps ships in Lisbon. Both films are in French with English subtitles and will be shown at 8pm on Mar. 19-21.

Harvard Film Archive
at Harvard's Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge
In much the same way Paris is Burning took a fascinating peek into the world of drag, Daddy and the Muscle Academy draws a sympathetic portrait of Tom of Finland - the first illustrator who first created the image of large-chested, muscle-bulging, leather-jacketed gay men. Also, the HFA presents Time Expired, a hilarious short drama about a Latino transvestite and his married, white-bread lover.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Apr. 1, you can design your own bicycle at a cutting-edge interactive computer station, featuring spectacular 3-D color graphics. Also, see R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Through Mar. 28, the Sackler is showing "First Under Heaven: The Henderson Collection of Korean Ceramics." Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture, Mar. 10 to May 30. From Shakespeares's *Twelfth Night* to the recent movie *The Crying Game*, cross-dressing has challenged audiences to think in new ways. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9pm.

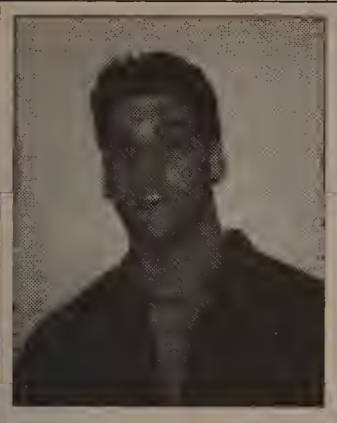
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

by Leslie Semonian

"Who is your favorite Boston sports hero?"



Bryan, 19, Newton
"*Darin Kimble* of the Boston Bruins because he brings old time hockey back to Boston."



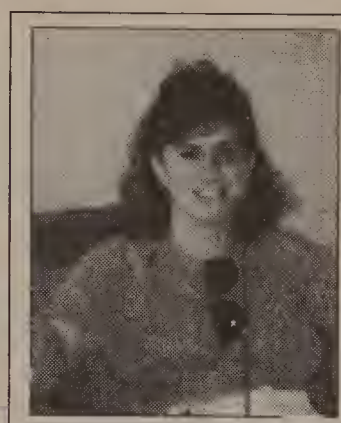
Ricky, 35, Roxbury
"My all-time favorite will always be *Larry Bird*. How many people do you see that can do what he does?"



Felicia, 22, Newton
"I think his name is *Joe*. He's at the local jello wrestling joint down the street."



Eddie, 50ish, Westwood
"*Tony Pena* from the Red Sox. He's a hard-nosed catcher and he's always giving 100%."



Suzanne, 26, Cambridge
"Boston Bruin, *Cam Neely* is by far the most exciting sports figure in Boston since Larry Bird retired."



Cam, 27, Boston
"*Roger Clemens* because he only has to play 35 games a year."

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
"Master European Paintings from the National Gallery of Ireland: Mantegna to Goya" is on view through Mar. 28. This collection, which has rarely been outside Ireland, includes works by David, Gainsborough and Poussin. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 3 and part two until September.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit through May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures!

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

Peabody & Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem
The nation's oldest maritime museum is presenting "The Great Age of Sail: Treasures from the National Maritime Museum of Greenwich, England" until June 2. It features over 100 of the world's most famous and highly-prized treasures of maritime art. Call 508-745-1876.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. For Women's History Month, enjoy a guided tour by "Rosie the Riveter" each Saturday in March from 11am-1pm. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
Duet for One, a chillingly vibrant and sometimes comic confrontation between an ailing virtuoso violinist and her clinically detached psychiatrist, plays at the Black Box Theater through Apr. 4. At the BCA Theater, through Mar. 28, see ***Berkeley Square***, an adaptation of Henry James' unfinished novel *A Sense of the Past*. It's a comic, romantic, dramatic story in which the main character switches places with a family ancestor. Call 426-ARTS for times and ticket information.

Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. ***A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*** through the end of spring. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, ***Shear Madness*** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, ***Shear Madness*** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

Chekhov Theater
at 949 Comm. Ave., Boston
Chekhov Theater presents Anton Chekhov's ***The Seagull***, the tragic farce of rivalry between generations for leadership in art, society and personal relationships. Performances are Mar. 18, 19, 25 & 26 at 8pm.

Cigatrix Theatre
at the Charlestown Working Theatre
The Charlestown Working Theatre re-opens with the new play ***Itchin' for It***, a rhythm & blues "thrance" to the music of Otis Redding and Etta James. The show begins Mar. 18 and runs until Apr. 3. Call 242-3285 for times and ticket information.

Colonial Theatre
106 Boylston St., Boston
See ***Guys and Dolls***, the feel-good musical that had Broadway going for a long time. Runs through Apr. 11. Call 931-2787 for times and ticket information.

Double Edge Theatre
5 St. Luke's Road, Allston
The DET presents ***Song of Songs*** Mar. 19, 20, 26 & 27 at 8pm. Drawn from Solomon's biblical ode of divine and human love and faith, the performance moves in and out of the world of the Muslim, Christian and Jewish cultures of Medieval Spain, the Rabbinic period, early common era and modern times. Call 254-4228.

French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
Riverside Theare Works presents the classic musical ***Annie*** through Mar. 21. Come enjoy the story of the little orphan, Daddy Warbucks, Miss Hannigan and the dog, Sandy! Call 361-7024 for times and ticket prices.

Huntington Theatre
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Undiscovered Country crystallizes the world of the Austrian-Hungarian empire in 1911, just before its end. In beautiful Vienna, the wealthy middle class has everything; this is a poignant portrait of an era whose end is foreseen only in the hearts and minds of its people. Runs through Apr. 4. Call 266-0800 for times and ticket information.

Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St., Boston
David Mamet's critically-acclaimed ***American Buffalo*** runs through April 18. It's set in a Chicago junk shop where three small-time crooks plot to rob a man of his valuable coin collection. Call 437-7172 for times and tickets.

Medieval Manor
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

Merrimack Theatre
at the Lowell Auditorium
East Merrimack St., Lowell
Come see a world premiere of an adaptation of *A Cambodian Odyssey*, the book which served as the basis for the award-winning movie "The Killing Fields." It runs Mar. 19-Apr. 10. Call 508-454-6324 for more information.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
The Mystery Cafe presents ***Let's Kill the Boss*** every Thur. at 7:30pm, Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6 and 9pm and Sun. at 7pm. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the Boston premiere of ***My Children! My Africa!***, a searing drama and devastating portrait of people living under the yoke of apartheid. Runs through Apr. 4. Call 332-1646 for times and ticket information.

Out of the Blue Theater
at the Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Out of the Blue presents three farces in each performance through Apr. 3, Thu-Sun at 8pm. The triple-header features Chekhov's ***The Marriage Proposal*** and ***The Bear*** and Neil Simon's ***The Defenseless Creature***. Call 576-1253 for tickets.

Performance Place
277 Broadway, Somerville
Theatre in Process presents memorable melodies, merry musings and muckraking in a two-part musical variety show entitled ***Ben & Brad in Berlin to Berlin***, through Mar. 20. It takes you from the Kaiser in Berlin to Irving Berlin's Broadway. Call 254-1125 for times and ticket information.

Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St., Boston
An international Brazilian spectacular known as "Oba Oba '93" will heat up Boston Mar. 23-Apr. 4 with the sights and sounds of Brazil: from the congas of Carnival to the lambada of Rio's hottest nightclubs. Call 1-800-233-3123 for ticket information.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston

(continued on following page)

ARTS

(Theater Continued)

As part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series, actress Lynn Redgrave will perform her one-woman show "Shakespeare for My Father" on Mar. 21 at 3pm. The performance will include excerpts from seven of The Bard's plays, both comedies and tragedies. Call 482-2595 for tickets.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

LECTURES/READINGS

AIDS Action Committee
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The AAC presents "Answers Plus" on Mar. 18 at 6:30pm, a free and confidential seminar to answer the financial, legal and job-related questions of men and women who have tested HIV-positive. Call 437-6200 x297.

Ford Hall Forum
at the Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Downtown Crossing
Political analyst and NPR commentator Kevin Phillips discusses "Change in America: The Middle Class Reaches the Boiling Point" on Mar. 18 at 7pm. Free, and a Q & A session follows. Call 437-5800.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
As a part of "Swiss month," a speaker from Switzerland's consulate general will speak on "Switzerland: The Past 700 Years." Topics will include tourism, education, political refugees, industrialization and the nation's socioeconomic and political ties to Europe. On Mar. 18 at 6:15pm. Call 266-4351.

Jamaica Plain Arts Center
659 Centre St., JP
Come hear stories of power and wisdom from the African-American community, told by renowned actress/playwright and mesmerizing storyteller Valerie Stevens. "Storytelling: A Vehicle of Wisdom" takes place Mar. 30 at 7:30pm.

Java Caffe
558 Tremont St., Boston
Every other Tuesday at 8pm come to Bad Poetry Night! Neophytes are encouraged to attend this "neo-beat-expressionist-rant-n-rave-pop-speak that puts a snappy spin on the SLAM." Call 426-8246 for more information.

JFK Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester
On Mar. 25 at 5:30pm, Robert Drinan - former congressman and Georgetown Law Center faculty member - will discuss the role of the United Nations at the end of the Cold War. On Mar 30 at 5:30pm, a panel of Massachusetts Republicans will discuss what the GOP needs to do to win the White House in 1996. Call 929-4554.

Moka
130 Dartmouth St., Boston
Every Sunday at 7pm, Moka hosts Boston's best poetry slams. Call 424-7768 for more information.

Wordsworth Books
at the Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
Dorothy Allison will read from her novel Bastard out of Carolina, a finalist for the National Book Award, on Mar. 23 at 5:30pm. Admission is free, but tickets are necessary; pick them up at Wordsworth bookstore or the teatre.

WORKSHOPS

Boston University
808 Comm. Ave., Boston
Master chef Jacques Pepin and Dr. R. Curtis Ellison jointly present "The French Paradox," in which they will discuss the effects of diet and wine on the health of the French and North Americans. Pepin will prepare a full menu and participants receive a copy of his latest cookbook. Fee is $60; call 353-9852 to register.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Writers' Workshop! Aspiring writers should keep Mar. 17 open to attend a discussion on "Working with Agents and Editors," and also Mar. 24, when the topic will be "Finding Support in the Community." Both start at 8pm.

National Organization for Women
971 Comm. Ave., Boston
Join the Violence Against Women Task Force at the Mar. 18 meeting at 7pm. Work for women's safety and to ensure that the media and the government take such issues seriously.

GALLERIES

Bella Luna
178 Salem St., North End
Bella Luna presents "Time to Reflect," an exhibit of unique clocks and mirrors by four artists. Through Mar. 27; the gallery is open Wed-Sun, 1-7pm.

Ben Kupferman Gallery
115 Atlantic Ave., Boston
Unique workshop featuring original hand-wrought silver and gold jewelry. Sculptures in bronze, concrete and 'found' objects are also featured.

Nostalgia Factory
336 Newbury St., Boston
This store presents "Cover Story" through Mar. 31, an exhibition of original magazine covers dating from the Civil War era through the 1970s.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Climb for Leukemia
One International Place, Boston
Beginning at 9am on Mar. 28, climbers will begin an untimed hike to the top floor of International Place - 46 flights above the ground. Gather your sponsors, as the money goes to the Leukemia Society of America. Prizes are available for the top fundraising climbers. Call 329-9944 for more information.

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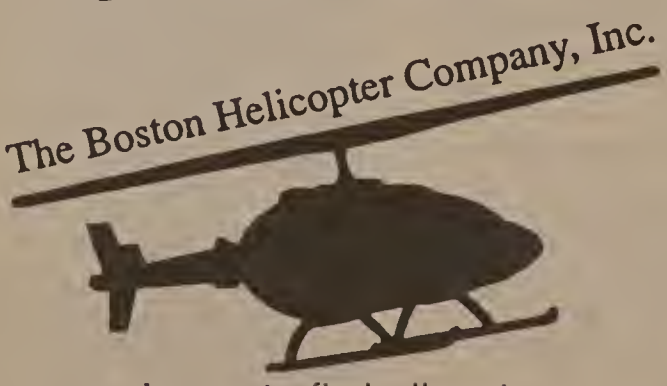
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The Love Goddess Rules

Watch Out Unbelievers ... Judy Tenuta is Coming

BY ROSS GARMIL

I never was a Boy Scout, but I've always admired their motto "Be Prepared." Perhaps I should have heeded it when I took on an interview with Judy Tenuta. Sure I've seen her perform many times on television, but nothing I've seen before could have prepared me for the experience of speaking directly with her.

She began by asking me what I was wearing (when I told her that I had on torn jeans she exclaimed "Oh my God, I'm talking to Cindy Crawford's nephew!"), told me about her pig boyfriends, performed a multitude of impersonations, read to me from some trash newspapers, and commanded me to get down on my knees and worship her.

Judy Tenuta is not your average comedienne. She is, after all, a self-declared Love Goddess. But that's not all. She's also the Earth Mother Hostess, Geisha Girl Buffer of Foreheads, Healer of Hermaphrodites, Blesser of Bunions, Queen of Candypants, Baroness of Bocci Ball, Tamer of Trolls, Squidmistress to Studs, Fatimah of Fertility, and All Mistress of Time, Space, and Pantyliners. "Also," she adds, "I can be Ginger."

These are just some of Judy's different personalities. The two things they have in common are that they're all very funny and they all play accordion.

Chances are you've seen Judy on television toting her squeeze-box and pitching her religion, "Judyism." This flowery woman in flowing robes has a voice which reaches previously unrecorded decibels and a mind which jumps all around the spectrum of pop culture. Ross Perot, Shelly Winters, Bob Packwood, Rosanne Arnold, Joey Butafuoco, Katherine Hepburn, John Travolta, Oedipus: she's got them all covered. "Maybe I'm watching too many Hard-on Copies," she ponders.

If you haven't seen her act you may be thinking to yourself, "Accordion? Isn't that for weddings?" Well, not the way Judy uses it. To Judy, the accordion is a defense mechanism, a "goddess shield." After all, she needs some protection from the throngs of adoring "pigs" (men, to you and me) who rush the stage in order to grab hold of her flowing gowns. "I'm like a Who concert with a bra," she explains.

Judy, who is coming to The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall this month, did have a few choice words about our lovely burg. "I like Beantown...I always feel like a speech therapist when I'm [here]." Maybe that's another one of her personalities. She also had a word or two about Bostonian fashion: "Why is every woman over fifty and walking around with a plaid skirt?" she demands, "Do we have to be a highlander?" But don't be offended at this criticism. After all, she is a goddess.

Can't seem to get enough of Judy? Well don't fret, she should soon be hitting many store shelves. Not only will she soon be introducing a new perfume named "Scent of a Goddess," (don't hold your breath), but she's also working on a new album. It will include "some diva goddess songs for dancing studsicles," as well as, of course, Judy's comedy. "Is it live?" we asked. "No, no," she answered, "it's Memorex."

Judy Tenuta will be appearing at the Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall on March 25th & 26th. ❑



Judy Tenuta bares most.

Everybody's a Comedian

A grasshopper walks into a bar and orders a beer. The bartender says, "You know, we have a drink here named after you." The grasshopper looks up excitedly and says, "Really? You have a drink named Irv?"

Pretty funny, huh? What, think you can do better? Well then go ahead and try. Send in your favorite joke (anecdote, humorous quip, etc.) to:

Joke of Every Other Week
The Improper Bostonian
17 Station St., Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146-7303

The lucky writers of the jokes selected will win two tickets to a Boston comedy club. New winners will be printed each issue.
Go ahead, send it in. We dare you.

• Comedy Listings •

Catch a Rising Star 30B JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-0167. This legendary comedy club in the heart of Harvard Square is celebrating five years in business. Local and national acts. Every Mon: Cambridge Comedy Lab. Every Tues: Open Mike. Every Wed & Sun: Comedy Underground. Cover varies. Casual dress. For tickets and showtimes, call 661-0167 or 720-3450. Fri and Sat is Midnight Madness: Only $1 gets you in to see 4-6 comedians at midnight.

Thu 18th thru Sat 20th.- Jimmy Smith, Steve Caito, Steve Hurley. Thu 25th. thru Sat 27th.- Frank Santorelli, Michael Lee, Brendan McMahon.

Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. This is the only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Thu 18th.- Anthony Clark. Fri 19th. & Sat 20th.- Anthony Clark & Paul Nardizzi. Sun 21st. 7PM- Rich Ciesler. Sun 21st. 9PM- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon 22nd.- Jackie Flynn. Tue 23rd.- DJ Hazard, Jackie Flynn. Wed 24th.- Ed Regine, Jackie Flynn. Thu 25th. & Fri 26th.- Judy Tenuta & Steve Hurley. Sun 28th. 7PM- Rich Ciesler. Sun 28th. 9PM- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon 29th.- Black Comedy Showcase Auditions. Tue 30th.- DJ Hazard.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, which features both national celebs and local favorites. Show times: Fri at 9pm, Sat at 8pm and 10:30pm. Cover $10. Always packed and second-hand smoky. Casual dress.

Fri 19th. & sat 20th.- George MacDonald, Peter Sandstone, Tony Moscetto. Fri 26th. & Sat 27th.- Joe Rogan, Al Jublonski, Janine Westmiser.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See above. Show times: Fri and Sat at 10pm. Cover $9.

Fri 19th. & Sat 20th.- Boston Comedy Showcase. Fri 26th. & Sat 27th.- Boston Comedy Showcase.

Nick's Comedy Stop 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. This comedy club is one of Boston's most popular attractions when it comes to local and national acts. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

Fri 19th. & Sat 20th.- Gilbert Godfried. Fri 26th. & Sat 27th.- Jeff Dunham.

Stand-up Comedy Cafe (formerly The Original Connection) at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. Named by USA Today as the Number One comedy club in the country. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Rated by Rolling Stone and Vanity Fair as the nation's top comedy club. Shows are Sun-Thu at 8:30pm, Fri and Sat at 8:30pm & 10:30pm. Tickets are Sun-Wed $6, Thu $8 and Fri & Sat $10.

Stitches 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Every Tue at 9pm and Fri at 10:30pm: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Wed: The Candles, a Grateful Dead cover band. Every Thu: Cross Comedy. Every Sun: Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10; no dress code.

Fri 19th. 8:30 & Sat 20th.- Mike Donovan, Jonathan Groff, Orin Star. Wed 24th.- Diane Ford. Fri 26th. 8:30 & Sat 27th.- Diane Ford, Chris Zito, Jerry Thornton.

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CELEBRITY GUEST REVIEWS

Marais: The Meal Beyond the Myth

BY GERI DENTERLEIN

Anyone who's anyone has been to Marais, the trendy Boylston Street restaurant that fancies itself to be a touch of Paris. In less than a year, it has become the latest place to see and be seen, even if it involves the indignity of waiting outside on an icy winter evening. Part of the fun is surveying the crowd for familiar faces from Boston's world of sports, television and radio. Even the owners of the city's best restaurants, like Paolo DiBenedetti of Paulo's in the North End, spend time at Marais, sharing bottles of vintage wines, like Clos du Val 1987 Semillon.

On a Thursday evening, the bar was two and three deep, not even mentioning the crowd snuggling up near small tables in an area that doubles as a cafe. Most are passing time until 9 o'clock, when the Marais discotheque Esmé opens, and beautiful people gather hoping to meet the person of their dreams – even if the dream lasts only the night.

MARAIS

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With all this action, it almost doesn't matter how the food is. However, for the record, it is imaginative, experimental, spicy, and, for the most part, pretty good.

The dining atmosphere – that's another matter. To begin with, who can take seriously a restaurant that covers its tablecloths with white paper? In addition, we had the misfortune of being seated at a small table in the middle of the dining room. It was as peaceful as the median strip on the Central Artery at 5 o'clock.

What would provide a balm to this chaos? A drink, of course. But it was fifteen minutes before they arrived. At least it gave us time to study the extensive menu. Here Marais excels, offering selections that appeal to the vegetarian and carnivore, which toy with the flavors of France and take advantage of the Italian food craze. What's more, there is a wide selection of wines by the glass matched to complement each dish. While pricey ($7), the wines *were* perfect.

Ignoring conventional wisdom to save the best for last, executive chef Jackson Kenworth offers the finest in presentation and taste from the very first course. The confit of duck leg with couscous pancakes ($7.50) was lean and delicious. It was served with sun-dried cherry and blood-red orange sauce that complements the crusty and spicy couscous. The shrimp wrapped in pancetta with couscous and artichokes ($9.75) was covered in a cream sauce light enough not to disturb the happy coupling of the shrimp and pancetta.

The crisp lobster wontons with ginger soy sauce ($8.50) avoided the doughy texture that often characterizes Chinese wontons. The fire-roasted dates stuffed with spicy sausage ($5.95) may not be for everyone, but the contrast between the sweet and the spicy flavors was delectable.

What about bread? Anyone who has been to Paris knows that there's no other place where bread tastes as good, but Marais comes pretty darn close. And for those in the mood for something sweeter, there's the delightful date-walnut bread.

The bread is as good as it gets here. The Caesar salad ($8) represents the other end of the spectrum. Why say it's a Caesar salad if it's covered with dry chicken strips? Call me a purist, but I prefer anchovies. And that's not the only departure from Caesar salad tradition. The sauce was not well-mixed, and the waiter did not offer fresh ground pepper. Finally, the sweet-corn soup with smoked chicken ($6.95) was flavorful despite an overdose of hot spice.

For the entrees, we selected the roasted lamb with wild mushroom tortellini ($17) and American Bouillabaisse ($18). The lamb was spectacular, and, except for the rich brown sauce and goat cheese-stuffed tortellini, it was lean enough to make the Weight Watchers diet plan. The Bouillabaisse, like the Caesar salad, was an experiment that didn't work. In the United States, any seafood stew in a red broth can be called bouillabaisse. But this abundant serving of fresh seafood would have fared better without the Middle Eastern couscous and hot spices.

For dessert, the chef offers a rich selection of toppers. But we settled on the "Plate of Nice Cookies." No, these cookies are not flown in from Nice. They're just nice cookies, and, like just nice people, a bit bland.

Overall, though, dining at Marais, if you get the right table, can be memorable, funky, flavorful and fun. And for those who go there for drinks and dancing, there's no better night on the town. ❑

Our guest reviewer, Geri Denterlein, is not only the Editorial Director for WBZ-TV & Radio, but has published commentaries in The Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Boston Business Journal and Sojourner.



The Improper Bostonian's

Official Guide to

the original Great Chefs Taste Fair

Benefiting the National Kidney Foundation of Massachusetts

3p.m. - 6p.m.

Hynes Convention Center

Sunday, March 28, 1993

The Original Great Chefs Taste Fair

In 1978 the National Kidney Foundation hosted the first Great Chef Taste Fair at the Sheraton Hotel in Boston. Since then, many organizations have tried to imitate Great Chefs but none have duplicated the magic that the Kidney Foundation creates. Over the past fifteen years, this event has become a vital part of the Boston's culture and remains the oldest culinary exposition in the city. Come celebrate, on Sunday, March 28, 1993 at 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., our 15th birthday. Sample some of the finest cuisine from New England's top restaurants and caterers, while enjoying entertainment from celebrity chefs and culinary demonstrations.

This year two attractions will be added to the line-up: "A Taste of New England" spotlighting homemade culinary products made in New England, and a silent auction containing chef's aprons signed by celebrities. The National Kidney Foundation of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, recipient of this benefit, is the only major voluntary health agency dedicated to the eradication of kidney diseases.

This event will be taking place at the John B. Hynes Memorial Convention Center, located at 900 Boylston Street, Boston at Prudential.

Admission is $15 (10 servings), $13.50 for senior citizens; children under 12 are free; bulk ticket discounts are available (MC/Visa/Check/MO).

To get your tickets to this fabulous event, contact:
Great Chefs Tickets c/o National Kidney Foundation
180 Rustcraft Road
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(617)326-7225 or 1-800-542 4001

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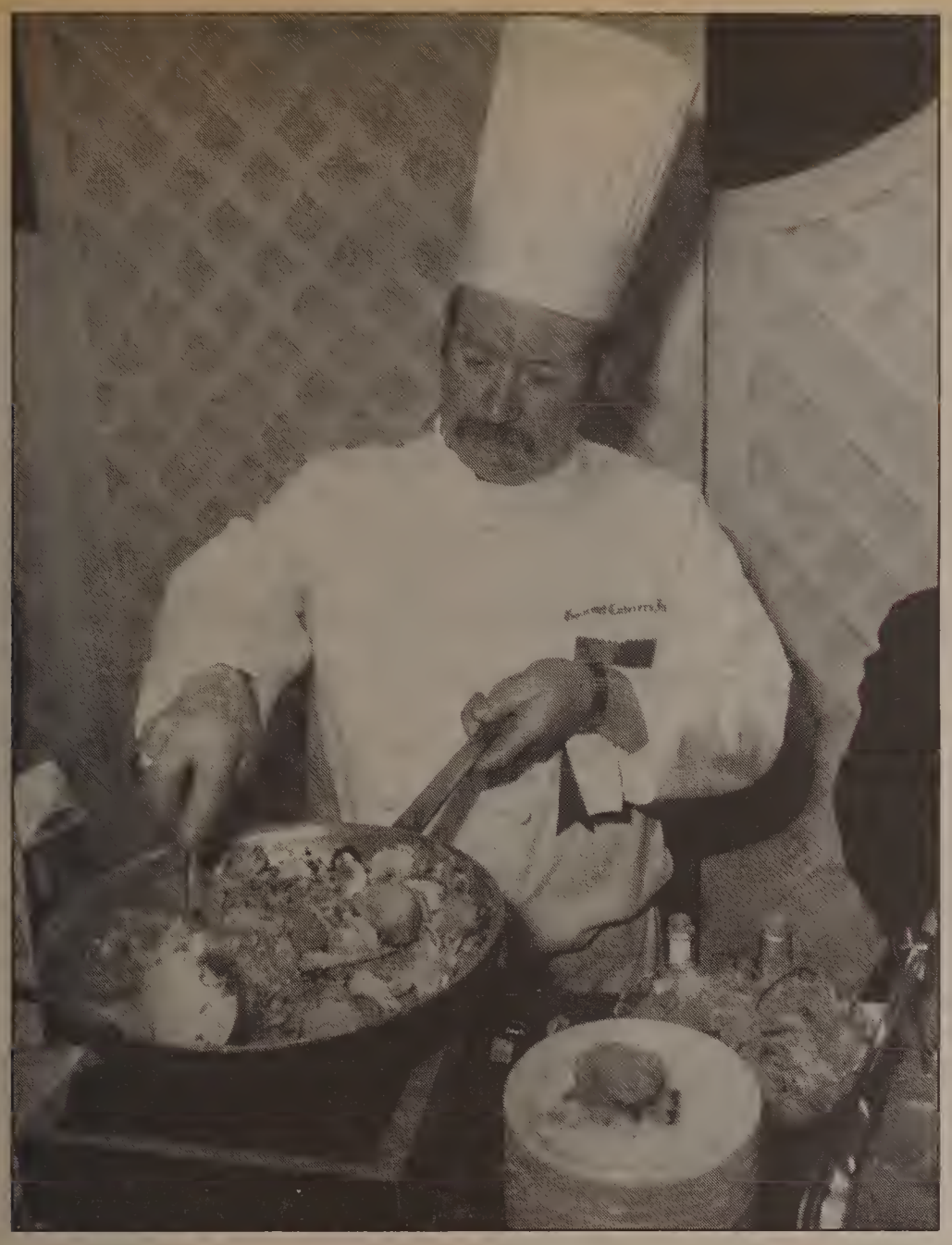
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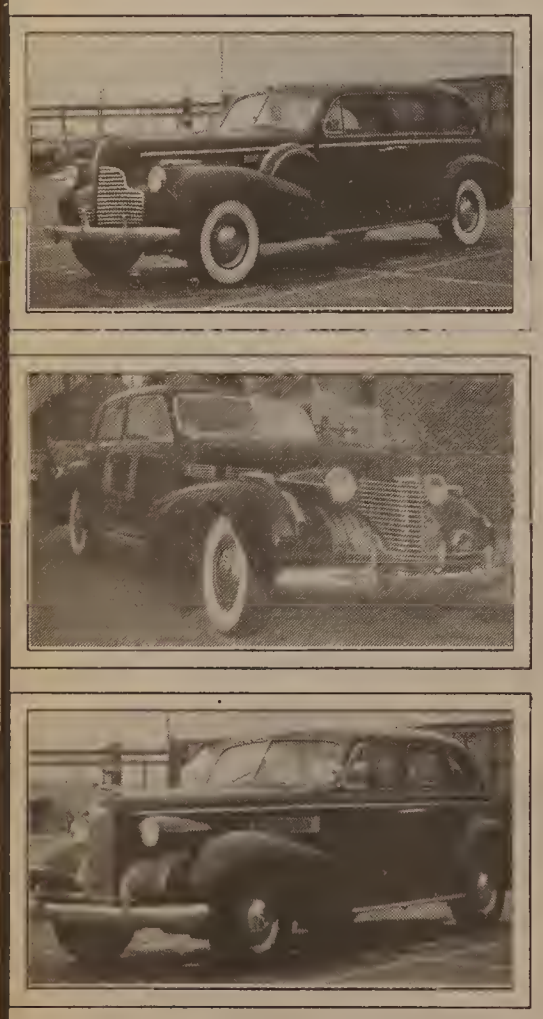
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APPETEASERS

BY PETER MCNAMARA & CHRIS FRANCESCANI

CLOSET COOKS WANTED

Like to cook? Wanna be on the radio? **"Dining around with Lottie Mendelsohn,"** WRKO's Sunday morning radio show (10 a.m. - 12 p.m.) is seeking better-than-average amateur cooks for a new segment on the show, called Grassroots Gourmet. Those interested should contact Lottie at WRKC 680, 3 Fenway Plaza, Boston 02215.

READY FOR A LITTLE RIBBING?

To accomodate a consistently overflowing house for their Wednesday night *all-you-can-eat* rib romps, **The Original Sports Saloon** at Copley Square Hotel on Huntington Ave. has just introduced an *all-you-can-eat* ribs and chicken deal on Monday nights. Same price: $9.95. For more information call 536-9000.

JIM'S WHIM

Jim Fahey's **Mexican Cuisine**, 1682 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, is now open for lunch, with Jim himself in the kitchen. With no set menu, specialties are "Jim's Whim." Call 661-1634 for more.

THE KOSHER EXPLOSION

PC has infiltrated the food industry. Cuong Van Tran, owner of Buddha Delight in Chinatown, is soon to open the *first Kosher Chinese restaurant in Massachusetts.* Having recently purchased **Cafe Shalom** at 404 Harvard St., Van Tran has, appropriately, slated the restaurant for a post-Passover opening.

GREAT CHEFS TASTING FAIR

The *original* Great Chefs Tasting Fair, celebrating its fifteenth year, arrives in Boston on Sunday, March 28, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Hynes Convention Center-Boylston St., Boston. Sponsored by the **National Kidney Foundation**, Great Chefs has become part of Boston's culture and remains the oldest culinary exposition in the city. Taste tickets are $15 each and can be ordered c/o: Great Chefs Tickets, National Kidney Foundation, 180 Rustcraft Rd., Dedham, MA. 02026. Participants include: Cheers, Legal Seafood, Armadillo Cafe, Dakota's, Aujourdhui, and Cornucopia on the Wharf.

JUICY DETAILS

Emporio Armani Express will be opening this week; cafe bar on first floor and a formal restaurant on the top floor. Chef *Roberto Saracino*, imported from Italy for the spaghetti extravaganza, part of the grand opening, will be on hand to prepare the fare. The very talented Chef *Tim Dempsey* is back at the **Royal Sonesta**, with big plans for upgrading the Charles Grill at the hotel. Congratuations to *Jonathan Freedman* who was named general manager of **Legal Seafoods** in Kendall Square, and yes, that was *Macauley Culkin* and *Morgan Brittany* dining at Legals in Copley Square. Also, congratualtions to Chef Peter Stout, formerly of Cape Cod's Red Pheasant Inn, who has joined **TAPAS Restaurant** at 2067 Mass. Ave., as executive chef.

The Lenox Hotel, as of April 1st, will have a new menu. Boston University has given Narcissus, Alley Pub, and Celebrations until May 31 to move. B.U. is looking for new owners. The current fury in Cambridge is over the firing of five long-time bartenders at **Charlie's Cafeteria**. Watch for upcoming details. **Midnight Court**, on Milk St., has been taken over by the owners of the Purple Shamrock and the Black Rose, Glynn Co. Pizzeria Uno former V.P. *Jack Decasin* is opening a new restaurant named **Uppercrust**. **Sunset Grill and Tap**, 130 Brighton Ave., is undergoing major renovations that will be completed by mid-March, adding fifty new seats, and *50 new beers!!!*



Ursula Argyropoulos

Paige Carter, Committee President and June LeBell, author of "Kitchen Classics from the Philharmonic" at March Winds, an event put on by the Women's Culinary Guild of New England.

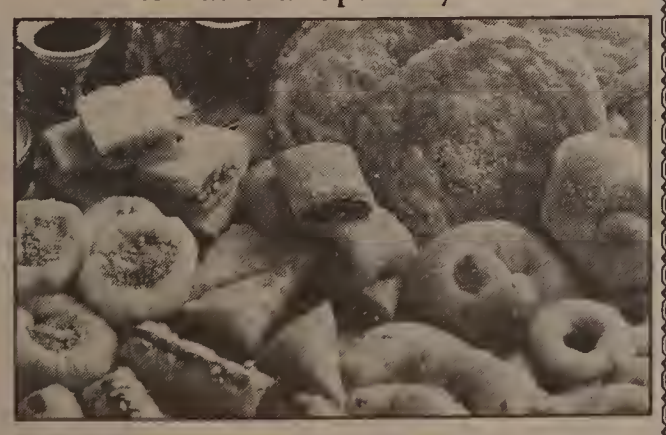
The Claremont Cafe is opening on Tremont Street, and **Red, Hot & Blue** is opening on Pittsburgh Street. **Alexander's** at 1700 Beacon St. has been purchased. Remodelling is about to begin, and new name will be **Vinny Testa's**, managed by the owners of Bloom's and Starbuck's on the Cape, featuring an Italian theme.

Owners *Jim Burke* and *Jim Lifton* are opening **Tullio's** at 150 Hancock St. in three weeks. **J.P. Licks Ice Cream** has taken over 352 Newbury Street; a June opening is scheduled. **Chadwick Park**, 184 High St., is closed. **Jae's**, in the South End, has purchased a Korean restaurant at Innman Square and another in Brighton. **Villa Francese** will be expanding next store, and **Perfecta Restaurant** is opening at 768 Tremont St. ❑

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AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

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1314 Commonwealth Ave.
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CACTUS CLUB

939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standarAmerican breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
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HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender flllet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR

300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and a traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY 3

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped with poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

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DINING

IN VINO VERITAS

What a Wine List Should Be

BY JONATHON ALSOP

Until now, I've hesitated to write much about the world of restaurant wine lists because all I've had were complaints. First, there's the incomprehensible wine list that runs half the length of *War and Peace*, at twice the complexity of *Finigan's Wake*. Then there's the irrationally marked-up wine list that's a minefield of $3 and $5 wines for $18, right next to $12 and $15 wines priced at $20. Finally comes the annoying lean-and-mean wine list: four whites, three reds, one white Zinfandel, and a half-bottle of Italian dessert wine for $27, none of which you've heard of, or want to drink. Suffice it to say, ordering wine in most restaurants is nothing but a prime opportunity to get befuddled, look foolish, and end up ripped off.

Rather than pound out some screed against "Boston's WORST Wine Lists" and their wall-eyed concoctors (later, I promise!), I'll talk instead about the dinner we went to at On The Square in Watertown, where we learned by positive example from Marcia Bogue's wine list. It truly represents everything a wine list should be. Priced in exact proportion to the food menu, the wine list offers up options, safety, bargains and extremes. On The Square's wine list begins with the North American Collection (featuring, strangely, one Argentinean Chardonnay with some business relationship to Simi in California) and moves on to the European Collection; not too surprisingly, the North American side of the ledger is stronger and more affordable than the European side.

1990 Arrowood Vineyards Chardonnay ($32, but remember: that's wine list pricing) and 1990 Lolonis Chardonnay ($27) are dependable and tasty, and the Lolonis is especially good for a crowd paired with 1990 Lolonis Fume Blanc ($21). For something a little different, 1989 or 1990 Barnard-Griffin Chardonnay from Washington's Columbia Valley ($28) is one outstanding wine, big and creamy like a butter shortcake. Best of all, I happily paid more than $28 for the B-G in a Seattle restaurant two years ago. Good bargain alternatives are 1990 Hogue Cellars Semillon ($19) also from Washington, and 1989 Hermann J. Wiemer Dry Riesling ($21) from New York's Finger Lakes district.

The red end of the North American spectrum floats a couple of buys in 1990 Hedges Cabernet/Merlot blend ($20) and 1989 Columbia Merlot ($24), both from Washington. Things don't get hot until page three with 1989 Knudsen-Erath Pinot Noir ($23) and 1990 Sanford Pinot Noir ($24). 1990 Lolonis Zinfandel Reserve ($26) is a fantastic wine in a fantastic year, and you can't do any better than that. It's probably the single strongest wine on the list, from a quality/price perspective.

Once you transit to the European pages of On The Square's wine list, the prices go up about 35 percent; you may yearn for New World pricing, but there's no way around it. 1988 Latour Givry ($25) is a good deal on French Pinot Noir, and 1985 Latour Santenay ($35) has age and complexity on its side. Playing solid stand-by are two Vietti red wines from Italy: 1989 Dolcetto D'Alba ($23) and 1987 Nebbiolo D'Alba ($21).

Best of all, from a personal and sentimental perspective, is the 1935 Simi Zinfandel from California, my father's birth year. At $185, it remains untouchable until the big guy's 60th birthday, but it's still less than half the current retail price in California.

TASTINGS AROUND TOWN

• Bauer on Newbury Street, Saturdays 4-7 p.m.

• Brookline Liquor Mart, Allston: Saturdays 2-4 p.m. and Tuesdays 5:30-7 p.m.. 3/20 & 3/23: "First Day of Spring: New Arrivals." 3/27 & 3/30: "Italian Wines of Piedmont and Tuscany."

• Blanchard's in Allston, tastings every Friday 5-8 p.m. and every Saturday 2-5 p.m.

• Chestnut Hill Wine Cellar, in the old Chestnut Hill Mall by Star Market, every Saturday, 4-6 p.m.

• Kappy's in Sudbury and Mall Wines at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, Saturdays noon-6 p.m.

• Les Amis du Vin: "Kosher Fine Wine Tasting," at Chestnut Hill Wine Cellars, Rte. 9 next to Star Market, 3/30, 7-9 p.m., details & reservations 232-1020.

• Marty's in Allston, Saturdays 1-3 p.m.

• Winecellar of Silene, Copley and Waltham, Fridays 4-6:30 p.m. and Saturdays 2-4:30 p.m.

• Gordon's in Waltham, Saturdays 1-4 p.m.

Finally, Cambridge Center for Adult Education's spring schedule features a number of wine classes running from the end of March through the middle of May. A 3-week wine appreciation intro course by Dellie Rex begins March 30, and Blake Allison's 10-week beginners' series starts March 30 and 31. Call 547-6789 for information and registration. Speaking of Dellie Rex, she has her own series called "Wine Experiences:" tasting of Tuscan reds, March 24; interesting class on the wine wave of the future, Rhone varietals from California, April 8; and retrospective of Pauillac fifth growths, excellent values in red Bordeaux, April 21. Call 527-9261 for information & registration. ❑

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AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, clean cut and authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only one item priced over five dollars, their menu offers the best deals in this category. Choose between rotisseried chicken and kabobs. You'll be an addict of their lamb kebobs after trying them only once. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad and pita and hommos. Ararat also offers take-out service. Hours are 11am-9pm, Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am -11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303
M, V, A, $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

THE CAJUN YANKEE
1193 Cambridge St.Cambridge, MA 576-1971
MC, V, D, $$
Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings to Boston the best of the bayou. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep-fried cheese, stuffed avocado with chipotal salsa, and blackened scallops. Entrees include: New Orleans seafood platter, sauteed crawfish, and blackened prime rib. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday through Saturday.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo Wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that *feels* like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. All around you are floor to ceiling windows that look out over the streets of Boston's North End. The English-style ales are all robust top fermented, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30AM to 12 midnight Sun.- Thurs. and until 1:00AM Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos. 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tasties Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

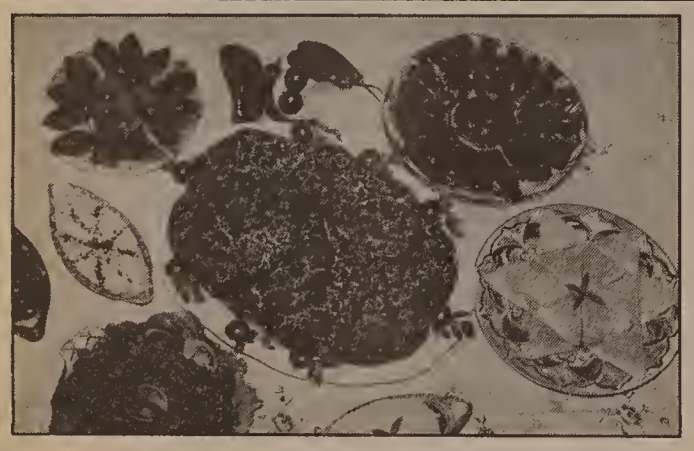
COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

FOSTER'S BAR & G
5 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate

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HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties inclued Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super Lunch Special 12 - 3p.m.Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take out/delivery and catering services available.

JAE'S CAFE & GRILL
520 Columbus Ave., Boston
421-9405 $$ MC/V/AMEX
Nestled in Boston's South End, this two-floor, charming restaurant offers quality food with a Korean accent. Whether you choose one of the curry dishes, vegetable entrees, or selections from Jae's complete sushi bar, the courteous service and very reasonable prices are the perfect complements to any of their delicious meals. Desserts are also not to be missed. Full take out service available.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, MA
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza (about 25 beers to choose from). Mention the Improper Bostonian and get **20%** off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accesible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

KASHMIR
279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$
Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

KEBAB'N'KURRY
30 Massachusetts Ave., Bos. 536-9835 A,D,MC,V $$
This small basement restaurant offers an extensive menu. The nan (Indian bread) is superb, often stuffed with potatoes and other goodies. Order a maharani thaali (Queen's platter) and sample a variety of dishes including; dal (lentils), paneer (cheese in a curried sauce) chickpeas and basmati rice. Open daily for lunch (except Sun.) and dinner.

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos. 426-4444
A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal". One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod. Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch and dinner. Sat./Sun., dinner menu only in town; lunch available. in the suburbs.

MARKETPLACE GRILL & OAR BAR
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2am.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA
207 Endicott St.. Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

MOON VILLA
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4am for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049 V, MC, A, DC
$
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's feature extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of

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1 MASTERING THE ART OF SELLING
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Date: April 12, 1993 From 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

SEMINAR TOPICS:
- How to make your words work for you
- Why people do and don't buy from you and what you can do about it
- How to build strong rapport every time with new prospects
- Questions to ask to get the information you need to close the sale
- How to make the telephone work for you ...outgoing call strategies and scripts ...ways to handle telephone tag ...what to say to turn inquiry calls into sales
- Specific Phraseology for 10 powerful closes
- How to revive "dead" sales
- 7 keys to building buyer confidence


Tom Hopkins, author of the million selling, "How to Master the Art of Selling".

2 MANAGING FOR RESULTS
Date: April 13, 1993 From 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
How to Gain, Train and Maintain a Dynamic Sales Force!
Developed by Tom Hopkins Int'l., taught by management trainer Don Jennings. Everything you need to know to turn you sales force into a top producing team!
Veterans and rookies will learn all this and more!
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•Tapping superstar potential •Leadership principles
•Goal setting •Results oriented supervision
*It's recommended that sales managers and owners attend together.

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3 TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE
Jim Rohn
Date: May 11, 1993 From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
THE "NO NONSENSE" APPROACH TO OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
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...An intensive seminar to refine those areas of human behavior that are most important to those in search of financial and personal success.
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- The Five Major Pieces to Life Puzzle
- The Power of Personal Development
- Problem Solving in 3 Simple Steps
- Skills of Awareness: Majors & Minors
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- The 4 Steps in Becoming a Success in Anything
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DINING

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The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pat's Pushcart
61 Endicott St., Boston, 523-9616
MC/V $$
Serving fine Italian cuisine for over twenty years, Pat's Pushcart is a mainstay in Boston's North End. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Don't forget to ask about their everchanging daily specialties—the highlights of their menu.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant & Bar
20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722
(542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D
Voted Boston's best pizza by *Boston* magazine and voted the best deep-dish pizza in Chicago - but come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full-service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches. Huge $1.50 drafts always on special. Open from 11 a.m. to late night.

Pronto
464 Thames St., Newport, R.I. (401) 847-5251
MC/V $$$
Enjoy Italian and continental cuisine among fresh flowers and great music in charming Newport. This elegant European-style bistro serves lunch daily 11:30 - 4 p.m.. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5:30 -11 p.m. on weekends. Fine wines are available by the glass and for the months of August and September, breakfast will be served 8 am - 12 p.m. on weekends.

Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment.

Sorento's
86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make
for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston
536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location, So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Warren Tavern,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
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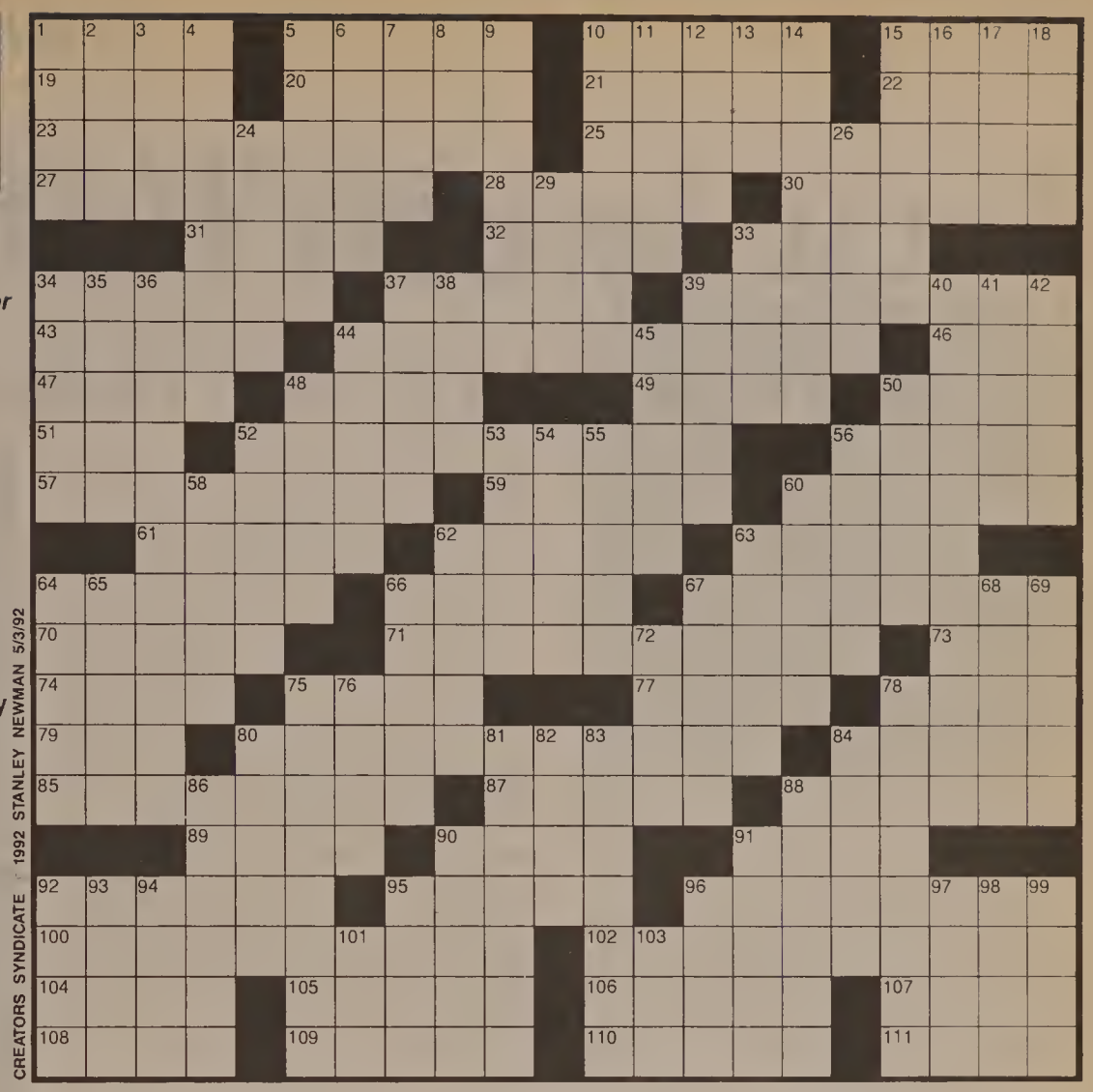
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

ROUGH STUFF: Rowdy wordplay

by Fred Piscop



ACROSS

1 __-Ata (Kazakh capital)
5 Upscale watch
10 Emulate the mockingbird
15 Adriatic seaport
19 Racetrack border
20 Señora Perón
21 "There __ bad boys"
22 Thor's father
23 Play a child's game
25 Munch between meals
27 Cosmetic ingredient
28 In a corner
30 Camel's kin
31 Madame X portrayer
32 __ Kong
33 Stagecoach pullers
34 Fading away
37 Pop singer Bonnie
39 Mussolini's followers
43 Spinks and Russell
44 Work for an hourly wage
46 Mauna __
47 Bassoon's cousin
48 Tractor-trailer truck
49 Bedfordshire river
50 Chicago's Merchandise __
51 Buchanan in the news
52 "Put 'er there!"
56 Mouth-watering
57 Petitions
59 Largest asteroid
60 Not as stony
61 Listens attentively
62 Albertville winner Bonnie
63 "Solid" region
64 Put aside temporarily
66 Skirt material
67 Most hair-raising
70 Put aside temporarily
71 Complete a dash
73 ENE or WSW
74 Anthem beginning
75 Aberdonian
77 Lepidopterists' props
78 Aquifer feature
79 Part of NATO
80 Have a big sale
84 Hog call
85 Put on the air
87 Solitudinarian
88 Makes butter
89 Mansard part
90 Salon job
91 "I've __ Working on the Railroad"
92 Tennis pro Fred
95 Soup server
96 Terrier type
100 Investigate
102 Save your money
104 Petri-dish material
105 Like the Green Berets
106 Lugs around
107 *Pretty Woman* star
108 Spring months
109 Make over the lawn
110 Stallone's five-time costar
111 Comics cries

DOWN

1 Mississippi flatboats
2 *Café* addition
3 Computer accessories
4 Battery variety
5 Put up differently
6 __ Culp Hobby (first HEW Secretary)
7 Dog bane
8 Greek letter
9 Yellowish
10 Purplish red
11 Seconds abbr.
12 Anthropology popularizer
13 Bach's *Mass __ Minor*
14 Blend together
15 Good buddy, in Bordeaux
16 Name of Dr. Frankenstein's monster
17 Costa __
18 Signs a contract
24 Mission beginning
26 "Cut me some __!"
29 *Goodbye, Columbus* author
33 New Mexico town
34 Run off to the J.P.
35 1967 Heisman Trophy winner Gary
36 Muff a grounder
37 Beef cuts
38 Lively, in mus.
39 Chimney ducts
40 Prevent from scoring
41 Smooth singer Mel
42 Dionysus attendant
44 Fuel sources
45 Assumed identity
48 Refresh
50 Civilian clothes
52 Put out dinner
53 Grand acclaim
54 Pentecost, for one
55 Notre Dame players
56 "__ the Top"
58 Stock-market upswing
60 Daytime TV fare
62 B'nai __
63 Sings like Ella
64 Summer-coated ermine
65 Make __ (rush)
66 Whoopi's Oscar film
67 Bum __ (rotten advice)
68 Temptress
69 Poker cards
72 Ending for confer
75 Drooling one
76 Beer buy
78 Weight
80 La __ (Milan opera house)
81 Walked heavily
82 Vex
83 Runs through
84 Stamp collector's purchase
86 Some anglers
88 Bright red
90 Bel __ (singing style)
91 Tour de France participant
92 GI entree
93 Forum wear
94 Sign off on
95 Director Buñuel
96 Play start
97 Bide-__
98 Innocent escapade
99 Spud features
101 Flamenco cheer
103 La-la lead-in

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VOCAL ARTISTRY DOMINATES THE SUNDAYS

An Interview for *Any* Day of the Week

BY LUCY MITCHELL

Avalon was filled to capacity recently when a crowd, mainly students, sang, danced and generally showed their devotion to The Sundays, the English four-piece who have created a niche of their own within today's music market. Backstage before the gig, Harriet Wheeler and David Gavurin showed no signs of pre-performance nerves as they relaxed in jeans and docks and spoke about their music.

Despite the fact that they were at the end of a six week stint in the States, had completed a tour of Britain and Europe before Christmas, recently edited a video and hosted an MTV show, the two seemed full of enthusiasm and energy. David explained, "when things are going really well, somehow it doesn't feel exhausting." And things *have* been going well for these Londoners, who have sold out shows to rapturous audiences and received rave reviews in publications worldwide. In fact, it was only the night before that The Sundays played an unscheduled second gig in New York where they sold out and experienced one of their wildest shows so far. According to Harriet, this popularity gave them "as much confidence as we need to really relax and give it everything we've got . . . and perform . . . without the stupid little paranoias that can go through your head." The success of their first New York night was also, David felt, due to their own nerves combined with the audiences excitement, and "between the two there was a real sort of spark."



The cover to their recent album, *Blind*, is testimony to The Sundays talent for keeping it simple.

Audiences for them have been pretty uniform worldwide with no vast differences between Europe and America. Surprisingly enough for their music, these crowds are often far from serene; spectacles such as stage-diving and people being passed across on top of the crowd are not unusual. Although it may seem inappropriate for their music, David added "I don't think we've had one audience that hasn't been respectful." This unaffected pair did not always dream of touring, signing autographs and mingling with the paparazzi. After finishing their studies in Bristol, England, where they went to college, they spent a few years writing songs simply for their own amusement.

Eventually, after growing bored with Bristol they moved to London for a change of scenery. "We were just writing songs, with the vague idea that it would be nice to be in a band." As to the rise in their present popularity, it happened overnight. After forming The Sundays with friends Paul Brindley and Patrick Hannan, their first real gig was in London, in support of two other bands. A week later, the three music publications which often have the power to make or break a fledgling band, *NME*, *Melody Maker* and *Sounds* sang their praises. Soon the phone was ringing nonstop with offers from all the major record companies, and The Sundays had arrived. After signing with Geffen in 1989, *reading, writing and arithmetic*, a collection of song encapsulating their writing to this point, was released. More recently at the end of last year came *blind*, an album not quite as simple in instrumentation as their first release. Translating these studio recordings into live versions then presented itself.

The Sundays, it seems, dealt with this successfully although Harriet confessed that before the first gig of their British tour she had visions of the audience "looking aghast and filing out slowly."

A decision had been made not to fight the difference between the live and recorded versions of the songs and let them, as David said "work according to their own logic."

"As long as we keep the spirit there, the fact that certain parts of a song may be changed does not bother us." This self-assurance in their work has obviously helped them nurture their distinctive sound and despite being compared to artists varying from Suzanne Vega to Miles Davis, The Sundays have consistently followed their own path. In the early days, while writing songs together in Bristol, Harriet and David sometimes found themselves listening to their work, which was like no music in the charts or record stores and wondering whether this was a failing or flaw. Luckily, they were signed at this formative stage and realized that this fresh sound and innocent character was there special power. Later, on stage after their opening number the crowd cheered and Harriet looked out at them, at David and smiling said "Shall we sing another song?". ❑

Music Readers Survey Results

We asked and you answered! The results of Th Improper Music Survey are all in and after hours of tabulating, our survey team has come up with the following results. Answers are listed in order of most popular-response. We thank you. our readers, for sending in your answers.

Best New Local Artist
1. Jennifer Rivers
2. X-15
3. The Barney's

Best Local Alternative
1. Lemonhead
2. Big Catholic Guilt

Best Local Rock
1. Aerosmith
2. Tribe
3. Cavedogs/Seka

Best Local Jazz
1. Heavy Metal Horns
2. Jerry Bergonzi

Local Country
1. Rex Trailer
2. The Willows

Best New National Artist
1. Pearl Jam
2. Sugar
3. Celine Dion

Best National Alternative
1. Nine Inch Nails
2. Pearl Jam
3. Spin Doctors

Best National Rock
1. Black Crows
2. U2
3. Neil Young

Best National Jazz
1. David Sanborn
2. Grover Washington Jr.
3. Wynton Marsalis / Branford Marsalis

National Country
1. Garth Brooks
2. Mary Chapin Carpenter
3. k.d. lang

Local World Music/Reggae
1. World Three
2. I-Tones

Local Metal
1. Extreme
2. Seka
3. Aerosmith

Best Local Blues
1. Tracy Chapman
2. Livingston Taylor
3. Rick Russell

Best Rap Hip/Hop Artist
1. Arrested Development
2. Kris Kross
3. Neneh Cherry

Best Song of '92 - Local
1. "Keepin' Time," Jennifer Rivers
2. "It's a Shame About Roy," Lemonheads
3. "Small," Dambuilders

National World Music/Reggae
1. Ziggy Marley
2. Shabba Ranks
3. Maxi Priest/Arrested Development

National Metal
1. Metallica
2. Def Leppard
3. Poison

Best National Blues
1. B.B. King
2. Eric Clapton
3. Robert Cray

Best Record of '92
1. R.E.M., *Automatic For The People*
2. Eric Clapton, *Unplugged*
3. INXS, *Welcome to Wherever You Are*

Best Song of '92 - National
1. Pearl Jam, "Black"
2. Eric Clapton, "Tears in Heaven"
3. Mary J. Blige, "Real Love"

Best Live Club
1. Paradise
2. Avalon
3. Bunratty's

Best Dance Club
1. Venus di Milo
2. Narcissus
3. Axis

Musical Disappointment of the Year
1. Madonna
2. Sinead O'Connor/Michael Jackson
3. Michael Bolton

ALBUM REVIEWS



KEY

★ SAVE YOUR MONEY
★★ PASSABLE
★★★ WORTH A LISTEN
★★★★ BUY IT NOW
★★★★★ INSTANT HIT

PAUL MCCARTNEY
OFF THE GROUND
CAPITOL
★★★

What's left to say about Paul McCartney? His record company biography describes him as "the most successful, awarded, and beloved songwriter and recording artist in the history of pop music," and even if half of that is true (which, in his rare case it probably is), then how is it possible to say anything bad about his new album?

Today's Paul McCartney, however, isn't what he used to be, and *Off The Ground* proves to be another firm reminder. The problem with criticizing Paul McCartney is that he can only be compared to himself (and maybe Mick Jagger, if you feel like rehashing all that controversy). In that respect, *Off The Ground* falls somewhere between 1989's *Flowers In The Dirt* and *Press To Play* (or any other studio album he's recorded in the last seven years). In other words, it has its moments, but its nothing monumental.

But when McCartney launches into one of his blatant pop specialties like "Off The Ground," "Hope Of Deliverance," or "Biker Like An Icon" his voice soars with the remembrance and sweet bliss that can transform any mediocre song of his into sheer brilliance. And the fact that the crack band that played on his last world-wide tour is accompanying him every step of the way certainly doesn't hurt. In fact, although the musicians are often found digging deep into their bags of clichés, they deserve as much credit as McCartney does for keeping *Off The Ground* from falling flat on its face.

BY SANDER WOLF

THE NEW FAST AUTOMATIC DAFFODILS
BODY EXIT MIND
ELECTRA RECORDS
★★★

The press release from the New Fast Automatic Daffodils calls their album *Body Exit Mind* one which "persuades by innuendo, that understands the power of mystery" and is "socially astute and peppered with art damage." Despite this somewhat confusing and, to say the least, pretentious description of their sound, the New F.A.D.'s radio-friendly single "Stockholm" has been getting a lot of airplay in Boston. On first hearing, *Body Exit Mind* it is not particularly impressive, but with a little time a few tracks make themselves felt. Promising are "Stockholm," definitely the pick of the lot, "Kyphos," a deceivingly slow track with strong bitter lyrics and "American Money," with the words "Give me one good reason why I shouldn't be myself again," seemingly the premise of the album. Despite the fact that they are natives of Manchester, England, the New F.A.D.'s are far from their raving predecessors and even claim to be anti-techno. This, their second album is a presentable collection from a band whose sound is a sound-bite of the music scene on the other side of the Atlantic.

BY LUCY MITCHELL

THOMAS DOLBY
ASTRONAUTS & HERETICS
GIANT RECORDS
★★★

What may be more important than the songs on Dolby's new album are the musicians that contributed to it, and the way in which their playing was recorded. The album features bizarre, but well-placed guest appearances by Eddie Van Halen, Bob Weir, Jerry Garcia, Ofra Haza, Eddi Reader, Leland Sklar, and Budgie, all precisely recorded direct to computer disk without the use of moving tape. Once again, Dolby has conquered a technology that's ahead of his time and used it in the name of rock and roll.

It's been a long time since Dolby last released a full album and "Eastern Block" – the standout sequel to 1981's "Europa And The Pirate Twins" – is his way of updating us. The new improved version of this song intertwines a simple Bo Diddly beat with samples from the older song and views on European unification, as seen through the eyes of a distant unfulfilled love. The quaint story of "I Love You Goodbye" is sweetened with violins, accordions, and descriptive lyrics like, "I would never normally go bowling/On a Friday morning in New Orleans/but I like to come here to remember/The kind of places you took me." The rambunctious, jamming groove on "Silk Pyjamas" temporarily veers the album away from its serious side, describing a city girl transplanted to a town "with no underground train."

But the album isn't all smooth sailing. "Close But No Cigar" isn't as lucky as its title suggests, "Cruel" is only slightly redeemed by Eddi Reader's supple vocals, and "I Live In A Suitcase" is burdened by its lyrical premise, taken several steps too far. Still, in spite of its defects, *Astronauts & Heretics* is an addictive comeback for the deserving Dolby, even if the master of technology still has some things left to learn.

BY SANDER WOLF

JESUS JONES
PERVERSE
SBK
★★★★

It's always hard for a band to follow up a successful album. Many a great band has fallen victim to the dreaded, career-ending "slump" when a follow-up album doesn't quite measure up to the original. *Doubt*, Jesus Jones' last album that unwittingly became the soundtrack for 1991 with its mega-hits "Right Here, Right Now" and "International Bright Young Thing" provides just such an opportunity to fail.

Thankfully, one listen to *Perverse* is all it takes to prove Jesus Jones is back – and harder than ever. Songs like "Zeroes And Ones" with its updated, pessimistic philosophy and revelations like, "This time the revolution/Will be computerized/Slip between reality/There's more to this than anything that you or I can see," show the darker side of the band while songs like "The Right Decision," and "The Devil You Know" with its paint-splattered video show the band can still write a club-happy hit.

The only drawback of *Perverse* is its lack of polish. *Doubt* was successful because it toned down the harsher sequences and antagonisms in a way that made the album easier for listeners to digest and remember. On *Perverse*, the band is in full force, with no temperament for pop radio. And while most listeners would have probably preferred the stronger melodies of *Doubt* instead of the harsher beats of *Perverse*, the album is still a welcome return for Jesus Jones.

BY SANDER WOLF

STEPHEN ALBERT: VIOLIN CONCERTO; TREESTONE
ILKKA TALVI, VIOLIN
LUCY SHELTON, SOPRANO; DAVID GORDON, TENOR
SEATTLE SYMPHONY
NEW YORK CHAMBER SYMPHONY
GERARD SCHWARZ, CONDUCTOR
★★★

Much as David Del Tredici has drawn extensively on the works of Lewis Carroll as an impetus for his compositions, the late Stephen Albert found seeds of inspiration in James Joyce's arcane stream-of-consciousness. Like a good many composers of his generation, Albert had no use for the rigors of serialism, choosing instead a more accessible and immediate idiom. *Treestone*, a setting of extracts from Finnegans Wake, and the principal work on this release, is somewhat akin in tonal language to Stravinsky's "Song of the Nightingale." The violin concerto, a concise and economical work in one movement, recalls familiar gestures heard in a number of other 20th century concertos – Prokofieff comes to mind. Though some may view such music as merely derivative, Albert's music has proven itself in the most important arena – with audiences.

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

CHRIS KOWANKO
KOWANKO
MORGAN CREEK RECORDS
★★★★★

With nine months still left in 1993, New York songwriter Chris Kowanko has quietly released what may end up being this year's most fascinating debut. With flawless production by Lenny Kaye and constantly changing musical styles, it's hard to imagine another new artist releasing an album this intriguing.

Inevitably, Kowanko's song writing and vocals will be compared to David Byrne, a fact made obvious as early as the second track: "My House" favors the jilting but simple rhythms and off-kilter vocal phrasing of the early Talking Heads. But *Kowanko* doesn't stand in one place for long, as each successive song proves itself unique. "Love Monster" is a soft, if slightly silly, folky tune about the fear of falling in love, while "Co-Star" nearly rocks. Other standouts include the Paul Kelly-like "Turn Me Down," where he entreats his lover to "Treat me as well as you would your cat," and the new single, "Grey Canyon," which is as close to conventional pop as Kowanko gets.

Although the mainstream music world will likely overlook this impressive first outing, Kowanko should be assured he won't be ignored for long.

BY MIKE COUNTY

DURAN DURAN
DURAN DURAN
CAPITOL RECORDS
★★★★

Who'd of thought? With one listen to "Too Much Information," the attentive listener will automatically be pleased with the first of a packed gathering of songs that make for a dramatic return of Duran Duran. Not only is *Duran Duran* (the second time they've used this title) their strongest album to date, but it also contains songs with actual meaning and purpose. Gone are the days of *Rio*, *Girls on Film* and *Notorious*. The new, improved Duran Duran,



while maintaining a core unit of lead singer Simon Le Bon, keyboardist Nick Rhodes and guitarist John Taylor, means business. These songs are fun and interesting! *Duran Duran* is straightforward music and an improvement on the band's overproduced sound of the '80s. The group joins the '90s knowing that forward progression means something more than just a new look. "Too Much Information" is loud and driving, and harbors some bitterness toward an oversaturated MTV generation — but it's danceable, and even Le Bon's voice is capable of splitting its screaming strains. "Ordinary World," already a number one hit, lingers and laments in the past while searching for a place in today's world. It's a catchy, beautiful pop ballad, laced with melodic riffs reminiscent of "Grey Lady," an older, Le Bon-penned sailing song from 1985.

With "Come Undone," one listen is all it takes before realizing that these surviving members are not just back; they're back with their best. *Duran Duran* is fresh and balanced. Though it teases with hints of their past trademark pop hooks, missing are Nick Rhodes once-prominent keyboards — replaced instead with more of a guitar sound than anything else. And a line from Capitol's press information says it all: " . . . like the band's echoing name and encore album title, some things bear repeating." Welcome back!

BY TOBIN STREETT

HOTHOUSE FLOWERS
SONGS FROM THE RAIN
LONDON RECORDINGS
★★★★★

The third album from this band that was once given its break on U2's Mother label, establishes Hothouse Flowers as more than just a developing force in modern Irish rock. These guys are balladeers, storytellers and rockers rolled into one slick package. *Songs From The Rain* is a fluid, dreamlike journey through an emotional landscape that's peppered with images of self-reliance, spiritualism and hope. '*Rain* is more than just another alternative-format album. Songs like "This Is It (Your Soul)," a hypnotic creation with a bent on isolating one's self for the sake of reaching the soul, spotlights the Flowers dedication to material that's anything but lighthearted. "One Tongue," an incredibly catchy pop song, is at once Brian Ferryesque and at the same time a happy-go-lucky plug for the future. With lyrics like "we have an answer in his language/ it might be silence it might be words . . . ," "One Tongue" is one of the best pop/alternative songs to come out in some time. Hothouse Flowers has come quite a way since the dance hit "Love Don't Work This Way." *Songs From The Rain* hits local stores on March 23 while the band will appear on the Letterman Show on March 17 and the Arsenio Hall Show on March 22. There's also speculation about a summer tour with Van Morrison.

BY TOBIN STREETT

Join us...

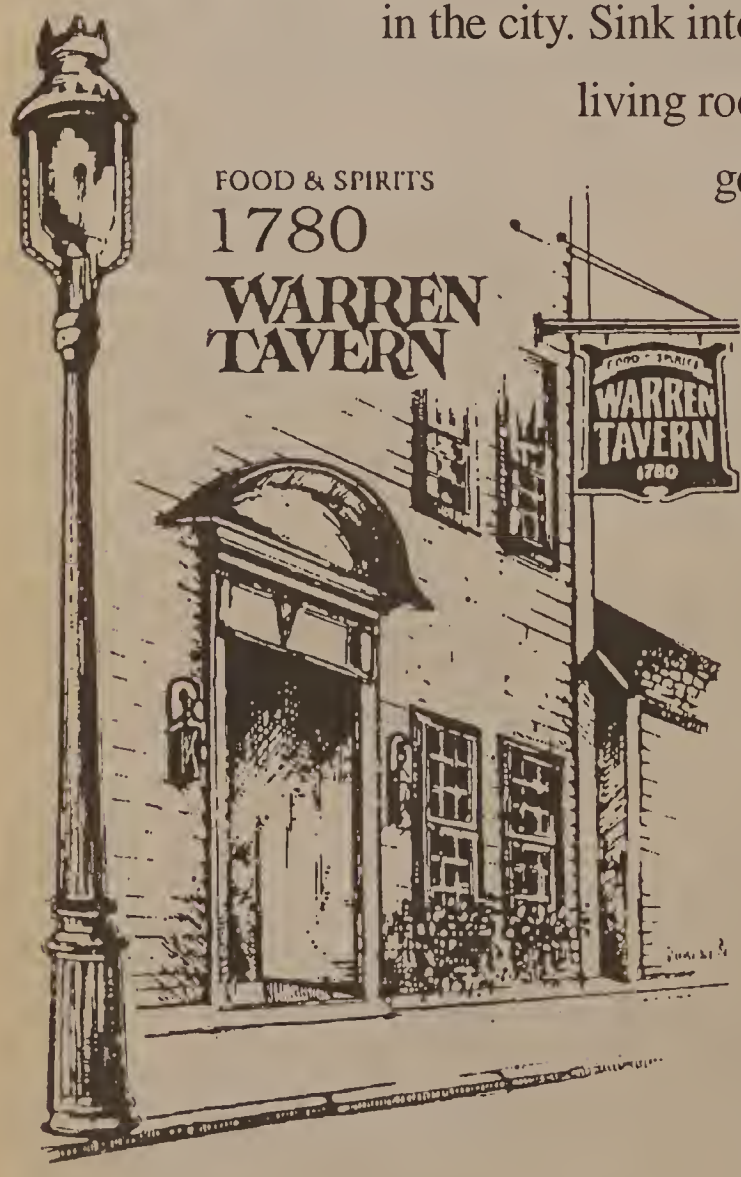
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ABOUT LAST NIGHT...

Yvonne's: Where The Elite Meet

BY LAUREN DARE A.K.A. THE LAST CALL LADY

Don't you get tired, especially at this purgatorial time of year, of standing in endless lines out in the freezing cold with snow blowing down your collar, waiting to get into a nightclub whose entrance is guarded by some beefy college football player with a one-syllable-words-only vocabulary? Worse, once you finally gain entrance, you must tussle for a position at the bar, or fight for a table with all the plebeian suburbanites who flood into the city every weekend in some kind of amateur attack on the "hot spots" of Boston.



Don't you wish instead that you could be greeted at the door of a plush, exclusive club by a sycophantic uniformed doorman (who, of course, knows your name), who ushers you immediately inside like a real VIP? And, once inside, wouldn't you happily rub shoulders with local celebrities like John Kerry (or Bob Crowe) in an atmosphere of high-powered see-and-be-seen schmoozing, feeling like you have finally made it into the Big Time of Boston night life? Then I have got *the* club for you.

Yvonne's – which is the nightclub alter-ego of that Boston bastion of old money, power and class, Locke-Ober's – offers night-life insider exclusivity for anyone who is both willing to pony up some cash for a year's membership, and who has the necessary social connections. After all, the whole point of having a private club is to screen out the riff raff, and like applying for a loan, Yvonne's requires references.

Now, your membership at Yvonne's will not get you elected to public office; it won't make you into an instant social or sexual success (though it might help) and it probably won't even get you free drinks at the bar. However, it will allow you to feel consummately superior to those around you the next time you're standing at some overcrowded bar, jostling with the hoi polloi, and you say (in a very loud voice reeking of sophisticated blasé attitude) "I'm so bored, there's absolutely *nobody* here tonight – let's go to Yvonne's."

Guaranteed your friends, companions and anybody who is in the immediate vicinity will gaze at you with a mixture of envy and awe: one of the privileged members of Yvonne's! Your status will attract non-member hangers-on who will instantly befriend you in order to get access inside, thus establishing your very own entourage, which is always impressive.

To say that Yvonne's is an exclusive, members-only club sounds very swank indeed. There are, and I'm not making this up, people who would willingly sacrifice a limb for a membership at this place. Never mind the fact that after the social smoke screen is blown away, it starts to filter through your star-stricken alcoholic consciousness that you are shooting pool and boogying on the postage stamp-sized dance floor with the same people you would encounter on a good night at Marais (or Zanzibar), and whom you were so desperately trying to escape in the first place.

However, if you can weasel your way past the membership committee, you *will* move up several notches on the food chain and gain some serious social advantages – enjoying the company of some of Boston's Beautiful People, being admitted freely into one of Boston's most luxurious nightclubs, experiencing the thrill of casually chatting with the aforementioned celebrities, and viciously name-dropping the next day – which is still good for something.

However, if, after doing Yvonne's to death in your first heady month of swinging with the "in" crowd, these advantages don't result in a complete epiphany in your social life (as evidenced by members of the opposite sex wantonly throwing themselves at you, name recognition on Beacon Hill, or your picture in the *Boston Herald's* "Inside Track"), don't blame me. Some people just aren't cut out for social celebrity status. ❑

YVONNE'S

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Boston
542-1340

BARS & CLUBS

Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, in this section, call our advertising department at 232-3507.

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

•**ARBUCKLES** .782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**CACTUS CLUB** 939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200 Join us In the evening and experience our firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can try a Platinum margarita with Sauza Hornitos, triple sec, fresh lemonade and fresh lime juice. Full menu available at bar.

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**LUCKY JOHNNY'S** 731-6753, 1098 Comm. Ave., Boston. Classic Rock rhythms fill the air at this upbeat college bar frequented mostly by BU, BC and Pine Manor students. On weekends, it gets pretty crowded. So beat the lines and get there early. The barback grill is always open and the smaller underground lounge is a nice place to chat. Dress is a relaxed casual to somewhat dressy. Best of all, there's never a cover.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S'**
734-0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. It's central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

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•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

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W 17TH

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Bunratty's Sidewalk Gallery/ The Allens/ Santa/ Miss Yous
Colonnade David Azarian Quartet w/Rick Peckham
Green Briar The Doe Breothers
Johnny D's Tim O'Brien
Linwood Grill Traiditional Irish Pub Music
Middle East Wax
Midway Cafe The Diddlers
Nightstage Trilogy
Rathskeller
Regattabar Ruth Brown& Friends
Sit'n'Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & Sidewalk Blues
T.T. The Bear's Cliffs of Doneenw/ Angry Salad & Mere Mortals
The Tam Pendragon
Western Front Joey O Set Latin Band
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Michael Shea Quartet

t 18TH

Bills Bar D.J.Stew & Perry
Bunratty's Sensurround/ The Paper Squares/ The Inn/ Transmission
Christophers The Exis & Bryson Dean
Colonnade Gene Bertoncini
Green Briar Standing Hamptons
Grog The Roads
Harper's Ferry Motorvators
Johnny D's Steady Earnest
Linwood Grill Streetcorner Cowboys
Middle East Tommy Keene/ Vision Thing/ Belle Isles/ Dilerants
Midway Cafe Two Bones & A Pick
Nightstage Wall Flowers (sons of Bob Dylan) & Falling August
Rathskeller
Regattabar Ruth Brown & Friends
Silhouette Lounge Hollywood Squares
Sit'n'Bull Pub The Duke Robillard Band
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
T.T. The Bear's Alloy w/ Eidelon & Mother
The Tam Groove Tubes
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quartet
Union Street The Allens
Venus De Milo D.J.Stew & Perry
Western Front Rumbafrica
Willow Jazz Club Hothouse
Zachary's Anthony Wonsey Trio

F 19TH

Black Rose (upstairs) John Corcoran
Bunratty's Fighting Cocks/ Digger/ Pale Nephews/ Popskull
Christophers Sande Sharlatt & Steven Cravis
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Green Briar Classic Five
Grog Gary Shane & The Fre Radicals
Harper's Ferry Taylor Made
Johnny D's Heavy Metal Horns
Linwood Grill B.J. MacGoon & Driving Sideways
Middle East Screeching Weasels/ Facts About Rats/ The Qeers/ Razorwire
Midway Cafe The Soul Twisters
Nightstage Bop Harvey/ Tokyo Vibrators/ What's Up
Rathskeller
Regattabar Ruth Brown & Friends
Sit'n'Bull Pub David Maxwell & Paul Oscher Band
Sticky Mike's Johnny Hoy & The Bluefish
T.T. The Bear's Hi Hats w/ Thumper/ Beat Soup/ Glove & Special Sauce
The Tam Raindogs & Crisis of Faith
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quartet
Union Street The Amazing Mudsharks
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Western Front Cool Runnings
Willow Jazz Club Matt Gordy
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 20TH

Black Rose (upstairs) Eugene Byrne
Bunratty's The Dambuilders/ Helium/ Small Facotry
Cambridge Brewing Company Killer Buicks
Cecil's Jane Miiller
Christophers Paul Rishell
Colonial Inn- Concord, MA Boogaloo Swamis
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Green Briar The Shivers
Grog Boston Rockabilly Music Conspiracy
Harper's Ferry Matt "Guitar" Murphy
Johnny D's Eddie Kirkland
Linwood Grill Monster Mike Welch Band
Middle East Hazel/ Medicine Ball/ Bug Juice
Midway Cafe The Burning Sensations
Rathskeller
Regattabar Ruth Brown & Friends
Sit'n'Bull Pub Band That Time Forgot
Sticky Mike's Honest Ed's Blues Band
The Tam T.H. & The Wreckage
Turner Fisheries Eula Lawrence Quartet
Union Street West End Blues Band
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno
Western Front Cool Runnings
Willow Jazz Club Matt Gordy
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 1ST

Bill's Bar Hot Like Fire
Bunratty's Stout
Christophers Dave Herlihy
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party w/Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero
Johnny D's Tokyo Vibrators
Linwood Grill Little Boy BLue
Middle East Iowa Beef Experience
Nightstage The Allen Lowe Orchestra
Regattabar Ruth Brown & Friends
Sit'n'Bull Pub Open Mike
T.T. The Bear's Landlords of Soul
The Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Al Wilson
The Tam Geoff Pango
Western Front Diversity
Willow Jazz Club Michael Shay

M 22ND

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Black Rose (downstairs) Kevin Farley
Green Briar Irish Session
Harper's Ferry Two Bones & A Pick
Johnny D's Gator Bait Dance Party
T.T. The Bear's Peter Payack & Judy katz-Levine
The Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Jack Senior & Marshall Wood
Willow Jazz Club Dave Ballou Quartet

T 3RD

Bill's Bar Twisted Roots/ Hartwall/ Angry Salad
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Bunratty's Lost Generation/ Felons on Trial/ Blind Date
Cecil's Deby Pasternak
Colonnade Tom Beckham Quartet
Johnny Ds Pierre Bensusan
Middle East Cam Lung/ Klugman/ The Streams
Regattabar Toni Lynn Washington Band
T.T. The Bear's Blind Melon
The Tam Tequila Mockingbird
Western Front Dave Buda Group
Willow Jazz Club Bob Nieski's Wolf Soup
Zachary's Michael Gentile

W 4TH

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Bunratty's Fleshflower/ Meltdown/ The Accidents
Colonnade Alex Ulanowsky Trio
Green Briar Karaoke
Johnny D's Eliot Murphy
Middle East Springhouse/ Exit
Midway Cafe Wally from the Rhythmen
Nightstage Chucklehead
Regattabar Razmataz
Sit'n'Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
Sticky Mike's Blues Band
T.T. The Bear's Planet ipw/ 518/ COme With Uncle & Committee Public Safety
The Tam Lolita
Western Front Joey O Set Latin Band
Willow Jazz Club The Fringe
Zachary's Bevan Manson Trio

t 5TH

Bill's Bar D.J. Stew & Perry
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Bunratty's Neon Religion/ SOma Crush/ Cleopatra Jones/ The Skydogs
Christopher's Ben Swift & Deby Pasternak
Colonnade Garry Dial & Dick Oatts Quartet
Green Briar 5-0
Grog The Search Party
Harper's Ferry Fortunate Son
Johnny D's Nashville Bluegrass Band
Linwood Grill Larry Baione Trio
Middle East Cul De Sac/ Big Hunk of Cheese
Midway Cafe ...and the Savages
Nightstage Swinging Steaks/ Harmony Rockets/ Machinery Hall
Rathskeller
Regattabar Dominique Eade Band
Silhouette Lounge Blues jam
Sit'n'Bull Pub Exit In
Sticky Mike's Professor Harp
T.T. The Bear's Cell w/ fudge & Bug Juice
The Tam Clayton Scobie
Turner Fisheries Debra Mann Quartet
Venus De Milo Groov-E
Western Front Rumbafrica
Willow Jazz Club Garrison Fewell
Zachary's James Saft Quartet

F 6TH

Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Black Rose (upstairs) Shannon
Bunratty's The Barnies/ Crumb/ Friction Wheel/ Red Tomato
Christopher's Siouxsee Dee
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Erica Wheeler
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Grog Wildest Dreams
Harper's Ferry Eight to the Bar
Johnny D's Boston Baked Blues
Linwood Grill Mike Duke & Soul Twisters
Middle East BENEFIT
Midway Cafe Little Frankie & The Premiers
Nightstage Debra Barsha
Rathskellar
Regattabar

F 7TH

Sit'n'Bull Pub Allen Estes Band
Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue
The Tam Universal Language
Turner Fisheries Debra Mann Quartet
Union Street Plan Be
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Western Front Satta
Willow Jazz Club Sandrina
Zachary's Mili Bermejo & Dan Greenspan
Black Rose (downstairs) Rich McDuff
Black Rose (upstairs) Shannon
Bunratty's Tesco Vee's hate Police/ Smack Melon/ High Steppin' Seafood/ Shavetail
Cambridge Brewing Company The Derrangers
Cecil's Bud Music
Christopher's Acousticity
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA. Eric Anderson
Colonnade Bert Seager Trio
Green Briar Standing Hamptons
Grog Madhouse
Harper's Ferry Young Neil & The Vipers
Johnny D's Jimmy Thackery
Linwood Grill Little Boy Blue
Middle East Satanics
Midway Cafe John Putnam's Used Blues
Nightstage Patty Barkas & M'Liss
Rathskellar
Regattabar Dirty Dozen Brass Band
Sit'n'Bull Pub Loose Connection
Sticky Mike's Motorvators
T.T. The Bear's Cobalt 60 w/ Legendary Lunch
The Tam Talking To Animals
Turner Fisheries Debra Mann Quartet
Union Street Walk That Walk
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno
Western Front Satta
Willow Jazz Club Sandrina
Zachary's Steve Hamilton Trio

S 28TH

Bill's Bar Motion/
Black Rose (downstairs) John Corcoran
Bunratty's The Lilacs
Christopher's The Kathy Phillips Showcase
Green Briar D.J. Kenny
Grog Blues Party w/ Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero
Johnny D's Salsa Orchestra Tropical
Linwood Grill The Stray Horns
Middle East New Radiant Storm Kings/ Queer/ Francis Gumm
T.T. The Bear's Landlords of Soul
The Blue Room Mike Turk Trio s/ Al Wilson
The Tam Burning Sensations
Western Front Diversity
Willow Jazz Club Jeff Covell Trio

m 29TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Black Rose (downstairs) Kevin Farley
Green Briar Irish Session
Harper's Ferry BLues Deluxe
Johnny D's Gator Bait Dance Party
T.T. The Bear's The Lowell Poets
The Blue Room Mike Turk Trio w/ Jack Senior & Marshall Wood
Willow Jazz Club Four Real

t 30TH

Bill's Bar Local Bands
Black Rose (downstairs) Eugene Byrne
Bunratty's Canine Bastards/ Bebe Gallini/ Greed Seed
Cecil's Dennis Coughlin
Colonnade Eric Zinman Trio
Johnny D's Martin Sexton
Regatabar Frank Carlberg Trio
The Tam Tornado Room
Willow Jazz Club Joe Muholland
Zachary's Steve Hamilton Trio

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — MARCH 17 - 30, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
The first of 1993's three squares between Saturn in Aquarius and Pluto in Scorpio is exact on the 19th, but these guys have been messing with our structure and security for a while — ask anyone who was in the World Trade Center the day Pluto, lord of the underworld, terrorism and plagues, turned retrograde. What's even more interesting is that this "nasty" square very closely aspects Clinton's and Tipper's 26 Leo Sun, Hillary's Part of Fortune, Al Gore's Venus-Chiron "heal the earth" polarity, the GOP's Saturn (shall they overcome?) and the USA moon at 26 Aquarius. Spring and the zodiacal new year arrives when the sun enters Aries Saturday morning, the 20th, at 9:41. The Vernal Equinox, the sacred turning point when night and day, dark and light, are equal, is a perfect time to stay up for sunrise, to spill your guts out and discover hidden spiritual resources no one knew you had. Mercury changes direction, from retrograde to direct, on Monday at 8:44 a.m. Since we felt the effects of Mercury going retrograde so much sooner than it actually happened, this change should hit us much earlier than Monday and heavier than usual. Drive defensively. The Aries new moon, exact Tuesday at 2:14 a.m. marks the monthly union of lunar and solar energy and the real beginning of the rambunctious Aries cycle. Watch the heat and your temper rising — Venus and Mars, femmes and dudes, square off Thursday.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
New year, new moon, new Aries energy to revitalize the etheric body and infuse the physical with red hot desire. Make an early birthday wish at the new moon so you'll be totally focused on your goal and well on your way to achieving it when your day arrives. Love, friendship and the cost of maintaining them can become big deals. Don't push credit limits any further; they're not the hidden resources waiting to be uncovered; check out a neighbor's offer instead.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Stern Saturn in your midheaven testing Pluto in your marriage house may mean that your sweetie is being offered a more responsible position or becoming a bigger burden. Saturn bestows both respect and dreary respectability. As Pisces fades away, you could turn into a weekend recluse, infected by spring fever and a deep need to lay down and replenish psychic energy. Don't fall for someone's authority or guilt trip simply because it's too much effort to fight back. Next week you roar back, a raging Bull.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
New moon magic, a ceremony of sorts, should be made if you're at all concerned about a gig, your boss or a parent. Not that bad things will happen if you forget, but so much else is going on while your Mercury ruler is changing direction that unless you focus on something outside yourself, you'll wind up in a dither, tossed by planetary energies no one can comprehend right now, much less predict. A fight with a friend over money or a prized possession is looming. An unavoidable test of values or loyalty?

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Your finest moments come during the Aries new moon when good intentions can be directed to a specific end, not blown on amorphous generalities. Since Aries rules your midheaven, your place in the world, visualize yourself making a bold career move or a journey to fulfill a life-long goal. Who knows what else will contrive to get you there: the woman, artist or art director who provokes a confrontation and your rage next Thursday, the truth-seeker whose passion ignites your own hot times ahead.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Your dissatisfaction with a working relationship, a heavier sense of responsibility toward your partner or your frustration with the establishment can become too much to bear with customary leaning grace. Whatever occurs won't be the first explosive situation of 1993, but it might shake you up enough to do something about it. July Leos are not as bothered as those born in mid-August, but all of you get to explore new possibilities during Aries, new territory too. And everybody pays handsomely for the privilege. Would you have it any other way?

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Mercury turning direct can mess up travel plans or play weird games with the car, same as when it's turning retrograde. It'll help to have another sign (not Gemini!) drive over the weekend. Try to concentrate on the details of any deal or purchase which may safely be signed , sealed or delivered starting Monday, although it can't hurt to have a few days grace to absorb the energies of the ambitious Aries new moon. Marriage, partnerships, your agent and attorney will clamor for your attention which seems to be drifting as we speak.....

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
A window in the workaday world opens enough for you to streamline your technique, cut through red tape and collect more money. Kids can cost big bucks, so might your fun. Anxiety, frustration, maybe a broken bone may result from difficult planetary aspects, but you won't be resigned to sigh and suffer in silence. When fiery Mars squares your Venus ruler midweek, you're angry enough to balk or walk. The new moon also sharpens your wits when you're with co-workers and health professionals; you won't take their crap.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
Additional pressure from the landlord, parents or folks you live with. Home can feel more like home plate, so near and yet so far. What you need is a hit, a little success in the classroom, on stage or in bed, which might happen any time you realize Spring has sprung, it's another season and there's very good reason to make something happen. The Aries new moon activates your house of pleasure, sports and creativity, the fun you have and the risks you'll take so you can score.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
Home is where the bucks are and where they're supposed to be spent. As the sun supports your erratic money situation, the thought of receiving a sudden windfall from the family won't seem so misguided, and no one has to die. Maybe dad sends you the Steinway, maybe Mom hands you an Apple. You'll have an abundance of enthusiasm for whatever is offered, even if it doesn't make it through the door for a while. Remember that the days before Mercury's change of direction are often more troublesome than the day (the 22nd) itself. The energy in the neighborhood can be oppressive: avoid dark alleys and dumpsters.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Springing into action, despite warning signs from a friend and colleague? You may have had it up to here with all authority, even your own opinion and expertise, but this is not the time to mess with forces that are firmly entrenched, particularly those that control the construction industry. Reforms come soon enough, but right now compliance is the safer route. Mercury's change of direction in our money house makes buying and selling stuff tricky, at least until the middle of next week. Double-check prices and credit card receipts.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
The pressure to pop your pop or reveal a dastardly secret about your boss peaks this week. If need be, split for another location and circumvent phone calls while Mercury is changing direction. You could inadvertently slip up and force a confrontation that is not advantageous at the present time; later in the year, maybe. The new moon brings new money or an object you suddenly crave. As for lovers, they can look remarkably like your siblings friends. Ah spring, when everything seems possible once again.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
Is it art or artifice, a sale or a sellout? While Mercury changes direction in your sign, both sides of every issue can look equally attractive and justifiably doable. More Piscean duality until the Aries new moon kicks in and you (and the rest of us too) begin to aim at something worthwhile instead of scattering shots willy-nilly. Or at Hilly-Billy. Politics plays a part in the spring scenario, but first pass through wardrobe and makeup to refine your outward appearance. A nip here, a tuck there?

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ALLSTON Roomate wanted: small room, clean bright apt. Close to Harvard & BU/call Jen or Lee / 423-0577 / $375/MO i.e. All util. but phone

BEACON HILL Female grad student seeks female roomate for 2 bedroom apt. nonsmoking, $350 mo. heat water included Call Jill at 720-0511

BRIGHTON Seeking a female, non-smoker, kind, responsible. Great apartment area, washer, no pets. $400 includes everything 787-4237 or 380-4221

BRIGHTON Spac. room in large house. All hardwood floors, parking util. w/d included Artists/teachers preferred Semi-Coop. Call Nathan Lv. msg. 787-8797

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BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. In a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call 732-7607 daytime.

CAMBRIDGE Central Square female seeks female to share apt. Conv. location, Drug/smoke free $325 avl. now 354-3792

CAMBRIDGE F, houseslttter, roommate wanted. 20's, easy going skier/aerobics person to care for contemporary house, pool w/ male, 36,skier , freq. traveler to Ca. 1(310)649-0250.

CAMBRIDGE North Cambridge. Free rent in exchange for light housekeeping and part time babysiting for 6 year old girl. 3 bedroom apt. 491-5809

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JAMAICA PLAIN M/F wanted to share 2 bedroom aprtment in safe neighborhood. Vegetarian Democrat preferred: Large bedrooms, free parking convenient to T and bus. $275+ 524-5293

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NEWTON 40 Yr. old health care professional seeks to share quiet home in quiet neighborhood conducive to studying. Must be convenient to Cambridge and in the $400 range each. On or before Sept. 1 Call 547-6058

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NEWTON CENTRE Near T. Nice room. $335/month plus. John or Linda, 965-0930 or 332-4800

NEWTONVILLE Female 25+ wanted for 2 bedroom. Yard, parking, storage, close to shopping $415+ Util. 244-4573

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WATERTOWN Cambridge Line. Female for 2 bedroom for sunny 1st. floor house. Nonsmoker, no pets , near T, washer, parking, sunny back porch. Avl. 8/1 $375+ util. 926-2166

WATERTOWN Friendly, responsible independent female seeks female 27+ to share 2 BR Apartment in safe neighborhood. AC, DW,W/W, free parking, laundrey on 2 T Lines, 5 min. from Harvard Square. No smoking or Pets please. $370/month includes heat and hot water 926-1554

WATERTOWN Friendly, responsible, non-smoking man 30+ with dog seeking M/F to share 2 bedroom apartment in safe neighborhood. All utils. incl. except phone. Free on/off street parking. Near T b/n Harvard Sq. & Watertown. $375 mo. 923-2863

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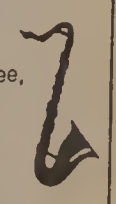
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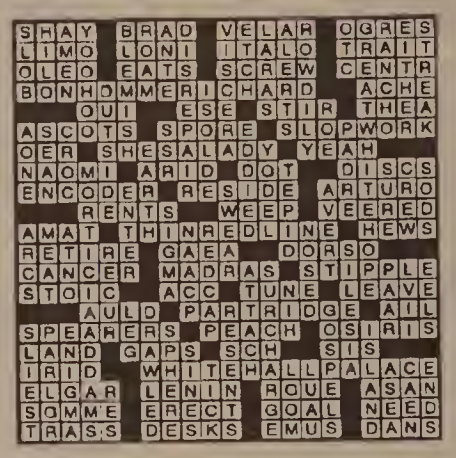
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IMPROPER IMPERSONALS

Feel the urge to unleash your frustrations or vent your hostilities on an unsuspecting friend or enemy? Look no further than the Improper Impersonals, a forum designed for pranksters, irate neighbors, relatives, maniacs or any would-be target of your acid tongue. Best of all they're FREE! Send your Impersonals to us at Improper Impersonals, The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146. Or fax it to us at 232-4305.

Jen,
To my Bud Lite buddy, from everything we've been through . . . Southie, Nantasket and vodka, Hyde Park, Relationships and friends, scars, drinking games, Alexis the police, Danielles, Dorchester, My party, Jobs, me'z, to things that come ahead . . . Canada, Summa '93 Beach days
Good luck with Jamie, me and whoever we'll be with this week.
Best friends,
Cheryl

Tess,
Of course you should have a right to be yourself, to wear what you'd like and act as you'd like; but insecurity demands stereotypes. You'll have to express yourself in the closet because the risks are too high.
Male part of mer

My Dearest Eve,
You incorrigible wretch! Die! Die! like the useless schizoid freak you are! Hmm, let's see — huge debts, bad credit, no degree, brain damage . . . I've got nothing! 15 months with you was a slow descent into mental degradation. I only pray that I get run over by a truck tomorrow. You suck!!!
Love forever,
Cujo
P.S. Where the hell are my CDs, you villainous thief?

Raed,
Promises, promises, promises!!
All you can do is fill our lives with promises, remember, as you go through life, make this your goal: Watch the donut — not the hole!
Your London connection's up, up and away

To Jack and Susan,
Do you remember almost 6 months ago, you both tried to give me your phone number from your car in Watertown? Well, I haven't forgotten (the both of you) just yet. Please reply, I'm going a little out of my mind.
Mike the Spike

Alexis,
Keep those lips away from allthose strangers. and don't forget that kissing Dumbo may have cursed you for life.
Chow

Hehhhhvah,
Who will tie mry shroes faw me aftrah yahhw so fawr awray?
Bawwbree

Nancy,
Sorry to hear about your arrest. I didn't even know you took vitaminsi You sure don't look healthy.
Anonymous

Fine Fuzzy Friend
Hey what's the idea of goin travellin' without me? You signed the contract!-
Your Hypertourist Pal

Bonehead
What can I say? It's been really great working with you. It will be even better working without you.thanks to the ten percent. Right? Best of luck, Mr. Smartguy.

Billy (Dr. Bontempi),
If you haven't noticed, I floss for you everyday. When I sit on your dentist's couch, I wish it was a four post bed floating through a rainbow and all that's on the bed is me, you, my lust and your hot bod. If you were made of sugar, I'd eat you up (starting you know where) just to have you look at my cavities. Make your move mister tonsil tickler.
Your little red hurricane,
M

Carol,
Thanks for the blisters. Maybe you need to hover over a bidet for a few weeks and clear up your personal problems.
Rick

Grunge,
What's your boss going to say when she finds out that you're doing her old man? Advice? O.K., Reem, Reem, Reem . . .and then leave.
Kate

Sweetheart,
I loved last weekend. You weren't there. I love Vermont. You don't know how to find it. I love your hair. It gives me a laugh. I love your walk. It's fun to watch your fat jiggle. I love the smell of spring flowers. They clear my nostrils of your putrid reek. Thanks for knowing me — you've made me appreciate the finer things in life.
Lovey

Randy,
If I had a pony, I'd ride it by your office with a razor in my hand and shave off your cheeseball beard. It looks like a graffiti artist went wild with a can of black spraypaint and glued some random pubes on your mug.
Your friends.
P.S. Close your blinds — nobody enjoys seeing your semi-nude torso lounging in bed.

JN,
You know where to look. Thanks for persevering last Thursday night. The wait was worth it although "G" should be "O."
HS

Jen L.
You may be lounging in the sun while I am trapped in the cold, but rest assured that I will have the last laugh. There's a box full of disks on their way to you at school. Their contents are guaranteed to drive your G.P.A. into the ground.

Ernest,
I hate you with each and every one of my years.
Nic.

Mr. Kelly,
There's nothing to be jealous about. Not only is your paper semi-iteresting to read (sort of), but my parrot loves to poop on your product. It comes in handy.
Your friend, Toby

Mo & Dave-
I have a project!!!
Pudge

To the almighty butt-sniffin' Trev-dog-
Welcome home, Dorothy. Kansas hasn't been the same without you. Everyone is up in arms over Bert & Ernie getting tossed in the clink. Too bad you missed it. Big plans for this week. When you do have to click your heels and say "There's no place like Mississippi," it will have been a week well spent. Avoid people down there who encourage you to 'squeal like a pig'. They're only after one thing. Get some shoes while you're here and impress friends and family when you return to the war-ravaged South. See you in hell....

Bobby-
Congratulations buddy. No more point-system at school. I am proud of you. You are one of the best basketball players I have ever seen. Keep playing, little man.
Your Big Brother

Kelly
Are you serious? Four hundred dollars is nothing compared to the money you have and make on a daily basis. I honestly believe that what comes around-goes around
SEE YOU THEN
Steven

J.P.
Okay you twisted lady. How's this? Get the book back on track or I will tie you on the railroad tracks. If you're nice perhaps I'll tie you to the ones behind the Hospital for easy access.
DVEIC3

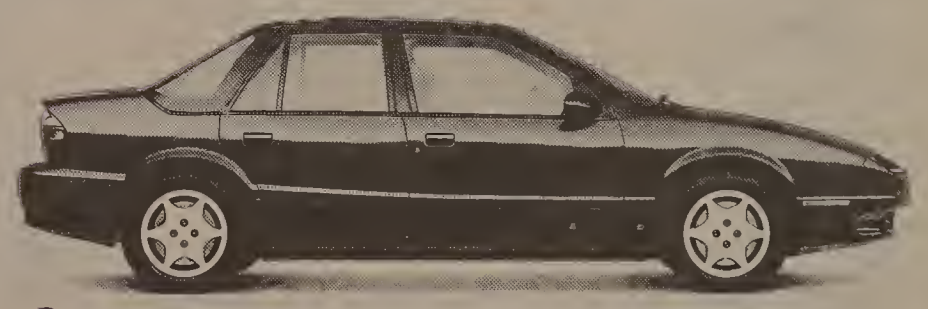
Letitia G.
Did anyone ever tell you that you are stark raving mad? They have? Oh your husband does regularly? I rest my case.

Alli my Dear,
I have a confession to make. While you were away I ate your poodie. But don't worry. I replaced him with an exact duplicate. By the way he was delicious.

Deb
All I ask for is a big bed, three days without a phone, aplace that delivers, and you in that corona shirt.
Mikey

Mark
Of couse D. can do more work for you-she still sleeps at night. We've already had to reduce our sex life to coma status. Besides, ienjoy watching my girlfriend fall asleep while she's eating
D's boyfriend

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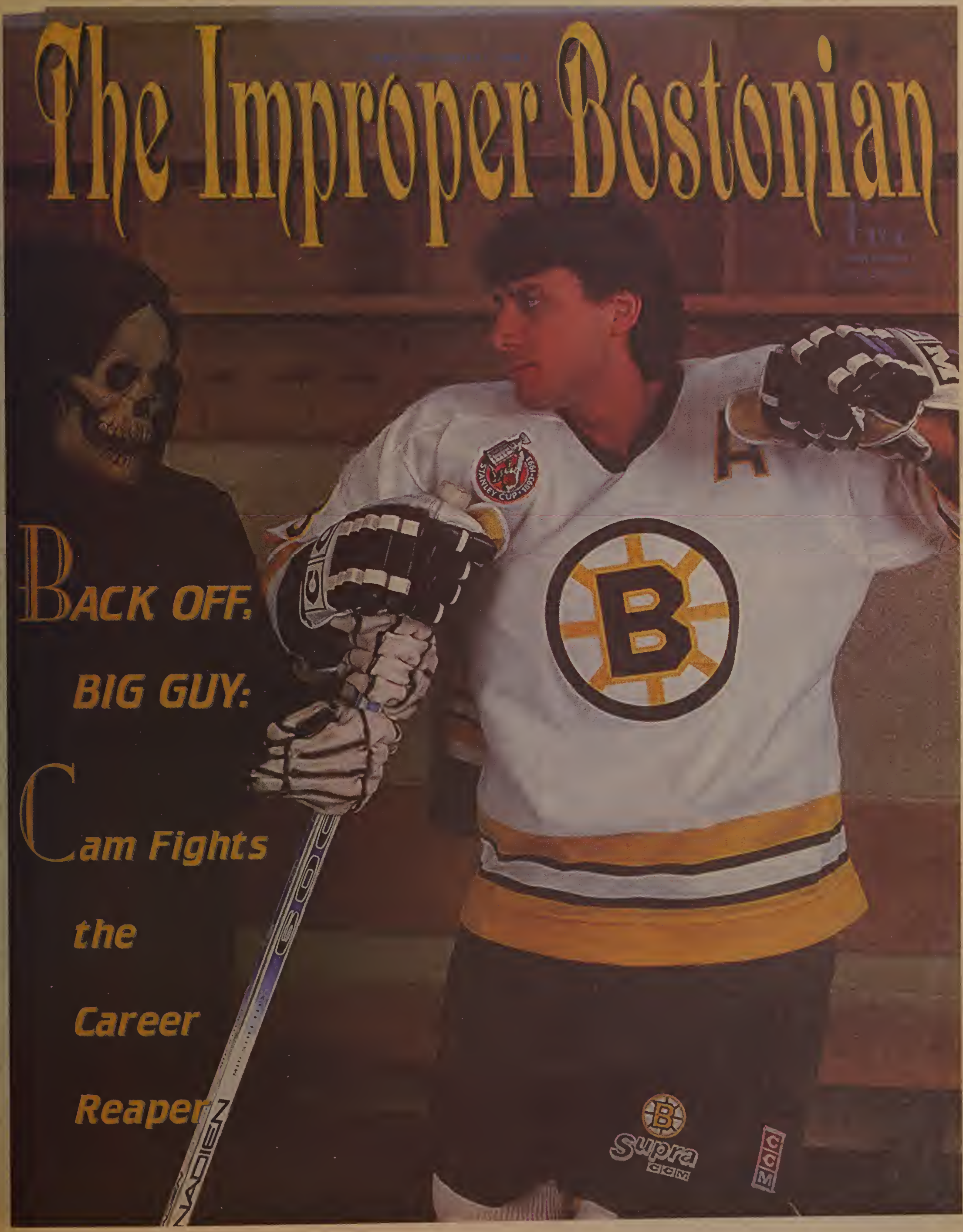
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The Improper Bostonian

BACK OFF, BIG GUY:

Cam Fights the Career Reaper



Mopsy Strange Kennedy

By Bread Alone, Thinly

Why is it that diets seem so much more magic and meaningful if they come from Europe? Do they have an allure paralleling that of actual fattening European food? This method (and it's not only useful for dieting) consists simply of eating a kind of bread called Malsovit and, with reference both to the Bible and to correctional institutions, focusing on it, while drinking lots and lots of water. The usual other healthy foods can supplement the Malsovit (chicken, citrus fruits, raw or steamed vegetables etc.) but it's those seven slices that are the essential thing. The bread is low in fat and high in dietary fiber, it provides complex carboydrates, complete protein, oat bran, B-vitamins, iron and potassium. On the other hand, it contains no cholesterol or sugar, and of course no preservatives. Malsovit has a very dense, chewy, and one might even swear molasses-y quality, though that is of course the very last thing it would have in it. There is no denying that a slice of Malsovit, slowly chewed, delivers the sensation that there's a lot of something going on in the tum; truly, it is filling. And with the glass of water you'll be having before, and after, the bread – going up to a minimum of eight glasses of water per day – the whole experience is busy-bee-ish, less wan and witholding than some diets. The brochure claims that the stricter, bread-only form of the diet will rid you of two to six pounds per week. A modified version of this diet asks you to eat a slice of Malsovit – with the usual river of water running around it – 30 minutes before a meal, assuring that you will arrive already somewhat pre-satisifed. At around $3.50 it's more expensive than most bread, but far more productive (or rather, reductive).



Malsovit, Diet Bread
Daniel's Bakery
395 Washington Street, Brighton
254-7718

The Bureau That Ate Cambridge

The 'organic' bit is a wry nod to the earthy realness of this place, which exudes a thrift shop atmosphere, selling beds and bureaus instead of trailing skirts and bandanna tops. Before you take a more conventional shopping trip for wooden furniture, come here and stroll around and around the neat rows of tables, dressers, drop-leaf tables, wardrobes, acres of chairs, bureaus. china closets, sideboards, entire dining-room sets, cedar chests, standing lamps that look like they're out of old movies, mirrors, Duncan Phyfe tables with splayed legs, and sometimes gorgeously kitschy art (maidens heroically stretching forth next to waterfalls in a late 19th century MTV surrealism for instance) and old stitched samplers. The era is pre-1950, and depending on your age, you may have seen these sturdy pieces in your grandmother's house, doing time between eras of chic in an attic, or at a cottage by the lake. Maybe it's the ornate old foot-pedal organ for sale here, but many of the pieces – while only pretending to solid utilitarian values – have interesting finishes, aggressive bulges, a comic ornateness. And some (especially the tables with interesting fluted legs and/or claw-foot features, or decorative spoon-carved ornaments) are downright beautiful, and would cost a lot more somewhere else. The distinctive hippie yesteryear atmosphere, the unassuming way that a real find can be really found, and the low prices are your three reasons to come here. But only Saturdays from 10-5, September through June.



The Organic Furniture Cellar
Pearl and Putnam Avenues
Cambridge

Relaxed Semi-Date, For and at Eight

Imagine a dinner party with an apparently invisible hostess, a gathering in which this ectoplasmic entertainer has been the behind-the-scenes force. Carol Bednarz brings together people – four women and four men – whom she hopes (indeed she knows because she has arranged it this way) will have some important things in common, and sends them off to a restaurant together. The matches she may be very loosely making pertain to the mesh and weave of the whole group – a good dinner party in which easygoing connections may be made – that's one goal. Naturally, if two people hit it off – or, as has happened, if all the men end up asking out one or all of the women that's in the scheme too. Carol Bednarz, who says 'I never dated well,' wanted to make it easier for other people, and so has been arranging these Friday dinners (held at



interesting, off-the-beaten-track, comfortable, talkable restaurants) for seven years now. The words she uses most - after "college-educated" and "professional" - to describe the people she screens and combines is "nice, pleasant personalities." Among the serendipitous possibilities – given the cats' cradle of combinations afforded by the format – are that women can make friends with other women, men with men, and Platonic friendships can develop too. One non-romantic couple who met at Table For Eight traveled around the world together. Business deals have been struck; people have found lawyers, accountants, etc. And okay, okay, yes people have also fallen in love and gotten married after (way after) dinner. Each person goes Dutch; the fee for the service is $45 for one week. Though, when another bundle that pulls the simpatico together (same interests; same decade) comes along, one can dine again, and again.

Table For Eight
983-0723

Mopsy Strance Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

The Improper Survey

Complete and win a dinner for two at the Library Grill in the Hampshire House and a Limousine for the evening.

Dear Improper Bostonian readers,

Could we ask a personal favor of you? The following is a survey to determine who you are and how The Improper Bostonian can better serve your needs.

Please carefully complete the following questions. They'll only take a few minutes of your time, and who knows, you might learn something new about yourself.

To make worth your while, we'll be holding a drawing from the surveys we receive. The winner will be awarded a dinner for two at the Library Grill in the Hampshire House and a limousine for the evening.

1. What is your gender?
❑ Male ❑ Female

2. What is your marital status?
❑ Single ❑ Married / Living Together

3. What year were you born? (Please write)_____

4. What is the highest level of education that you've completed?
❑ Grade 8 or less ❑ 1-3 years college
❑ Grades 9-11 ❑ College grad
❑ High school grad ❑ Attended Grad School

5. Which of the following best describes your occupation?
❑ Professional ❑ Homemaker
❑ Manager in a business ❑ Student
❑ Salesperson ❑ Military
❑ Factory worker/ driver ❑ Retired
❑ Clerical/ Secretarial ❑ Unemployed
❑ Service worker

6. What is the your total annual income?
❑ Less than $15,000 ❑ $40,000-$49,999
❑ $15,000-$19,999 ❑ $50,000-$59,999
❑ $20,000-$24,999 ❑ $60,000-$69,999
❑ $25,000-$29,999 ❑ $70,000-$79,999
❑ $30,000-$39,999 ❑ $80,000 and over

7. What is your ZIP code? _____

8. How many of the last 34 issues of *The Improper Bostonian* have you read or looked through? _____

9. How many of the last 34 issues do you still have? _____

10. How many people, including yourself, usually read your copy of *The Improper Bostonian*?_____

11. On average how much time do you spend looking through or reading each issue of The Improper Bostonian? (Write in hours/minutes.)_____

12. Approximately how many times each week do you refer back to each issue of *The Improper Bostonian?* _____

13. How do you usually get your copy of *The Improper Bostonian ?*
❑ Doorstep Delivery ❑ News stand
❑ Restaurant ❑ Subscription
❑ Bar / club ❑ Store
❑ University ❑ Health club
❑ Hotel ❑ Other _____

14. Which is your primary source of leisure info?
❑ Improper Bostonian ❑ Boston Magazine
❑ Boston Globe ❑ Tab Newspaper
❑ Boston Herald ❑ Boston Phoenix

15. Do you find the information in *The Improper Bostonian* more or less credible than other newspapers?
❑ More ❑ Less ❑ About the Same

16. In the last month, have you:
Visited or Contacted an *Improper Bostonian* Advertiser?
❑ Yes ❑ No
Responded to an *Improper Bostonian* Classified ad?
❑ Yes ❑ No

17. In addition to the *Improper Bostonian*, please check all of the following publications that you read regularly.
❑ Boston Globe ❑ Boston Herald
❑ Boston Phoenix ❑ USA Today
❑ New York Times ❑ Tab
❑ Wall St. Journal ❑ Boston Magazine
❑ The New Yorker ❑ Other _____

18. How many times per week do you go out to:
Restaurants_____Go Shopping_____
Bars / Nightclubs_____A Museum_____
The movies_____A Comedy Club_____
The theatre_____

19. How many nights per week do spend outside your home?_____

20. How many days per week do you consume alcoholic beverages?_____

21. In the past *month*, approximately how many times did you or other members of your household entertain in your own home?
❑ None ❑ Once or Twice
❑ 3-4 Times ❑ 5 or more

22. In the past *week*, which of the following beverages did you or members of your household purchase?
❑ Domestic Beer ❑ Domestic wine ❑ Liquor
❑ Premium / Imported Beer ❑ Imported wine ❑ Bottled water

23. In the past week, how much time did you personally spend watching TV? (Please indicate in hours) _____

24. Indicate your three favorite radio stations?
1._____2._____3._____

25. Which of the following credit cards do you have? (Please check all that apply)
❑ American Express ❑ Visa
❑ Master Card ❑ Discover

26. What type of computer do you use?
❑ Macintosh ❑ PC ❑ Don't use a computer

27. What sort of computer(s) do you own?
❑ Desktop ❑ Notebook

28. Do you intend to purchase a notebook computer within the next six months?
❑ Yes ❑ No

29. Where do you purchase your music?
❑ Tower Records ❑ HMV
❑ Newbury Comics ❑ The Harvard Coop
❑ Lechmere ❑ Strawberries

30. In the past three months, how many of each of the following did you or other members of your household purchase?
Books _____Records / CDs_____

31. In the past month, how many videotapes of any kind have you rented? _____

32 Do you currently use an ATM card? ❑ Yes ❑ No

33. From which bank is it issued?
❑ Fleet ❑ Bay Banks
❑ Bank of Boston ❑ Shawmut ❑ Other_____

34. Which of the following best describes your principal residence?
❑ Single-Family house
❑ Apartment / duplex / triplex
❑ Condominium ❑ Other _____

35. Do you own or rent your principal residence?
❑ Own ❑ Rent

36. Are you planning to buy a car in the next sis months?
❑ Yes ❑ No

37. What kind of health coverage do you have?
❑ HMO ❑ Major Medical ❑ No Coverage

38. Have you or members of your household ever employed the services of a chiropractor?
❑ Yes ❑ No

39. Have you or members of your household ever had elective or cosmetic surgery?
❑ Yes ❑ No

40. Are you considering any cosmetic dental work?
❑ Yes ❑ No

41 Do you wear contact lenses or glasses?
❑ Yes ❑ No

42. In the summer do you vacation in:
❑ Newport ❑ Cape Cod
❑ The Vineyard / Nantucket ❑ NH, ME or VT

43. Using any adjectives, how would you describe *The Improper Bostonian?*_____

_____

Thank you for participating in this important survey.

-The Publisher

To be eligible for the drawing, please fill in the following: (all information contained herein will be strictly confidential)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Daytime phone _____

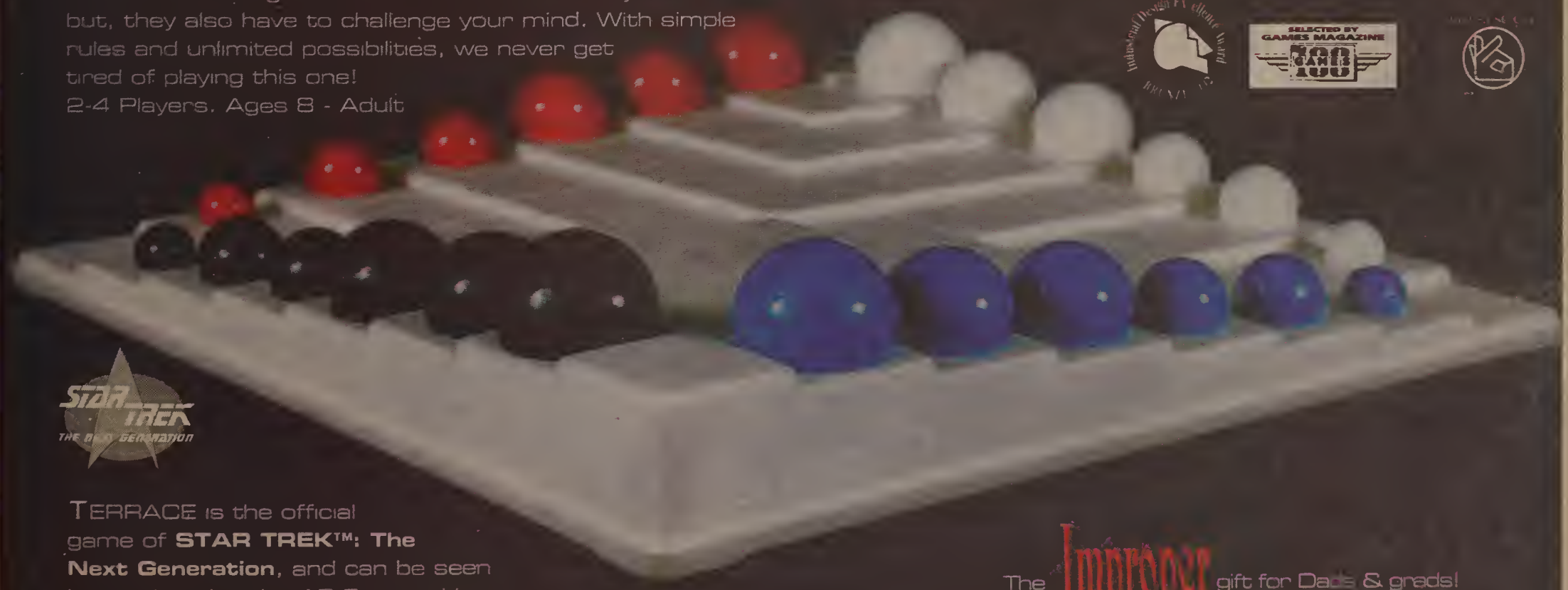
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17 Station St., Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146-7303

Or Fax your survey to:
617-232-4305

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March 31–April 13, 1993

6 All-Out Work Out



Summer's coming, bringing with it shorts and beaches, Newport and swimsuits. Feeling unworthy of that bikini? Afraid to even look at those tank tops? Shape up (or ship out, to somewhere like Alaska, where it never truly gets warm)! Work that body, pump up the jam, shake it 'til it falls off. It's now or never. How to lose that poundage? What health clubs to try? The latest in the world of workouts? Read onward. **By Chad Sanborn**

10 Fighting The Good Fight



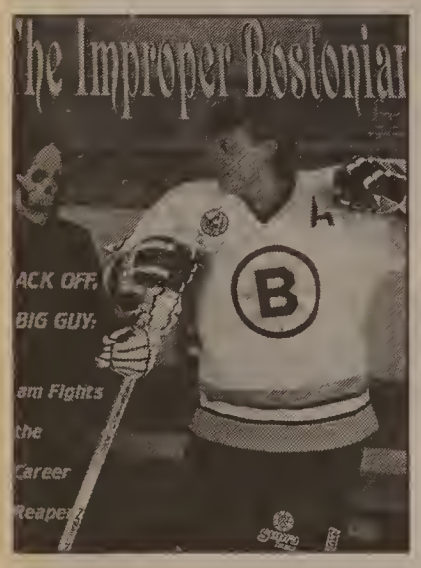
He's battled fame. He's battled Ulf Samuelson. But now, all those fights seems small potatoes as Bruin Cam Neely fights a career-threatening knee injury. He's back on the ice...but for how long? An real-life Improper interview with one of Boston's favorite sports heroes.

By Susanne E. Schantz

16 Whose Serve Is It?



"Are You Being Served" has been entertaining the English on BBC for more than 20 years, and Mollie Sugden has been there through it all. Now, the Brits are sharing their show with PBS. Tune in to learn more about this veddy, veddy British woman (who changes her hair color as often as we change undies), and the slap-stick television shop she works in. **By John Hall**



On The Cover

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Improperly Yours



Mim Michelove

It's scary how quickly you become used to meeting "celebrities:" local heroes, national stars. It's not that you're necessarily blasé about it. After all, this isn't Hollywood. And I'm not going to kid you; sometimes, it's fun. Sometimes, intimidating. Seldom what you expect and, on average, somehow disappointing.

Because you want them to be special, the way the characters they play are. You don't want them to act like everyone else, because they're *not*. You expect them to be bigger, better, larger than life. It's easy to forget that they're just people, with good days and bad days, good sides and bad sides.

But occasionally, you encounter someone who is a pro; they knows how to work the media without "working" them; able to be oblige without being insincere or arrogant. Cam Neely is a natural pro, which made observing him a pleasure. First, backstage at a charity event, watching him relax, checking out the action with brews and Bruin buddies. Next, at the interview; he's ready for the questions, but quiet, polite.

Finally, at the cover photo shoot: accommodating as always, but after he had his fighting armor on, tensing, as if waiting for the high sticking that usually follows. That punch you see about to happen on our cover actually, for one second, almost did. His uniform, his injury, the mood, who knows? But for one moment, Cam Neely was acting, and acting with real pent-up sound and fury. I know the guy in the Grim Reaper costume was sweating.

Improperly yours,

Susanne E. Schantz

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

AROUND TOWN



Remember all the way back to 1988? Things sure were different then. Reagan was president, and, more importantly, there was no **Roxy nightclub**. Well, now we have a Democrat in the White House, and the Roxy is gearing up for its **5th Anniversary celebration.** After a brief stint as pure-country Silverado, Boston's glam club is back, with a bang. The festival starts on Thursday, April 1 from 6 to 11 p.m., with a benefit for the Friends of Boston's Long Island Shelter; tickets are $35 in advance, $40 at the door.

On April 2 at 7 p.m., the party continues with a live performance by Grammy-winning bluesman Buddy Guy, and beginning April 3, every Saturday will feature the White Heat Swing Orchestra and the Roxy Dancers. Fear not, country lovers – the Roxy will also have country music every Thursday night beginning April 8. And to cap off their new line up, Friday nights, beginning April 2, will be Techno night at the Roxy. Call 227-ROXY for tickets and information.

They're not only talking baseball, they're photographing it. That's right, sports fans, the snow's melting (finally) and the grass is greening, and that can mean only one thing: the boys of summer are coming. What better way to get prepared for a season of America's pastime then attend an some exhibitions of baseball photography? On April 2, from 5-7, the Photographic Resource Center will host an opening reception for **John Weiss' exhibit, "The Face of Baseball."** This show will run until June 30, when it leaves for Cooperstown. Also opening on April 2 at the Photographic Resource Center will be **Striking Images**, a group show which will include collections of photographs, baseball cards, and memorabilia, and also the Boston unveiling of Norman Rockwell's *The Dugout*. Call the PRC at 353-0700 for information.



Five short nights are the only opportunity you will get to see "Catskills on Broadway," the fun-loving comedy which won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Broadway Comedy. This show, which is taking over the Colonial Theatre (106 Street) for a limited engagement, focuses on the humor of the Catskills Mountains region. Shows run Tuesday, April 13 through Sunday, April 18. Performances at 7 p.m. Tuesday, 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 2 p.m. Thursday and Saturday, and Sunday at 3 p.m. Tickets are $32.50-$47.50. Call 931-2787 for tickets and information.



As a young man during the Depression era, Henry Brant took to composing works that he describes as having "comic ingredients, echoes of the circus, the dance hall and of street music, more or less glossed-over horseplay." Still active at eighty, Brant will join Richard Pittman and the Boston Musica Viva, playing piano, percussion, tin fife and harmonica in three of his picaresque musical escapades, including the *Marx Brothers*, written in 1938. Also on the program are two of his recent works that exploit spatial relationships among instruments. **Henry Brant: Music From the Great Depression to the Great Recession** can be heard at the Longy School's Pickman Hall in Cambridge on Friday, April 2. The concert begins at 8 p.m. but advanced ticket-holders are invited to a 7 p.m. screening of Henry Brant's film styled after the Marx Brothers. Call 353-0556 for tickets and information.



"Auction:" from the Latin "auc" meaning to hock, sell, transact, and "tion," meaning...well, that's not important right now. What is important is that on April 2 at 7:30 **The Art Institute of Boston** will sponsor a **live auction** of over 100 works by noted artists. The funds raised for this event, which will take place at Grogan & Co. and will be emceed by WBZ-TV's Uma Pemmaraju will be used to establish "Multicultural Access," a scholarship fund to improve arts educational access for disadvantaged and minority students. Along with works by artist such as Annie Leibowitz, Frank Gehry, Peter Falk (that's right, Columbo), and a Polaroid replica of Renoir's "Chrysanthemums" the night will feature food from a roster of Boston's top chefs. Auction catalogues and tickets are $20 per person. For tickets and information call 262-1223.

By Chad L. Sanborn

As you age, time speeds forward almost as rapidly as your maturing gut expands. And, like gravity's pull on sagging buttocks, nothing can halt time's march, nor defend against its damaging effects on your physical person. Nothing, of course, except fighting it like hell.

Remember about two months ago? The new year was dawning (yes, it's been two months already). You were teetering around that party, spilling cheap champagne on someone's carpet and shooting off your mouth about how '93 was going to be the year you got back in shape. "Really," you insist, "I'm planning on losing these love handles, doing the Marky-Mark washboard-stomach thing. You know."

Assuming you even made the effort to keep such a noble (though half-hearted) promise to yourself chances are you've since exhibited a serious lack of commitment. Psychiatrists call it suppression. Workout gurus call it laziness. Fundamentalist Christians call it backsliding. No matter what you call it, sport, the fact is: you quit.

As March gets underway, the time is right for beginning again or, if you never even attempted to put your money where your mouth resides, simply beginning. Sure, initiating a workout regime a few months into the new year lacks symmetry. Yes, it would be more symbolic to host a mental ground-breaking on January 1 to celebrate the reconstruction of your physical and psychological existence, thus rendering the first day of the year as the first day of the rest of your life (if you do join a health club, be prepared for such sanguine bromides). But that time has passed and the first day of 1994 is too far away. Your gut will only become chubbier by then. There is no better time than the present. Just do it. No pain, no...you get the idea.

When a car needs repair, you call on a mechanic. When a basement floods, you call Roto Rooter. When you feel the need to throw a party, get stinking drunk and ride in go-carts for charity, you join the Shriners. And when you want to get in shape, you join a health club.

Like tofu wieners, all health clubs seem to offer the flavor of bland similarity. Catering mostly to health-concerned professionals, the clubs' indistinct taste is rooted in a commonplace recipe: a pinch of free weights, a dash of machine weights, a lot of mirrors and the stench of locker room camaraderie. For instance, almost every club boasts several aerobics programs. Transcending the traditional concept of aerobic classes, these programs include such trendy mutations as step aerobics, low-impact, low/high impact combination, Cardio Funk and a mind-numbing litany of additional variations that push the boundaries of what aerobics can be.

And, of course, there are weights. All health clubs offer Nautilus machines, or a

No Pain, No Gain, No Waiting

By Megan Gilmartin

The motto "no pain, no gain" may sound impressive when you've just finished an aggressive workout and you're standing there pickled in your own sweat; however, it is a motto that's creating many injuries among those who have joined the fitness-crazed nineties. Bostonians in pursuit of the perfect body are keeping Scott Waugh and his team of physical therapists at Prescription Orthopedic Sports Therapy Clinic "very busy." While frenetically trying to tighten their buttocks and trim the fat from their waistlines, these exercisers are also managing to accrue quite a few injuries along the way.



No Gain With Pain

"Overuse," Scott explains, is the most common form of injury. People, he says, are led to believe that they should work out until it hurts; however, this is not a good method of monitoring your body's response to exercise. "When you feel pain," Scott says, "It is your body's way of telling you to stop." In other words, a "good" workout should not leave you lame.

After Scott and his team evaluate and treat an injury, they brief their patients on ways to prevent injuries from happening again. The sports clinic says that "proper flexibility" is the most effective way to avoid injuries. You've heard it time and time again, but it's true: taking time to stretch-out your muscles before and after a tough workout is vital to maintaining a safe and healthy exercise program.

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

PERSONAL SHAPING



You want to join in the fitness race, but you just can't seem to get your hand off the remote control and out of the potato chip bag. You want to "Just Do It," but your body just can't seem to rouse itself off the couch . You want to take whatever disposable income you may have and invest it in a membership at the local gym instead of a stool at the local bar, but you don't want anyone to see your sinful shape. If these anxieties sound familiar to you, we may be able to offer you a remedy: a personal trainer.

"A lot of people don't like to exercise," says Carla Morilla, a personal trainer specializing in sports conditioning and home fitness. "Some people need to have an appointment, otherwise, they're not going to do it." Carla feels that a personal trainer is able to push a person to exercise harder than they would normally do own their own. She also modifies and customizes each work-out to fufill each clien's goals and needs. "With a personal trainer," says Carla, "You're getting proper instruction and education on fitness and wellness."

If you love the idea of a personal trainer, but are afraid of the dependency side-effects, don't be. "The ultimate goal with a client, " says Carla, "is to get them to exercise on their own."

WORKING TO WORK YOU OUT

close facsimile thereof, and free weights. Most health clubs in Boston also offer nutritional advice, weight-loss counseling and a myriad of computerized machines simulating bicycle riding, stair climbing, cross-country skiing, running and the forgotten, less-glamorous exercise of walking.

But representatives from the clubs discussed in this article – just a random sample of the many Boston-area health clubs – vehemently lack individuality. Interestingly, when asked what distinguishes their respective health clubs from the other Boston-area clubs, each representative said their personal attention was focused on their clients. As Jack Lemmon's desperate, anything-to-close-a-deal character in the movie Glengarry Glenn Ross advised, "Always be selling."

Salesmanship and recurring unique, personalized service aside, each club does possess distinctive features separating it from the others as dramatically as separating heart-clogging egg yolks from the whites. These are the attributes that will guide you to a health club, one suiting your needs and setting you on the road to fitness. And more importantly, keeping you on that road.

To build an enduring fitness program, beginners should refrain from starting out "all gung-ho," says Donna Wroblewski of Gold's Gym, reflecting the changes undertaken by this national chain of health clubs. Once home to the muscle-headed body building embodied by scary, pseudo-comedian cum protein-pitchman Joe Piscopo, Gold's is now a more complete health club offering aerobics classes, saunas and a less intimidating atmosphere.

The mere presence of men, be they walrus-necked or pencil-necked, can be intimidating, claims Kelly Smith. Which explains why Boston Fitness for Women, where she is a fitness director, caters to women only. Located downtown, at 27 School Street for more than 16 years, the club offers a safe haven from the traditionally macho workout environment.

"Some women can be intimidated by the maleness factor," she explains. "These women are not into the pick-up scene and some of the women are in various states of conditioning. They're less inclined to try new things, especially weights, if there are guys hogging the benches. And (the club) is clean, clean, clean, clean here."

The majority of the club's membership is made up of professionals, ranging in age from 20 to 80 years old, many making the time to workout while maintaining a busy schedule. To encourage commitment to the workouts, Smith says that she advises new members to "continuously set realistic goals and realize that what is in magazines is not real life."

Time management is also a major issue for members of The Boston Sports Club, says Ray Dewirst, assistant manager. Overlooking Copley Square from its 561 Boylston Street address, The Boston Sports Club offers the usual workout equipment and programs as well as "circuit workouts." Alternating between cardiovascular exercises and strength equipment, circuit workouts are designed for busy people who want a well-balanced workout but can invest only about an hour, says Dewiest.

Those with the time could spend all day at the Boston Athletic Club, located about a mile from downtown Boston at 653 Summer Street. According to Cliff Seeto, director of operations, the Boston Athletic Club is one of Boston's larger health club facilities, and augments the usual weight machines and aerobics pro-

This page and previous page: the Allston Squash Club provides ample workout facilities for its members, along with the courts implied by its name.

grams with indoor tennis and basketball courts, yoga, chiropractic care, nutritional advice, a Roman bath, laundry service, and, probably most attractive, parking. The club also runs a workout program for kids that is designed to "build active children," Seeto says. And, no doubt, keep the hyper tots occupied while mom and dad train.

With a panoramic view of the Financial district from its location on the 27th floor at 100 Summer Street, it's no surprise Body Check One On One caters more to professional types than Raffi groupies. Kim Spertner, a marketing representative, says the club is "designed to accommodate busy executives and professionals." To streamline the process as much as possible, the club is implementing a new "personal wellness" program, as Spertner puts it, that is guided by computer software. Taking into account such criteria as physical characteristics, fitness levels and nutrition, the software advises the user on types and intensities of workouts.

Fitcorp Fitness Centers incorporate physical fitness into an overall philosophy of personal wellness, claims Dave Harshbarger, director of Fitcorp at The Prudential Center. "We're concerned more with our members' total wellness, with fitness only being one part of that," he says. "But we also emphasize nutrition, stress management and weight control."

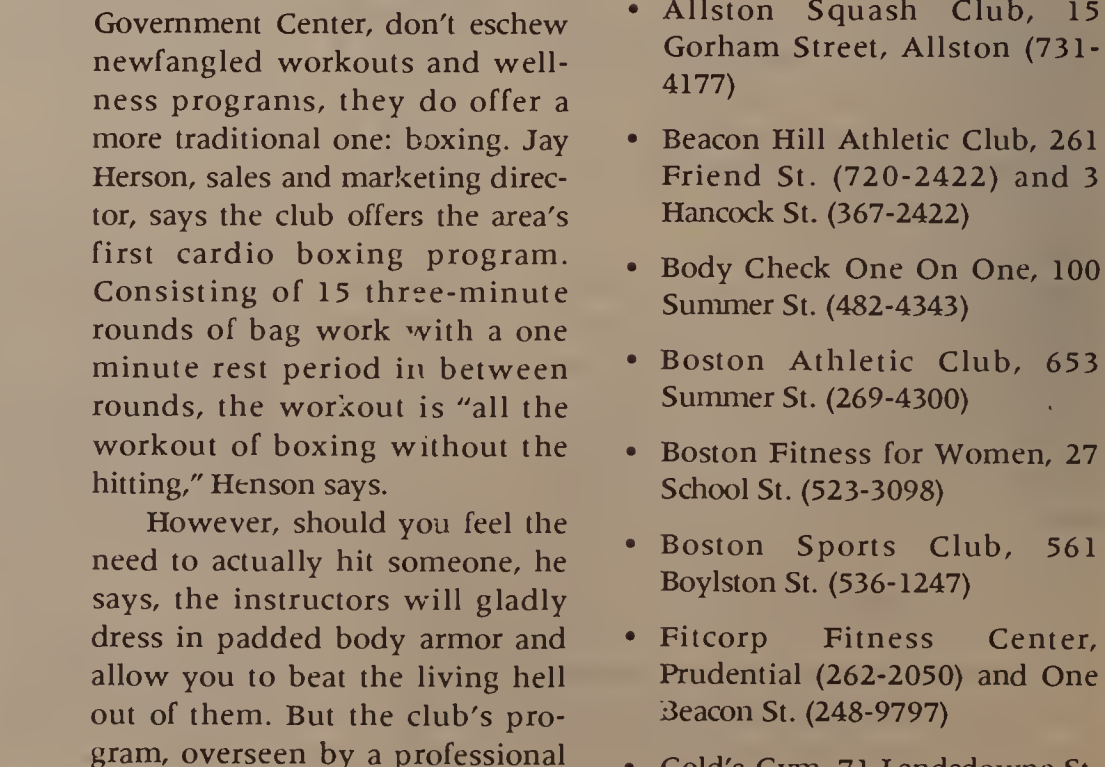
As its name indicates, Fitcorp caters to companies as well as individuals, offering corporate rates and the option of having Fitcorp staffers travel from one of its Boston-area clubs to member-company sites where they conduct wellness programs, such as cholesterol and blood pressure screenings.

whoever your having problems with, on the bag. It's great," enthuses Herson.

In addition to the pure joy of giving your boss' pug a severe pounding, working out has several other merits. You look better. You feel better. You may even live longer, though don't ask running fanatic/author/premature corpse Jim Fixx about that. But nothing will happen until you start working out. Until then, continue to watch time pass you by as gravity tugs.

Author Chad Sanborn currently sweats his bod at Fitcorp.

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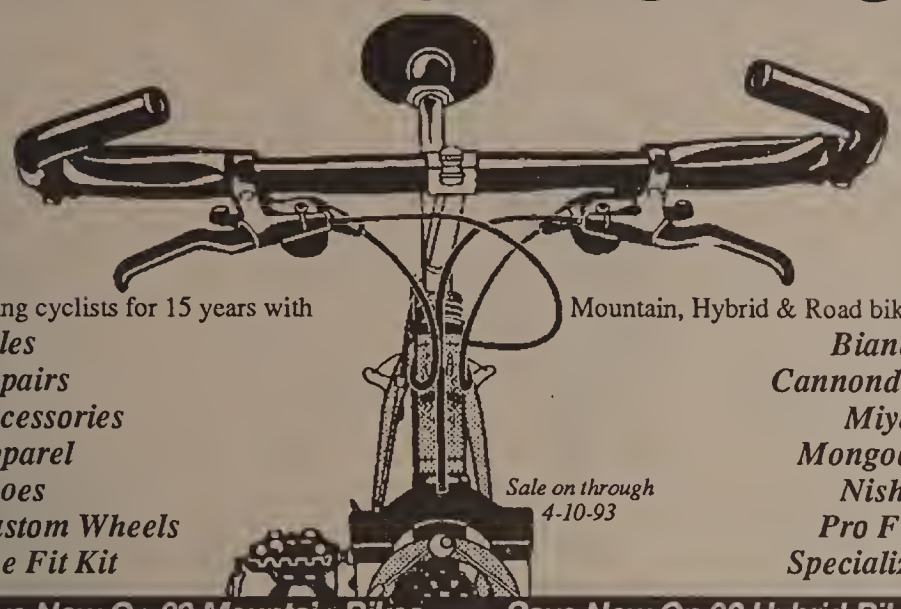
Although the Beacon Hill Athletic Club's two locations, 261 Friend Street, near North Station and 3 Hancock Street near Government Center, don't eschew newfangled workouts and wellness programs, they do offer a more traditional one: boxing. Jay Herson, sales and marketing director, says the club offers the area's first cardio boxing program. Consisting of 15 three-minute rounds of bag work with a one minute rest period in between rounds, the workout is "all the workout of boxing without the hitting," Henson says.

However, should you feel the need to actually hit someone, he says, the instructors will gladly dress in padded body armor and allow you to beat the living hell out of them. But the club's program, overseen by a professional boxer, consists mostly of bag work. "If you're having a bad week you can picture your boss, or

Where are the Boston area health clubs mentioned in this article?

- Allston Squash Club, 15 Gorham Street, Allston (731-4177)
- Beacon Hill Athletic Club, 261 Friend St. (720-2422) and 3 Hancock St. (367-2422)
- Body Check One On One, 100 Summer St. (482-4343)
- Boston Athletic Club, 653 Summer St. (269-4300)
- Boston Fitness for Women, 27 School St. (523-3098)
- Boston Sports Club, 561 Boylston St. (536-1247)
- Fitcorp Fitness Center, Prudential (262-2050) and One Beacon St. (248-9797)
- Gold's Gym, 71 Landsdowne St. (536-6066)

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Cam Fights the Career Reaper



Mim Michelove

An Improper Interview with Cam Neely, Modest Hero

By Susanne E. Schantz

First of all, you have to know that Cameron Neely, age 27, is exactly as he appears in all those countless television interviews: this Bruin is polite, quiet and huge. Not quick to open up, and yet as straightforward as they come, Cam is none of the things you expect from a sports hero. No sign of cockiness, no hint of grandiosity. If you didn't know better, you would say he's just an average Joe. Only difference is, Cam Neely is everything but average.

> "If I walk into a place where I don't really know anybody and I become the center of attention, it's hard for me to deal with. I can't take that situation and turn it around so I feel comfortable."

Since his career-threatening, well-documented knee injury back in 1991, Cam has been splitting his time between sports therapy, trying to rehab his knee, and helping his brother Scott with their new business venture, American Golf Tournaments. Watching Neely sit in his office is a little like watching a bull in a china shop. Dressed in a baseball hat, jeans and a tee-shirt which says, ironically enough, "The Image Is You," Cam doesn't look terribly comfortable in his sparse office.

But after a few minutes, and after plopping his legs up on the desk in front of him, Cam relaxes, and talks about his life. Naturally enough, the first topic of conversation is his knee, which he pats as he talks, and his new business.

CAM: This golf project is something that I'm interested in; it's also a business, which excites me. When I'm done playing, I really would like to make my choice of what I want to do, and I like the idea that this will really grow and be enjoyable at the same time.

You know, when I first broke into the league 10 years ago, guys a little older would say to me, 'Cam, prepare yourself for life after hockey. It's gonna end. It goes by really quick.' And, at eighteen, I was like, 'Yeah, yeah, yeah, okay, sure, sure, no problem. Thanks for the advice.' Ten years later, I'm sitting here going, 'Man, it does go by really, really quick.'

IB: Do you fear that day coming when it's just too much stress on your knee to play any more?

CAM: Not really. I mean, it has crossed my mind at times, especially this year. February of "92 is when I had my first knee surgery; the doctor said it was possibly career threatening, which freaked me out. I'd say from February until probably late October there was a lot of doubts if I could come back and play. And I still was very positive. I did everything I was told to do, and worked as hard as I could. But until you get on the ice to try, you really don't know.

IB: Do you harbor any resentment towards Pittsburgh's Ulf Samuelson [the perpetrator of a serious leg injury] ?

CAM: You know, I've said this time and again, I don't respect the way he plays, I don't like the guy, but what caused all this [points at his knee]...yeah, sure, he was involved, but it wasn't anything done intentionally. I know what's done intentionally. What a lot of people were showing time and again was the hit that I didn't respect, and I think that type of hit can really end people's career, but that was a different leg. I just don't respect the way he plays. That's the bottom line, really.

IB: What's your relationship like with your teammates?

CAM: Well... when you play and travel with the team it's a lot different. When I went on the trip with the team before I played, it was great for me, because that's when you really get to know guys. Every October, when the circus comes to town, our circus goes out. But it's not as glamorous as people think, traveling to all these cities. I mean, we're in and out of cities so fast we don't even know where we are half the time. You basically see a hotel, see a restaurant, a bar or maybe a movie theater, that's all you see in the city...and the arena obviously. Obviously, it can wear on you: the travel, the time away from home, the married guys away from the wives and kids. The road's great, but it can be tedious and tiresome.

IB: Do you have any friend on the team that you consider to be more than just a teammate?

CAM: I gotta say, since L.B. [Lyndon Byers], one of my best friends, is not around anymore, I've really been having a tough time getting to know the other guys because I haven't been around that much. We have a lot of great guys but it's tough to really get to know them until I play and travel with them.

IB: What bugs you about some of the people you meet?

CAM: A lot of people, I think, get this

"A lot of fans are on that same emotional ride that players are on. If we win, they're happy; if we lose, they're pissed."



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"For as long as I've been out and the severity of [my injury], in the back of my mind, before I started playing again, I think, 'this could be career-ending.' It takes its toll on you, mentally."

wrong image of me...I mean, when I came here I knew one person. I didn't know anybody on the team. And all of a sudden, my career took off. I'd walk down the street and people would say 'Hey, Cam,' and I'd say 'Whoa!' It was very weird for me to deal with at first...I was 21 when I came here and very shy. In a lot of ways, I'm still shy and I'm uncomfortable in places where I don't really know anybody. And if I walk into a place where I don't really know anybody and I become the center of attention, it's hard for me to deal with. I can't take that situation and turn it around so I feel comfortable, but I like going out to places where there is a lot of people.

A lot of people might see my shyness, or not [being] really very outgoing, as being a snob or kinda stuckup or something, and that's the furthest from the truth. I'm not one of these people that has 300 close friends. I mean, I have a small group of friends that I really feel comfortable with and love to hang out with.

IB: You seem to handle people swarming all over you.

CAM: I can handle it when it's one-to-one or kids, or anybody coming up and wanting to talk for a few minutes. But sometimes, you know, people tend to maybe go over the line a little bit and really think that they're buddies with me. A lot of fans are on that same emotional ride that players are on. If we win, they're happy, if we lose, they're pissed. I think sometimes they feel a lot more a part of us and what we do, which I can understand. But there's times when somebody might want to talk to you for 20 minutes, and I don't want to talk about hockey for 20 minutes with somebody I don't really know.

IB: Any feelings on how much longer you're going to play?

CAM: Well, I think that if I can maintain the strength in my leg, my knee will hold up. I really believe that. But anything can happen. I try to just really enjoy the day that I'm in. Everybody can enjoy the present a lot more than they do. But I want to quit on my terms, not when an injury tells me, or when someone says, 'Cam, you're not good enough to play anymore.'

For as long as I've been out and the severity of it, in the back of my mind, before I started playing again, I think, 'this could be career-ending.' It takes its toll on you, mentally. But then, I really want to spend a little more time with this golf thing, because that could get my mind off hockey and what I was doing. Plus, I love this city. I plan on hanging around. ❑

STITCHES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

More Than Just a Brief History of Time

BY ROSS GARMIL

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the Earth. Then came some dinosaurs, the Ice Age, a whole bunch of kings, William Shakespeare, the American Revolution, prohibition, Albert Einstein, and, of course, the Bee Gees. And then, in 1983, a comedy club known as Stitches first opened its doors. Well, the Bee Gees may be gone (hopefully) but Stitches is still alive and well. And on April 1st, 2nd, and 3rd the club will be throwing an all-out bash to celebrate it's decade of being.

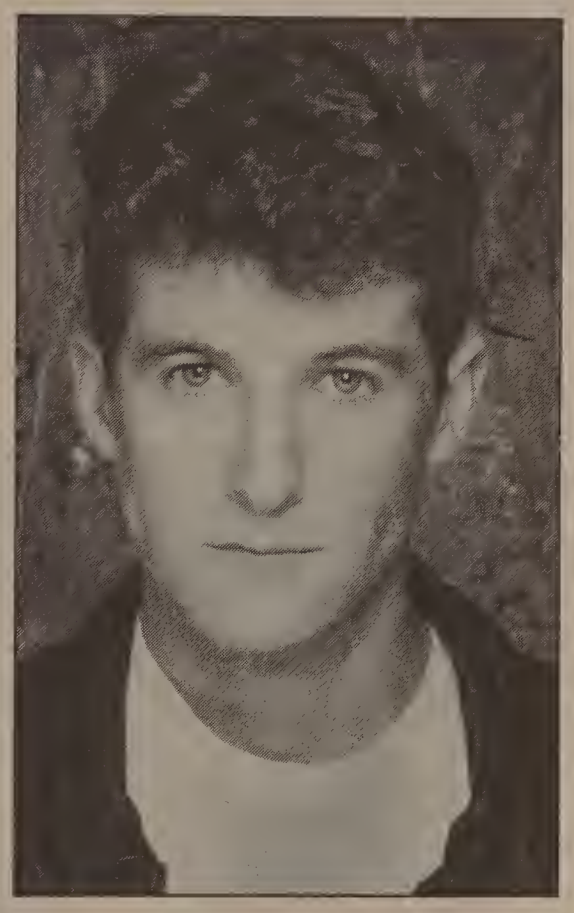
How does a comedy club commemorate such an event? Paper hats and dumb party favors? Nah. More likely are prank calls to Congressman Fred Garvey (R-Iowa) saying, "Hey, didn't you used to be Gopher on 'The Love Boat?'" But not in this case.

Instead Stitches decided to ask some comedians help them celebrate their anniversary. Forty comedians, to be precise. In three days. This equals ten comedians per show (with two shows on Saturday night). Now consider this: a normal comedy show features one emcee, one opening act and one comic headliner. That adds up to three comedians in an average show (just in case you weren't paying attention.)

Through some simple arithmetic it can be derived that these shows will be 3.33 times larger than your regular comedy cavalcade. While it is as of yet unclear what Stitches plans to do with the extra .33 of a comedian left over, one can easily ascertain that this anniversary fest will add up to include a whole lot o' laughs.

Stitches has worked hard over the past decade to firmly place itself on the large map of successful Boston comedy clubs. From hosting HBO's 10th Young Comedians Special, to presenting the annual "Comedy Riot" open-mike competition, the club has helped bring comedy to the city for years. And now, rather than rest on their laurels (or sit on their duffs, whatever the case may be), Stitches has decided to work long and hard to make their own tenth anniversary not only a special event for themselves, but also for the local comedy scene.

Like other premier Boston clubs, Stitches has featured national headliners such as Jerry Seinfeld and Steven Wright, but now they've shifted gears towards showcasing Boston talent, and their anniversary show is a perfect illustration. The first night will be hosted by local comedian Anthony Clark. Other comedians to be featured will include, on the 1st: D.J. Hazard, Don Gavin, Mike Donovan, Brian Kiley, Lizz Winstad, Bill Campbell, Teddy Bourgeron. The second will bring Tony V., Julie Barr, George MacDonald, Larry Sullivan, Marci Rose , with Mike Bent, Billy Martin and Chris Zito on the third.



Anthony Clarke hosts the first night of the 10th anniversary celebration on April 1st.

The show times for this gala will be at 8:30 p.m. on April 1st, 8:30 p.m. on April 2nd, and both 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. on April 3rd. If you can't get enough of stand-up comedy, then perhaps this show will help. ❑

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Wed Mar. 31st- Ed Regine, Paul Elwell, Steve Hurley. Thu Ap. 1st.- Ed Regine, D.J. Hazard. Fri 2nd.- Tommy Chong. Sat 3rd.- Anthony Clark. Sun 4th. 7PM- Rich Ciesler. Sun 4th 9PM- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon 5th.-Kevin Knox. Tue 6th.- D.J. Hazard. Thu 8th.- Lisa Ann Walter. Fri 9th.- David Alan Grier. Sat 10th.- Bob Marley, Tom Gilmore. Sun 11th 7PM- Rich Ciesler. Sun 11th. 9PM- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon 12th.- Kevin Knox, Dave Fitzhgerald. Tue 13th.- D.J. Hazard, Dave Fitzgerald.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, which features both national celebs and local favorites. Show times: Fri at 9pm, Sat at 8pm and 10:30pm. Cover $10. Always packed and second-hand smoky. Casual dress.

Fri 2nd. & Sat 3rd.- Greg Carey, Donna Kelly, Peter Lubell. Fri 9th. & Sat 10th.- George MacDonald, Jim McCue, Bruce Gorsky.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See above. Show times: Fri and Sat at 10pm. Cover $9.

Fri 2nd. & Sat 3rd.- Boston Comedy Showcase. Fri 9th. & Sat 10th.- Boston Comedy Showcase.

Nick's Comedy Stop 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. This comedy club is one of Boston's most popular attractions when it comes to local and national acts. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

Wed Mar. 31st.- Vinnie Favorito. Thu Ap. 1st- John Katz, Deb Casper, Jeff Lifshultz, Paul DiAngelo. Fri 2nd. & Sat 3rd.- Richard Belzer, Paul Nardizzi, Billy Martin. Sun 4th.- Kevin Knox. Mon 5th.- Billy Martin. Tue 6th.- Jim Lauletta. Wed 7th.- Vinni Favorito, John Pinette. Fri 8th. & Sat 9th.- John Pinette, Steve Sweeney, Larry Repucci. Sun 11th.- Kevin Knox. Mon 12th.- Billy Martin. Tue 13th.- Jim Lauletta, Ngaio Bealum.

Stand-up Comedy Cafe (formerly The Original Connection) at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. Named by USA Today as the Number One comedy club in the country. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Rated by Rolling Stone and Vanity Fair as the nation's top comedy club. Shows are Sun-Thu at 8:30pm, Fri and Sat at 8:30pm & 10:30pm. Tickets are Sun-Wed $6, Thu $8 and Fri & Sat $10.

Stitches 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Every Tue at 8:30pm and Fri at 10:30pm: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu: Cross Comedy. Every Sun: Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10; no dress code.

Thu 1st. thru Sat 3rd.- 10th Anniversary Show. Wed 7th.- New Comedian Show, Cross Comedy. Fri 9th. 8:30PM- Tom Agna. Sat 10th.- Tom Agna, Frank Santorelli, Marci Rose.

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FLICKS IN A FLASH

Groundhog Day

"Funny, time after time"

This is a classic Harold Ramis film, despite the odds against a film based on repetition being anything but annoying. Bill Murray gives a vintage performance as weatherman Phil Connors, a man stuck in time and in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. Andie MacDowell (under-used as Connors' new station producer) and Chris Elliott (as cameraman Larry) add to the comedic mix as Connors finds himself forced to deal with the same situations, people and television shows over, and over, and over again. **T.S.L.**

Lorenzo's Oil

"A Brave and Daring Brew"

Based on the lives of Augusto and Michaela Odone, Lorenzo's Oil is the story of a couple's efforts to save the life of their son from adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD). In this gritty, painful and brilliant picture, the parents (Nick Nolte and Susan Sarandon) not only push the medical establishment for answers, but take up ALD research on their own. While keeping their marriage and their son alive. Nolte's Italian accent is annoying for a while, but it is the only false note in an otherwise important film about the power of determination in the face of helplessness. **B.C.**

A Few Good Men

'Exciting, Moving, and Funny"

A Few Good Men has all the right ingredients: big stars, politically-relevant drama climaxing in a riveting courtroom scene, good dialogue, even a sprinkling of comedy. Two Marines are on trial for murdering one of their own. Lawyers Tom Cruise and Demi Moore try to prove the death was an accident caused by an order coming from above. Cruise plays his usual hot shot with élan. Moore gives a dignified performance as an internal affairs officer. Jack Nicholson is convincing as a hard-nosed colonel, even when he lapses into shtick.

Bad Lieutenant

'Lurid, Funny, Hard to Take"

Director and co-author Abel Ferrara's lurid tale of a New York City cop whose life is caught in an urgent downward spiral is hard to take but worth seeing for Harvey Keitel's remarkable performance as the bad lieutenant. How bad is he? Well, he's a junkie, a liar, a thief, a gambler, a sexual profligate – and a lapsed Catholic. But he's not evil, and he gets a shot at redemption. Costars include New York's mean streets; Zoe Lund, the movie's co-author, as an alarmingly zoned-out junkie; and the Mets and the Dodgers, on whose games the bad lieutenant plays "bet your life." The movie is funny in a Sid and Nancy kind of way. Watching a character shamelessly indulge his most infantile desires, even as he self-destructs, can be liberating.

Scent of A Woman

"Pacino Reeks of Hoffman"

A blind, grouchy, former military officer (Pacino) takes his new prep school "babysitter" (Chris O'Donnell) on a Thanksgiving weekend extravaganza in New York City. While the youth frets for Pacino's safety (and about his own problems at school), Pacino overtips waiters, dances the Tango and correctly identifies the perfume (not to mention the hair and eye color) of every woman he meets. **B.C.**

INDEPENDENT'S DAY

Gerald Peary Picks & Pans the Independents

BY GERALD PEARY

Olivier Olivier. Directed and written by Agnieszka Holland. At the Nickelodeon.

Agnieszka Holland's *Europa Europa* (1990) was an art-house movie for all, a thrilling, fabulist, magic, realist, true-life tall tale about a young Polish Jew who escaped the Nazi death camps - and abandoned his ill-fated family – when he swam into Russia and signed up with the Communists. Later, he eluded the Nazis again by literally becoming one. Passsing as a "Master Race" Aryan, he was adopted by German troops, and actually sent to an elite school for Hitler Youth. After the War, a Jew once more (happily), Solomon Perel emigrated to Israel.



Elisabeth (Bridgitte Rouan, left) and Nadine (Marina Golovine, right) in Agnieszka Holland's new mystery drama "Olivier Olivier".

For *Olivier Olivier*, Holland again constructs a movie from an odder-than-odd real-life story (she found it in a newspaper); and again, it's about a young boy horrifically separated from his family. This time, the setting is contemporary rural France. Little Olivier rides off for grandma's house on his bicycle and never returns. His family mother, dad, and sister – fall apart searching for him. Has he been murdered?

A few years later, a young man is found by the Paris police who might, or might not, be Olivier. If so, he has affected as many identity switches as the *Europa Europa* hero, Solomon. The petite, cherubic mama's boy has become a kinky Wild Child teenager, who gets by getting picked up at public toilets. So Olivier goes home, to his joyous mother and suspicious sister. *If* he's Olivier.

Not everyone is going to adore *Olivier Olivier*. Though there are no Nazis this time, nor heartbreaking scenes in the Warsaw Ghetto, *Olivier Olivier* is far darker in spirit than its *Europa Europa* predecessor. And weirder.

Young Sol, who was as ingenuous and ever-winning as Voltaire's Candide, has been supplanted as protagonist by Olivier: sly, morally ambiguous, perhaps as wicked as Cain. As for Olivier's family, they are neurotic, perverse, overly intense, and an incestuous cloud hovers over the dinner table. Mother covets son. Son shares a pillow with his sister. Father is out in the cold. In fact, Olivier's bourgeois family is perennially screwed-up, even before the disappearance.

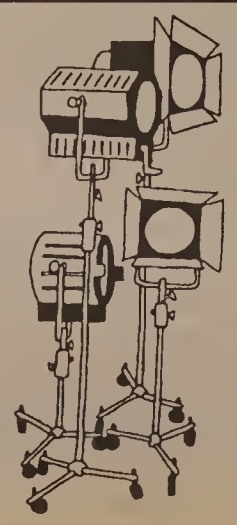
But there are ample rewards for those viewers who settle in with Agnieszka Holland's fervent tale, which climaxes, quite wonderfully, in black magic and mystery, with even a shaky claim to happiness. Simply, *Olivier Olivier* is as haunting, and psychologically dense, as anything on screen this year.

Wax, Or the Discovery of Television Among the Bees. Directed and written by David Blair. At the Harvard Film Archive, April 2-12.

If *Olivier Olivier* treks into the unconscious on the cusp of Freud and Jung, *Wax, Or the Discovery of Television Among the Bees* catapults into its dream world via cyberpunk video imagery. Too much of it. "Five years in the making" of it. Director-writer David Blair has a bizarre story to tell, about a New Mexico beekeeper who, with a miniature TV implanted in his brain, partakes of out-of-body experiences, allowing him to see "the dead of the future." Maybe that sounds interesting, but *Wax* quickly becomes laborious, especially because Blair refuses to puncture his imagery-driven saga with humor. It's all too solemn.

Still, Blair is an ambitious video-to-film artist, and *Wax* does have its fans. The press kit comes with impressive blurbs. William Gibson, *Neuromancer* author, calls it "A winningly strange video narrative," while LSD's Timothy Leary praises *Wax* as "a treat for the eyeballs." ❑

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching fim at B.U.



IMPROPER FLICK PICK

Not all Serbians are hawks on the terrible war. Srdjan Karanovic, a pacifistic Belgrade native, was among the most famous, honored Yugoslavian film directors when there was in Yugoslavia. He made eight acclaimed features and won the Critic's Prize at Cannes. For now, Karanovic is living in the United States and teaching filmmaking at Wesleyan University. He'll be at Boston University's School of Broadcast and Film, 640 Comm. Ave., on Friday, April 2 at 6 p.m., showing one of his best films, Hard to Swallow (a Huckleberry Finn meets John Cassavetes), and he'll talk also about the dire situation in his homeland. Admission is free.

POINT OF NO RETURN

Diminished Return



Maggie (Bridget Fonda) and her agency mentor, Bob (Gabriel Byrne), argue furiously after Maggie is forced to perform her first professional "hit" in "Point of No Return"

BY ANTHONY LEIBS

The current trend of Americanizing French films continues with *Point of No Return*, a remake of Luc Besson's 1991 hit, *La Femme Nikita*. This is, with very few exceptions, virtually the same film, but somehow is not nearly as good as the original. So what got lost in the translation?

The story is simple enough: Maggie (Bridget Fonda), a homicidal waif running with a *very* bad crowd, gets involved in a bloody shoot-out at point-blank range, and in short order is tried, convicted, and sentenced to death. In steps Bob (Gabriel Byrne), head of a super-secret government assassination bureau, who is impressed with Maggie's psychotic tendencies and utter lack of remorse over killing. He can use a girl like her. He fakes her death and her funeral, and trains her to be an assassin. Eventually, he allows her to live on her own, and even allows her to have a boyfriend (Dermot Mulroney). But she must come when summoned, anytime, anywhere, and kill on command. "There is no out," he tells her, and he means it.

It must have looked like a sure thing on paper: making an American film from a French film that had the look and feel of an American one, full of slick, American-style violence. It's the kind of film we do best, so what could possibly get lost in the translation? Even John Badham seemed a smart choice for director. He's a competent technician (*Blue Thunder, War Games, Stakeout*), and he's not the kind of guy who'd muddle it up with anything like an actual personality, or a strong directional point of view. But even though he stages the best scenes – the opening robbery of the drug store, the shoot-out in the hotel kitchen – with as much precision as a remake can have, something gets lost in the translation.

That something is a true sense of style. Even though *La Femme Nikita* was obviously influenced by American films, it had an exciting visual look of its own. Badham and Co., by carefully trying to imitate what was essentially an imitation in the first place, have produced an ordinary looking film. Neither film gives us substance, but *Point of No Return* doesn't even give us style.

There are other problems as well This version goes too soft and sentimental. We know that Bob, because he is so handsome, and because he always gazes at Maggie with soulful eyes full of sexual longing, will let her walk away. Also, there was a certain irony in *Nikita*: killing skills weren't enough. She couldn't become a proper *femme* until she looked and behaved like a lady. Here we're simply meant to notice how pretty Maggie looks once she reverts to her natural hair color and puts on a little lipstick. The effect of the transformation is diminished.

Uninspired and depressingly literal-minded as this remake is, the fault is not Bridget Fonda's. Although her performance lacks the feral intensity of Anne Parillaud's in *Nikita* (she was truly frightening in her early scenes), Fonda is nonetheless an engaging heroine, handling the translation from drug-addled punk to professional assassin with skill and credibility. The script may go soft on her, but she manages, as she has so often in the past, to rise above her mediocre material. ❑

POINT OF NO RETURN

Warner Brothers
Directed by John Badham
Starring Bridget Fonda
Gabriel Byrne
Dermot Mulroney
Anne Bancroft

KEY

A Winner

A Toss Up

For the Birds

CRITICS CHOICE

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
A Few Good Men	★	★	★	★	★	◡	◎	◎	★
Aladdin	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
The Crying Game	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Falling Down	★	★	◡	★	◡	◎	◡	◎	◎
Groundhog Day	★	★	◎	★	★	★	–	★	★
Homeward Bound	★	★	◎	★	★	–	–	–	–
Mad Dog & Glory	★	★	★	★	★	◡	◎	◡	–
Scent of a Woman	◎	★	★	★	★	◡	◎	★	◡
Sommersby	★	★	★	◎	◎	★	–	★	★
Untamed Heart	◎	★	◎	◎	–	◎	–	–	–

FLICKS IN A FLASH

THE CRYING GAME

★ "A World of Endless Mystery"

A British soldier (Forest Whitaker) is abducted and held hostage by the I.R.A. That fact that the British soldier is black is the first, and certainly not the last, time Director Neil Jordan confounds his audience. One of the captors, Fergus (Stephen Rea), is drawn to the hostage's sweet, gentle nature, which complements his own. Later in London, Fergus looks up the soldier's girlfriend (Jaye Davidson) and is drawn to her, too. He gets caught up in her nighttime world of romance, vague longings, torch songs and smoke filled barrooms. Although the world is mysterious and somewhat sinister, it's a refuge, at least for a short time, from the harsh daytime world and its so-called truth. The power of The Crying Game is the power of poetry or jazz: it's evocative and illusive. Jordan is less concerned with truth than he is with the endless mystery that's at the heart of truth – and art.

FALLING DOWN

★ "This Dark Comedy Stands Out"

Michael Douglas sporting a crew-cut, glasses, white button-down shirt and a pocket protector abandons his car in a Los Angeles traffic jam and sets out on foot for home. After exchanging his briefcase for weapons, the man known only by his license plate "D-FENS" explodes when confronted with the familiar stresses of urban life. Is he an average white guy who has been pushed to the edge? Or is he an over-the-edge, vigilante sociopath? The movie is sure to strike a chord with anyone who has ever had a bad day.

MAD DOG AND GLORY

★ "An Exhilarating Odd-Couple Story"

An exhilarating odd-couple story that takes a smart look at the complexity of male bonding. Wayne Dobie (Robert De Niro), a shy evidence technician for the Chicago police, saves the life of loan shark Frank Milo (Bill Murray), who thanks Dobie with a temporary gift of the beautiful Glory (Uma Thurman). The romance that blossoms between Dobie and Glory is one of the few predictable developments in Richard Price's otherwise clever script, which fortunately focuses more on the relationship between the men. De Niro is convincing as an ordinary guy who longs to be an artist. Murray stands out as the charming, sinister, and unhappy Milo who longs to be a stand-up comedian.

SOMMERSBY

★ "Get Out Your Handkerchief"

When Jack Sommersby (Richard Gere) returns home from the Civil War after being away for many years, his wife (Jodie Foster) is understandably wary: the old Jack was a drunk and wife-beater, this Jack is gentle and kind. The husband sets about wooing his wife, being a father to his boy, and restoring their Tennessee farm. Inevitably, his past comes back to haunt him. The movie works best as a love story. Less interesting is Jack's transformation into a community leader who champions a tobacco growing scheme that promises to make his neighbors – black and white – prosperous landowners. It means too few domestic scenes and too many shots of tobacco plants. You may want to bring a handkerchief or pick up extra napkins with your popcorn. The ending is a wet one.

An Interview With Mollie Sugden

Serving up the Laughs for 20 Years

BY JOHN HALL

"Mrs. Slocombe, are you free?"—"No, but I'm not very expensive!" replies Mollie Sugden, of the amazing Technicolor hair-do. Despite an impressive number of TV and theater performances, this actress remains best known as Mrs. Slocombe, head of Ladies' Intimate Apparel in the British sitcom *Are You Being Served?*

For the record, Mollie's real hair is blondish-gray, not blue, pink, lavender, lime-green, or any of the other garish hues she sports as Mrs. Slocombe. She also looks much younger than her 70 years without the wigs and harsh make-up.

"It was my idea to have different colored hair," she explains. "At the beginning, they did tint my own hair; it was supposed to wash out, but it didn't. And at the time, my children were eight or nine, and I was picking them up from school every day, and of course they didn't really appreciate Mom coming with multicolored hair!"



Still serving up her considerable charm: actress Mollie Sugden

The first season of the 1991 sequel show *Are You Being Served? Again!* sees a major change in Mrs. Slocombe's appearance: her hair went white. Mollie felt that since the show was set in the countryside, Mrs. Slocombe's hair should look natural for once. However, she changed her mind again, just in time for the second season, and donned a lavender wig. "Why hold a mirror up to reality when the whole thing is so unreal, anyway?" she asks. "I mean, [the hair's] an old joke, but why get rid of it if people enjoy it?"

And while Mrs. Slocombe "devotes her life to her pussy," Mollie herself has never owned a cat. "I quite like cats, but we've always been a dog family," she says. "But I'm here to tell you I've got a whole shelf-full of [cat figurines], cat brooches, and pictures of cats, so I'm really not catless." And as for her character's constant use of the "improper" word "pussy," Mollie asserts that Slocombe "must [always] be totally unaware, because she really doesn't know. She's very naive, you know, is Mrs. Slocombe – she has no idea at all. It's the others who are rude, not Mrs. Slocombe!"

Mollie had worked in several sitcoms with director David Croft when he offered her the role of Mrs. Slocombe in 1972. Since then, she has played the character through the show's 12-year run, in its stage and film versions, and in the reunion series *Are You Being Served? Again!* (known in England as *Grace & Favour*). Asked if she had a model for the severe sales clerk, Mollie maintains that "a lot of it's in the writing," but that she partially based Mrs. Slocombe on a "dreadful dragon" of a department store buyer.

Because filming for *Are You Being Served?* took only two months every year, Mollie was free to do other TV work, which she did in abundance. "The theater was my first love, and television's my last love," she declares. For her, the most gratifying part of being an actor is "making people laugh. It is most enjoyable." Her other credits include *The Liver Birds*, *Coronation Street*, and *My Husband and I*, which starred Mollie's real-life husband of 36 years, William Moore.

While awaiting word from the BBC on a third season of *Are You Being Served? Again!*, Mollie has starred in a revival of the Agatha Christie play "The Hollow" with her husband – "We did bumper business ... so they want to take it out again the summer..." – performed in a radio play and flown to PBS stations across America to promote *Are You Being Served?*, filling in for co-star John Inman (Mr. Humphries), who was hospitalized for bronchitis. During her spare time, she enjoys knitting and gardening ("I just leave it to the pots on the terrace," she admits).

Mollie still can't believe the enthusiasm for *Are You Being Served?* in the United States. "I thought it would be successful in England....but it never occurred to me it'd be so internationally [known] -- certainly not in America! Still, I'm amazed – and, I might add, delighted!" ❑



Whoops... spoofing around in "Are you Being Served: The Movie"

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ARTS

Guys and Dolls

If Only the Songs Matched the Scenery



Lewis J. Stadlen and Richard Muenz in a scene from the national tour of "Guys and Dolls"

BY NANCY LEONARD

The national touring company of "Guys and Dolls" came into Boston for a month-long sit-down at the Colonial Theatre, arriving directly from San Francisco, where it closed the prior weekend, slightly breathless and a bit late from its over-the-road trek. On opening night, with the scenery barely in place, technical problems delayed both acts. Other problems were apparent on the second night - not the least being an absent principal, which caused the proceedings, already minus some opening-night energy, to miss a beat for much of the time.

With its glorious Technicolor trappings, classic songs, and vibrant pace amidst ever-changing scenery, "Guys and Dolls" has some lovely attributes, to be sure. But it suffers from an astonishing and disappointing blankness that belies the buzz surrounding last season's triumphant Broadway revival.

This musical fable of Broadway - with a book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows based on Damon Runyon characters, and splendid music and lyrics by Frank Loesser - has remained a favorite since it first opened in New York in 1950. Its cartoon-like collection of pinstriped gamblers and their dolls, along with an army of prim missionaries, was devised purely for fun, in the great tradition of the American musical theater (including its kinship to the vaudevillian stage).

Side-by-side romances give the evening its thin spine. Miss Adelaide, the Hot Box cutie, still hopes to marry Nathan Detroit after a 14-year engagement, and lure him away from "the oldest established permanent floating crap game in New York." High-rolling Sky Masterson bets he can woo Sarah Brown away from her mission for dinner in Havana, and finds her falling into his arms. Just a few complications - a Dick Tracy-like detective dogging the gamblers, a last-minute prayer meeting - precede the prerequisite happy ending.

Director Jerry Zaks envisioned this revival as a valentine to a bygone era and accordingly, his production is large and colorful. Tony Walton's cut-out sets and deliciously varied scrims (though still not perfected in their travels) are a dreamy evocation of a 1940's New York that existed only in the movies. William Ivey Long's elaborate period costumes are wittily multi-colored. Paul Gallo's lighting heightens the Technicolor impact and cartoon-like irreverence. All these combine to make the visual imagery the best part of the evening.

Most of the intricately crafted songs have become classics: "A Bushel and a Peck," "Take Back Your Mink," "Adelaide's Lament," "If I Were a Bell," "Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat," "Luck Be A Lady," and of course, the title song. The musical numbers are nicely focused, and several are enhanced by Christopher Chadman's spirited Fosse-like choreography (most notably, "The Crapshooters' Dance," staged in a sewer hideaway). It's good to hear these gems in context, but surprisingly, only a handful have real zip.

Zaks keeps the proceedings moving swiftly along, but beyond the visuals and the tried-and-true score, there's little that's really endearing. A certain mechanical energy substitutes for genuine enthusiasm, and there's a distinct impersonality in all the gloss. The second act has far more appeal than the first, which is odd considering that the musical highlights are so well balanced. Mostly, this seems a case of star roles being inhabited by supporting players (who also may not yet be comfortable with the Colonial stage). Overall, good but less-than-scintillating performances make for an evening of very limited charm.

Lewis J. Stadlen provides a spot of fun as the Groucho-like Nathan Detroit, adroitly avoiding matrimony with the same slipperiness he uses to avoid the cops. There's a relaxed ease to his antics. Lorna Luft sings and moves with skill in Miss Adelaide's various comic numbers, and is funny squeaking and sniffling through her psychosomatic afflictions. But she softens the chorus-girl image so much that she loses some of the sparkle.

Richard Sky, blessed with a stunning baritone and authoritative height, is a tad shy on characterization and romantic attraction, though his front-and-center "Luck Be a Lady" is quite grand. Heather Lee, subbing for Patricia Ben Peterson, was just about adequate as Sarah. Her voice had some nice high sounds, but couldn't easily handle all the numbers. Her acting, touching in places, left many blanks, and her blond attractiveness did not easily convey missionary restraint. Kevin Ligon is impressive as Nicely-Nicely, Joy Franz is a bright spot as General Cartwright, as is Andy Umberger's cop in electric yellow. Al DeCristo, James Dybas, and Lyle Kanouse add comic dimension to the crooks.

Strong in its visual and musical elements, but rather blank underneath the gloss, this revival shows why people leave the theater humming the scenery. ❑

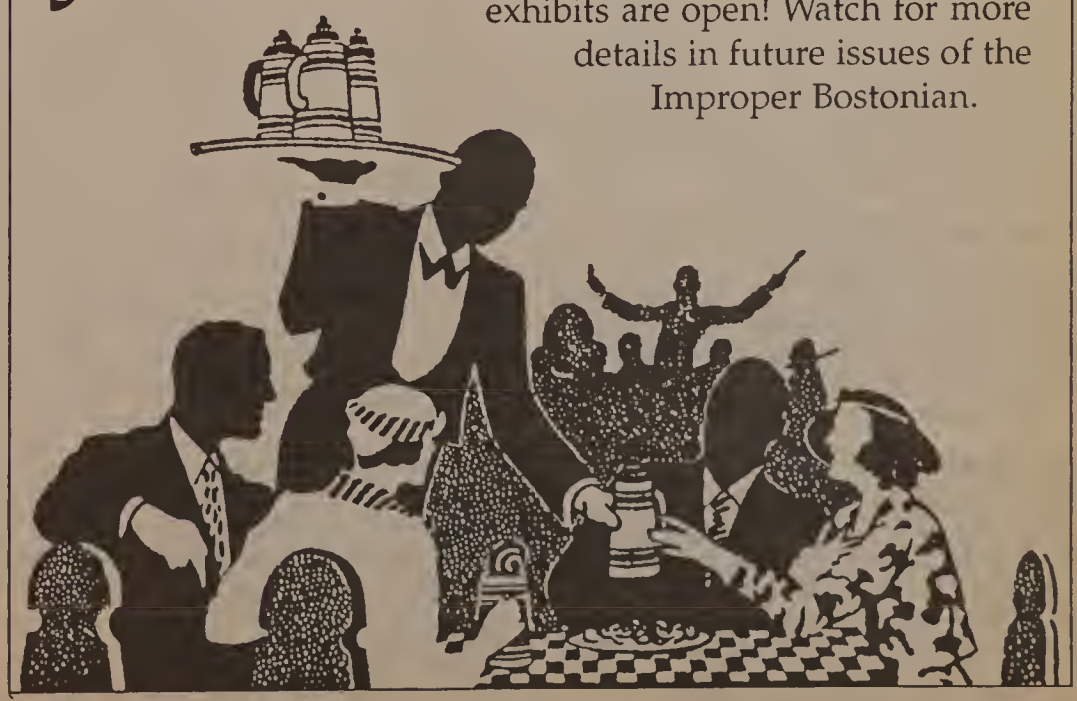
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SPRING SWING

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THE ARTS CALENDAR

DANCE

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for *Cinderella*, that timeless fairy tale of enchantment and romance. Performances run Apr. 15-May 2. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston
Movement Works-in-Progress is three evenings (Apr. 1-3 at 8pm) of solo and group showings of improv, modern dance, contact improv and movement/theatre. Tickets are $5.

Peter DiMuro & Associates
at Isabella's
111 Dartmouth St., Boston
The dance group presents a special performance preview of a selection from their latest work, Venice: A Bridge Abridged, on Apr. 12 at 7:30pm. DiMuro himself will alos perform Dad's Letter, a piece dedicated to his late father. Call 262-2880 for tickets.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball" and a group show called "Striking Images." Both contain fantastic photos of the players, fans, equipment and the ballparks. The former runs through July 30; the latter through May 30.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Close-Up/Still Life" through May 23. Drawn mainly from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features images by photographers such as Steiglitz, Abbott, Moholy, Steichen, Ray and Brandt. Parallel themes are brought up to date by contemporary photogs such as Coplans, Spano and Nixon.

CLASSICAL

Boston Composers String Quartet
at the Tsai Performance Center
685 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
The BCSQ performs a program of Beethoven, Bartok and Read on Apr. 4 at 2pm. Tickets are $8 at the door. Call 524-1557.

Boston Musica Viva
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
Longy School of Music
27 Garden St., Cambridge
BMV presents "Henry Brant: Music from the Great Depression to the Great Recession" on Apr. 2 at 8pm. Brant is one of America's most original and unconventional composers; featured in this program is his work, "The Marx Brothers: Three Faithful Portraits."

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
On Apr. 2 at 8pm, the Handel & Haydn Society presents "Mozart and Haydn Chamber Music." Call 262-1815. The Bank of Boston Celebrity Series presents the Guarneri String Quartet, featuring Peter Serkin on piano, on Apr. 4 at 3pm. It's the premiere of Hans Werner Henze's Quintet for Piano and String Quartet. That same night at 8pm, the Boston Gay Men's Chorus performs "Hidden Legacies," a new cantata, in addition to the works of Beethoven, Raleigh, Morricone and Foster. Call 536-2412.

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

Musica Sacra
at Harvard-Epworth Church
1555 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Musica Sacra presents "Make a Joyful Noise," selections from four centuries of sacred music. Come hear Britten's *Hymn to St. Cecilia* and *Festival Te Deum*, as well as works by Bach, Faure, Grieg and others. On Apr. 3 at 8pm. Tickets are $10. Call 864-7998.

Old Post Road Historic Concerts
at Faneuil Hall, Boston
Come hear "Music of Birds and Nature" on Apr. 2 at 8pm. This concert offers a lively presentation of concertos and other works that imitate the sounds of cuckoos, nightingales, cats, dogs, hens and goldfinches— by Vivaldi, Farina, Couperin, Rameau and Handel. Tickets are $6-$12.



IMPROPER ARTS PICK

"When I paint, I am the conductor:" For a taste of Paris in the Boston springtime, be sure to visit the Vose Gallery (238 Newbury Street) and see the works of Post-Impressionist Parisian Bernard Lamotte. His rich portrayals of active life (such as "Paris Nocture," pictured left) are on display March 31 through June. Call 536-6176 for more information.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30pm and Sundays at noon.

Mass. Brewing Company, Inc.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1pm. For more information call 455-1935.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Samuel Adams Brewery
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2pm and Saturdays at noon and 2pm, the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Boston University
at the GSU Conference Aud.
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
BU presents Robert Altman's (*The Player*) film *Vincent and Theo*, about Vincent van Gogh and his obsessively dedicated brother Theo, on Apr. 7 at 7:30pm. On Apr. 8 at 7:30pm, see *Frida*, the landmark film portrait of Frida Kahlo, the Mexican painter widely considered to be the most important female artist of the 20th century.

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Come see films from French cinema 1950-55. Apr.9-11, Rene Clement's 1953 classic *Knaves of Hearts* (Monsieur Ripois) will be presented in its original English version. It's about a married man, in London, who tries to seduce his best friend's wife. Admission is $5.

MIT
Room 1-390
Mass. Ave. at Memorial Drive
A Japanese film series begins Apr. 2 with a triple bill of *Heaven and Earth* (set in 16th-century Japan), *Street of Shame* (about six prostitutes in 1955) and *Black Lizard* (campy film about a transvestite). The show begins at 7pm; all films are subtitled in English.

Museum of Fine Arts
365 Huntington Ave., Boston
The eight-program series on Icelandic Cinema runs through Apr. 16. On Apr. 2 at 5:45pm, see *As in Heaven*, about a young girl in 1936, and *Children of Nature*, the Oscar-nominated film about a elderly couple that runs away from their nursing home. All films have English subtitles; tickets are $6.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Apr. 1, you can design your own bicycle at a cutting-edge interactive computer station, featuring spectacular 3-D color graphics. Also, see R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Although some of the outdoor exhibits will not be open until Apr. 15, there is still plenty to see indoors, such as the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas) and the House of Birds. Even in the winter, you can see Hooves and Horns outside, with zebras, llama, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Gore Place
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is locate on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours, inside and out, run Apr. 15-Nov. 15. Call 894-2798 for hours.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

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ARTS

WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY LESLIE SEMONIAN

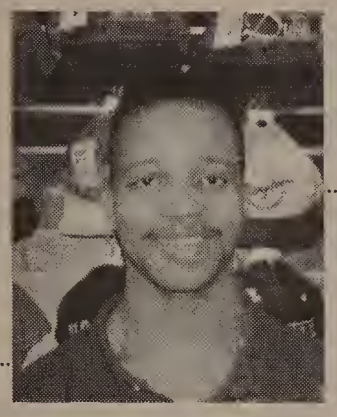
"What is something you would never do?"



William, 31, Jamaica Plain
"Commit suicide, because even in the worst of times, better days are usually not too far off."

Suzanne, 25, Brookline
"Cannibalism. It doesn't seem very pleasing to the palate."

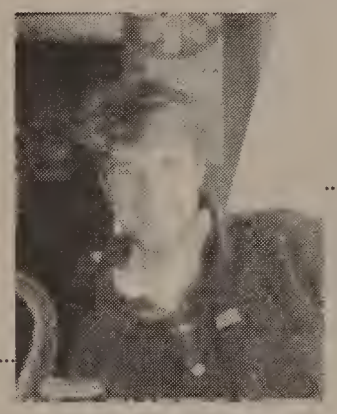




James, 22, Allston
"I would never eat chocolate-covered ants."

Rebecca, 40ish, Winchester
"I would never sky dive. I don't think I would have the courage. You need essential trust."





John, 25, Hyde Park
"I would never leave a friend stranded."

Amy & Scott, Atlanta, GA
"We'd never get divorced, because we'd never want to go through wedding hassles again.



HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture until May 30. From Shakespeares's *Twelfth Night* to the recent movie *The Crying Game*, cross-dressing has challenged audiences to think in new ways. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9pm.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 3 and part two until September. Also, see the Harold Samuel Collection of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings through May 9. Artists featured include Hals, Brueghel, van der Neer and others.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit through May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures! Through May 16, take a whimsical look at some of the attitudes people hold toward wildlife, domesticated animals and the environment in the exhibit "The Good, the Bad and the Cuddly."

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74.



IMPROPER ARTS PICK

Holy Turnaround: Believe your eyes – that is Julie Woods (pictured, right) portraying Christ in The Noise's production of "Jesus Christ, Superstar." This show, including an all-alternative music cast with people like Doug Thoms (left) as Judas, is playing at the Middle East Downstairs, 480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 8 p.m. April 9-11. Tickets are $10 in advance; call 247-2238.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

PEABODY & ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square, Salem
The nation's oldest maritime museum is presenting "The Great Age of Sail: Treasures from the National Maritime Museum of Greenwich, England" until June 2. It features over 100 of the world's most famous and highly-prized treasures of maritime art. Call 508-745-1876.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
539 Tremont St., Boston
Duet for One, a chillingly vibrant and sometimes comic confrontation between an ailing virtuoso violinist and her clinically detached psychiatrist, plays at the Black Box Theater through Apr. 4. Call 426-ARTS for times and ticket information.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. ***A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*** through the end of spring. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, ***Shear Madness*** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, ***Shear Madness*** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

CICATRIX THEATRE
at the Charlestown Working Theatre
The Charlestown Working Theatre re-opens with the new play *Itchin' for It*, a rhythm & blues "thrance" to the music of Otis Redding and Etta James. The show runs until Apr. 3. Call 242-3285 for times and ticket information.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
See ***Guys and Dolls***, the feel-good musical that had Broadway going for a long time. Runs through Apr. 11. From Apr. 13-18, see ***Catskills on Broadway***, with one-liners and wisecracks all night long. Call 931-2787 for times and ticket information.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Undiscovered Country crystallizes the world of the Austrian-Hungarian empire in 1911, just before its end. In beautiful Vienna, the wealthy middle class has everything; this is a poignant portrait of an era whose end is foreseen only in the hearts and minds of its people. Runs through Apr. 4. Call 266-0800 for times and ticket information.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
David Mamet's critically-acclaimed ***American Buffalo*** runs through April 18. It's set in a Chicago junk shop where three small-time crooks plot to rob a man of his valuable coin collection. Call 437-7172 for times and tickets.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MERRIMACK THEATRE
at the Lowell Auditorium
East Merrimack St., Lowell
Come see a world premiere of an adaptation of ***A Cambodian Odyssey***, the book which served as the basis for the award-winning movie "The Killing Fields." It runs until Apr. 10. Call 508-454-6324 for more information.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
The Mystery Cafe presents *Let's Kill the Boss* every Thur. at 7:30pm, Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6 and 9pm and Sun. at 7pm. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the Boston premiere of *My Children! My Africa!*, a searing drama and devastating portrait of people living under the yoke of apartheid. Runs through Apr. 4. Call 332-1646 for times and ticket information.

OUT OF THE BLUE THEATER
at the Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Out of the Blue presents three farces in each performance through Apr. 3, Thu-Sun at 8pm. The triple-header features Chekhov's *The Marriage Proposal* and *The Bear* and Neil Simon's *The Defenseless Creature*. Call 576-

(continued on following page)

ARTS

(Theater Continued)

1253 for tickets.

SHUBERT THEATRE
265 Tremont St., Boston
An international Brazilian spectacular known as "Oba Oba '93" will heat up Boston through Apr. 4 with the sights and sounds of Brazil: from the congas of Carnival to the lambada of Rio's hottest nightclubs. Call 1-800-233-3123 for ticket information.

TERRACE ROOM
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Hurry to see the limited engagement of *Camelot* with Robert Goulet. Lerner and Loewe's classic musical runs through Apr. 4. Call 931-2787 for times and tickets.

LECTURES/READINGS

ARCO FORUM
at Harvard Univ.
79 JFK St., Cambridge
Several well-respected panelists and keynote speaker Stephanie Stokes Oliver, editor of *Essence* magazine, will speak on "Image of African-American Women on Screen" Apr. 2 at 6:30pm. Free.

FORD HALL FORUM
at the Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston
To commemorate the groundbreaking of the New England Holocaust Memorial, Father Robert F. Drinan and Helen Fein will speak Apr.8 at 7pm on "Why Remember: Lessons the Holocaust Can Teach Us Today." On Apr. 15 at 7pm, Marjorie Clapprood and Judy Jarvis discuss "Talk Radio: Political Platform for the People."
Free, and a Q & A session follows. Call 437-5800.

MASS. BAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
McKenzie Auditorium, Wellesley
Educator and author Jonathan Kozol will speak on "American Education: Savage Inequalities" at 8pm on Apr. 6. Tickets are $15.

MOKA
130 Dartmouth St., Boston
Every Sunday at 7pm, Moka hosts Boston's best poetry slams. Call 424-7768 for more information.

WORDSWORTH BOOKS
at the Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
Twice a week in her syndicated *New York Times* column, Anna Quindlen wrties about the clash between public and private issues. On Apr. 7 at 5:30pm, Quindlen will speak on her columns and her newest book, *Thinking Out Loud*. Admission is free, but tickets are necessary; pick them up at Wordsworth bookstore or the teatre.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA GALLERY
154 Newbury St., Boston
In conjunction with the Society of Arts & Crafts gallery at 101 Arch St., Boston, Alianza presents the work of New England women jewelers from Apr. 9 to June 4.

BEN KUPFERMAN GALLERY
115 Atlantic Ave., Boston
Unique workshop featuring original hand-wrought silver and gold jewelry. Sculptures in bronze, concrete and 'found' objects are also featured.

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
For the month of April, this store features "Curl Up and Dye," a display of old advertising that illustrates our obsession with hair. Free.

SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS
175 Newbury St., Boston
Through May 2, see a stunning array of decorative art in the show "Celebration of Excellence: Artists Exhibited at the Society and Represented in the Permanent Collection at the Museum of Fine Arts."

SPECIAL EVENTS

BLACK BOOKS FESTIVAL AND BAZAAR
at Roxbury Community College
1234 Columbus Ave., Roxbury
The Massachusetts Black Librarians' Network sponsors this event Apr. 10 from 10am-6pm to raise money for their scholarship fund. There will be book and craft vendors featuring a variety of merchandise. Cost is $3. Call 522-1960.

MURDER MYSTERY
at the Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Local sleuths can join the likes of Poirot, Marple, Holmes and Morse to solve "The Case of the Literary Executioner" on Apr. 1 at 7:30pm. Tickets are $70 if you dress up as a well-known sleuth, $80 without costume. Call 492-2777 x3485 for more infonmation.

PARTY FOR A PLATE
at Avalon
15 Lansdowne St., Boston
Help set the table for change at an evening of great food and great music, all to benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank. Donation is only $25, and you get to eat food from places like Caffe Lampara, 29 Newbury, Hampshire House and Davio's. Call the Boston College Alumni Assoc. for information.

ROXY
279 Tremont St., Boston
The Roxy holds its grand reopening Apr. 1 at 6pm with a benefit for the Friends of Boston's Long Island Shelter. Tickets are $35. This event will feature food from a variety of area restaurants, dancing to the White Heat Swing Orchestra and a raffle.

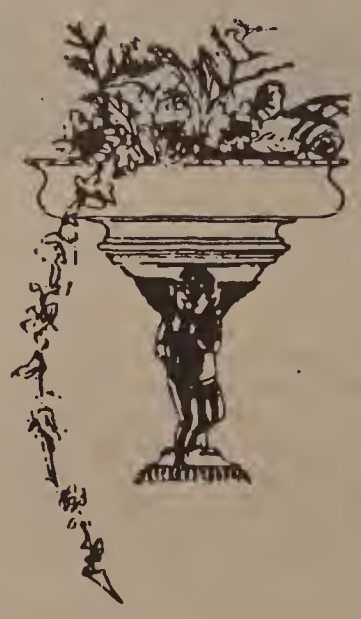
WORLD FAIR 1993
at Boston University
BU will hold a 10-day celebration of the history, culture, art and cuisine of nations across the globe, from Apr. 2-12. Call 353-3565 for daily events and schedules.

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STAGE NOTES

BY NANCY LEONARD

"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline," starring country singer Sandy Martin, has extended its run at the Charles Playhouse. It's now booked through the end of March, with celebrity guest DJ's adding to the fun. For information, call 426-6912.

"Beau Jest", a comedy by James Sherman, has been extended for a second time at the Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center in Newton. The performance dates are February 11 - March 7. For information and tickets, call 965-5226.

Lynn Redgrave will appear in "Shakespeare For My Father" on Sunday, March 21, at 3 p.m. at Symphony Hall. She will perform excerpts from the Bard's plays and sonnets in a one-woman presentation, as a living memorial to her late father, Sir Michael Redgrave. The engagement is sponsored by the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series. To charge tickets, call 482-6661.

On Monday, March 8, at 8 p.m., Alvin Epstein and Julie Harris will give a special benefit performance for the American Repertory Theatre of "Dear Liar," adapted by longtime ART collaborator Jerome Kiltv from the correspondence of George Bernard Shaw and Mrs. Patrick Campbell. General admission tickets are $35. Tickets for priority seating and a special post-performance reception are $75. For tickets call the ART box office: 547-8300.

The ART Institute for Advanced Theatre Training will present "The Duchess of Malfi" by John Webster, at the Zero Church Street Performance Space, in Cambridge, February 19, 20, 23-27 at 7 p.m., and February 21 at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Ticket prices are $10 for the general public, and $8 for students, seniors, and ART subscribers. They can be purchased at the ART box office.

If you're having trouble drumming up enthusiasm over the return of "A Chorus Line" to Boston for the umpteenth time, try taking a charitable view: consider that this two-week stop at the Shubert Theatre (February 23 - March 7) adds royalties to the coffers of the New York Shakespeare Festival, the innovative nonprofit institution where the work originated. If you've never seen this musical, keep in mind that this is billed as its final visit to Boston. In past stops, it's been exhilarating entertainment.

Two popular successes of the '92 Shakespeare & Company season are coming to the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street. Tom Kempinski's "Duet for One" will play March 9-April 4. Inspired by the life of cellist Jacqueline du Pre, it follows the struggle of a world-class musician after she loses the ability to play. "Berkeley Square," by John L. Balderston, based on an unfinished novel by Henry James, will play March 10-28. Written in the 1920's, made into a film, and performed on Broadway and the West End, this mixture of a ghost story, farce, and romance follows a modern American hero back into the 18th century. Mail orders can be directed to The Box Office, Shakespeare Company, P.O. Box 865, Lenox, MA 01240. For information, call them at (413) 637-1197. As of March 1, tickets can be ordered locally, by calling the box office at 426-ARTS.

"Three Guys Who Know Better," a musical evening that is part political satire and part Great American Songbook, plays at the Lyric Stage Sundays, at 7 p.m. on February 14, 28, March 7, 21, 28, April 4 and 11. Jack Bresnahan, Lang Desjardins, and Robert Leinbach play the three guys. For tickets, call 437-7172.

Meanwhile, the Lyric is presenting Ranjet Bolt's new translation of Pierre Corneille's "The Liar" as their main program. This romantic comedy about a young man whose compulsive lies complicate and endanger his love life runs through March 14.

A two-part musical variety show titled "Ben & Brad in Berlin toBerlin," featuring Boston cabaret veterans Benjamin Sears and Bradford Conner, will be at The Performance Place, 277 Broadway, Somerville, Wednesday through Saturday, February 24 - March 20. The evening begins with a music-accompanied monologue, "Kaiser Bill," by Richard Weiss. For information, call Theatre in Process, which is presenting the work, at 267-1053. For tickets, call 254-1125.

Marianne Plunkett, the performer Boston claims as its own since she spent so many years captivating audiences in this city before moving on to New York, was recently singled out for critical praise in a New York Times review of her performance in George Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan," with the National Actors Theatre. Mel Gussow referred to her as the "one consistently salutary note" in the company's presentation of classics on Broadway over the past two years. She "has gone about her acting with a clear-eyed determination and a talent that shines no matter what the surrounding pallor," with her prior roles leading up to this "impassioned performance." Boston theatregoers know of what he speaks, since they had an opportunity to see her in the same role in the 1985-1986 season at the Huntington Theatre Company. It's one of the Huntington highlights. ❑

PROPER BOSTONIANS

PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER
BANK OF BOSTON CELEBRITY SERIES
MARCH 23, 1993
DAVIO'S, ROYAL SONESTA, CAMBRIDGE
CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FIRST BOSTON APPEARANCE



Judith Jamison, Alvin Ailey Artistic Director and opening night guest Rev. Charles Stith



Company member Leonard Meeks (center) flanked by Boston fans Juarez Farrington (left) and Cheryle Wills (right)



AMERICAN LIVER FOUNDATION
BID FOR LIFE '93
MARCH 21, 1993
COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL

Davio's owner/Bank of Boston Celebrity Series board member Steve DiFillippo (left) and Bank of Boston Celebrity Series Executive Director Walter Pierce (right)



In support of the Liver Foundation, Boston Bruin Cam Neely (center) hangs with teammates Don Sweeny (left) and Dave Poulin (right)



Past and present All Star Bruin Defensemen Ray Bourque (left) and Honorary Event Chairman Terry O'Reilly (right)

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Mon.-Fri., 10 am to 4 pm, 6 pm to 9 pm; Sat., 10 am to 4 pm

Collection Deadline April 5 for ships provided by U.S. Government

Monetary donations will be used to make bulk purchases.
Make checks payable to church of your choice earmarked "Operation Winter Rescue."

Coordinated by U.S. Fund for Democracy and Development
ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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DINING

SORENTOS

The Neighborly Thing to Do

BY R.E. BRUNSON

Sorento's is a neighborhood restaurant with a variety of dining options. It is a place for pizza with friends, for take out after a tiring day's work, or for a late night rendezvous with someone special. The restaurant is located in a large storefront on Peterborough Street in the Fenway, and is furnished in a minimalistic style with red and yellow patterned walls and heavy black chairs with natural wood tables. A lone shelf decorates one of the walls and there is also a bar-style counter that faces the large open kitchen. However stark the surroundings seem, the atmosphere is brightened considerably by the pleasant staff and the bustling of activity as the restaurant fills with customers.

On the night of our visit, bread was promptly delivered by our waitress as we looked over the menu. The rolls, warm brown pillows lightly dusted with flour, were made on the premises. They were accompanied by butter, but our preference was to dunk the chewy bread into the rosemary and garlic olive oil that was stocked on the table. The menu was very straightforward, with most of the selections falling under the headings of pasta, pizza, or calzones. Wine and beer were unavailable, but should be served in the near future, since the restaurant has recently received the appropriate license.

For starters, the antipasto plate ($7.60) was a delightful surprise. The plate was filled with olives, chicken covered with fresh pesto, roasted peppers (with a hot zing), thinly-sliced prosciutto, roasted eggplant, and a wedge of tangy, nutty fontinella cheese. The only disappointment was the olives – they appeared to be the pitted, canned ones from California.

For main courses, an attempt was made to touch all bases by ordering a pizza called the Panino ($11), a calzone of chicken and prosciutto ($9.25) and two pasta dishes, rigatoni Milano ($10.15) and capellini con pollo ($9.25). While waiting for the food, our attention was drawn to the line of individuals waiting for take-out. The influx of customers was constant. Periodically, delivery people would make an entrance, grab a parcel, and run out the door. After seeing all this activity, we questioned our waitress and a take-out menu was produced. As we dreamed of the delivery possibilities, the pizza arrived.

The panino pizza, one of the more expensive pizzas on the menu, came with a crisp, thin crust and was covered with prosciutto, mushrooms, onions and fontinella cheese. It was delicious, and with eight large slices there was more than we could handle (the leftovers were taken home). Next, the prosciutto and chicken calzone arrived, its deep brown crust encasing the triple layers of sliced chicken breast, prosciutto and a mixture of mozzarella, romano and fontinella cheeses. The calzone was tasty and filling – Italian comfort food. Even those who initially found it a little plain thoroughly enjoyed the calzone with the addition of tomato sauce (side order $1.45).

SORENTOS

$$
Sorento's
86 Peterborough Street, Fenway
424-7070
No Reservations Accepted
Hours: 11:00 a.m. - Midnight
Take Out and Free Delivery Available
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However, the true favorite was the rigatoni Milano. The bowl of al dente rigatoni was mixed with a light cream sauce with mushroom and, inexplicably, vodka. This lively dish was passed around the table several times as it was tasted again and again. In contrast to the rigatoni, the capellini con pollo proved to be a disappointment. In this dish, sautéed medallions of ground chicken breast, pine nuts and prosciutto were served with mushrooms and artichoke hearts in a Dijon mustard cream sauce over capellini pasta. Unfortunately, the Dijon mustard so overpowered the other ingredients that it set our teeth on edge. The dish was left unfinished.

Sometimes, simple things are the best. This was certainly the case with the desserts; the homemade cannoli ($2) was the best dessert of the evening. The thin and crunchy shell was filled with a lightly sweetened ricotta and sprinkled with powdered sugar. Accompanied by the cappuccino ($2.50), it was a marriage made in heaven. The other desserts were pleasant, but not too inspiring. The apple cheesecake ($3.25) had a crumb topping and layer of apples between the cheesecake and the graham cracker crust. It was a little dry. The Pecan Pie ($2.50) bore a strong resemblance to its southern cousins and was quite good with the exception of the heavy crust. All in all, it was a pleasant evening with pleasing food. Every neighborhood should be so lucky. ❑

APPETEASERS



Ursula Argyropoulos

(Left to Right) Ann Robert, Sue Parks, Hilmar B. Jonsson and André Robert enjoy the Last Scandinavian dinner hosted by Maison Robert.

BY PETER MCNAMARA AND CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

MARCH OF DIMES MASSACHUSETTS PIZZA CHALLENGE

On Saturday, March 20, The Pizza Challenge to benefit the March of Dimes was hosted by Jordan's Furniture in Avon. National pizza chains such as **Papa Gino's** and **Pizzeria Uno**, and local restaurants such as **Sicilia's Pizzeria**, **Costco**, and **Christo's** participated, with Boston's South End **Sicilia's** breaking away as the overwhelming victor, taking Best Sauce, Best Cheese, and Best All Around Pizza. Celebrity guests included Chuck Nolan-WZLX disc jockey, Barbara Morse-Channel 56 Weekend News Anchor, New England Patriots Tim Edwards and Rob McGovern.

PREPARING A ROMANTIC DINNER FOR TWO

Boylston Street's **Marais**, recently named one of the 17 hottest restaurants in the United States by **Bon Appetit** Magazine, has announced a very special opportunity. On Monday, March 22 at 6 p.m. **Marais** chefs will be offering an intimate cooking demonstration on how to prepare a romantic dinner for two. Former *Boston Globe* restaurant critic and wine writer Robert Levey will be joining the chefs to give advice on choosing the proper wines to accompany and compliment this special meal. Price is $30 per person, which includes instruction and tasting. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 482-7799.

APRIL FOOL WINE DINNER

On The Square, Watertown is hosting "Wines to Tease the Palate and Food To Fool the Eye" for their annual April Fool Wine Dinner. Cost is $55 per person plus tax & gratuity. Telephone 923-1522.

CHILDREN-FRIENDLY BRUNCH

Cecil's, at 129 South Street in Boston (which is now open for Sunday brunch) has announced their new, children-friendly brunch one Sunday each month. Child-oriented entertainers will help keep the kids busy in their 'children-friendly' room, set in an adult environment where parents will enjoy themselves as well. A portion of the proceeds from these brunches will be donated to children-related causes. Call 542-5108 for more.

THE GREEN GORILLA

Something new is on the horizon from **The Green Gorilla** people. Starting this spring, they will be offering delivery of a standard box of the best and freshest seasonal fruits and vegetables to your home or place of business each week. "Our standard $20 box would cost $30 from your retailer," they explain. For all of you out there without a 'retailer,' here's your chance at frugal fruits. Contact **The Green Gorilla** at (508) 650-4232.

ABSOLUTELY NEW

Rumor has it that longtime House of Blues bartender Timmy Lee is in the drawing room, concocting a new drink using Absolut's latest licensed liquid, **Absolut Kurant**. Look for it soon.

GOINGS ON

Papa Razzi is opening a new branch at 14-16 Washington Street (off route 16) in Wellesley. Executive Chef extraordinaire **Michael Ferguson** will be overseeing the kitchen staff. As of this issue, **Papa Razzi** is "still looking for good people to join our team." Charles Street's **Ristorante Toscano** is opening a new cooking school upstairs from their restaurant. Welcomes to **Waterview Restaurant & Seafood** at 150 Northern Ave. in Boston. Word has it that the **Rattlesnake Bar** on Boylston St. is opening a new Southwestern-Mexican Restaurant downstairs, and has hired one of Boston's most talented chefs. More to come. **Davio's**, one of the Boston area's great Italian dining traditions has announced a new addition to their Cambridge restaurant in the Royal Sonesta Hotel. Reknowned Chef *Liza Connolly* has created a scintillating new menu of appetizers, soups, pastas and entrees that combines the best of today with the Old Country inspiration. ❑

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DINING

In Vino Veritas

Kosher for Passover, Drinkable Anytime

BY JONATHON ALSOP

Let me confess that kosher wine is a once-a-year experience for me, and it's the same for many people. Some memories persist, but they're of misripened, sickly sweet Concord wines, and the injunction each year of the Manischewitz Doctrine refutes any progress a wine lover might hope to make.

Last year's pitiful Passover wine offerings (supplied by myself) were brutal, with strange fruit-gone-south flavors and aromas of rubber and soap. This year will not be a repeat performance, even if I have to buy a bunch of Adelsheim pinot noir and pinot gris from Oregon and bear the sin of passing it off as kosher based on its quasi-Jewish name. Not that I recommend this. You could do it, but it would be *wrong.*

Ian White and the wine pros at Marty's in Allston are hosting their annual free kosher fine wine tasting Saturday, April 3 from 2-4 p.m. The good news is the selection of good kosher wines. The strange news is that I find myself wanting a couple of these wines again, kosher or not. Which ones, you ask?

- '90 Baron Herzog Sauvignon Blanc (Cal.), $8: lean, sharp and dry, fresh cut grass, very good, very much like fume blanc. '
- '92 Carmel Sauvignon Blanc "Samson" (Israel), $6: a bargain, forceful and unique, big grapefruit and pineapple flavors, fun acidic zing, sunny. '
- '90 Yarden Galil Chardonnay (Israel), $12.50: lean and delicious, very civilized, nice cream and butter, a solid chardonnay.
- '90 Baron Herzog Reserve Chardonnay (Cal.), $13: a winner, classic California "reserve" style with big butter, big oak, toast and butterscotch.
- NV J. Furst California Red Table Wine (Cal.), $6.50: smells like tree sap, tastes like red licorice pop; OK for the money, winner of this year's "Easy-To-Drink" award.
- '90 Carmel Cabernet Sauvignon "Samson" (Israel), $6.50: very pleasing cinnamon and mincemeat, a little light on the fruit, a good cheap red.
- '88 Carmel Galil Cabernet Sauvignon (Israel), $10: full of smoke and oak, aromas of tobacco and dry herbs with flavors of over-ripe black fruit, very nice French styling.
- '89 Baron Herzog Cabernet Sauvignon Special Cuvee (Cal.), $10: straight-ahead California cab, bright fresh fruit, great spices, easy to love at $10.

Tastings Around Town

- Brookline Liquor Mart, Allston: Sat. 2-4 p.m. and Tue. 5:30-7 p.m.
- Blanchard's in Allston, every Fri. 5-8 p.m. and every Sat. 2-5 p.m.
- Winecellar of Silene, Copley & Waltham, Fri. 4-6:30 p.m. and Sat. 2-4:30 p.m.
- Marty's in Allston & Newton, Sat. 1-3 p.m. Bauer on Newbury Street, Sat. 4-7 p.m.
- Kappy's in Sudbury & Mall Wines at Fresh Pond in Cambridge, Sat. noon-6 p.m.
- Chestnut Hill Wine Cellar, in the old Chestnut Hill Mall by Star Market, every Sat. 4-6 p.m.
- Gordon's in Waltham, Sat. 1-4 p.m.
- Violette in Cambridge, either the first or last Sat. of each month.

Fine Wine On A Tight Budget

Beacon Beverage, Brookline:

- '85 Kendall-Jackson "DePatie-DuPratt Vineyard" Zinfandel $9, wonderful mature zin with good fruit and kinky spice.
- '83 Seville Estate "Lilydale" Cabernet Sauvignon 3/$12, in Aussie years, this '83 is more like '73, ancient eucalyptus, sweet pumpkin pie and dense fruit, delicious, drink now.
- '85 Ca' del Bosco Franciacorta $7, bargain blend with cabernet franc and merlot versus barbera and nebbiolo.

Gordon's, Waltham: till 4/17, 20% off all wines under $10, 12-bottle minimum assortment, it doesn't get any better than this.

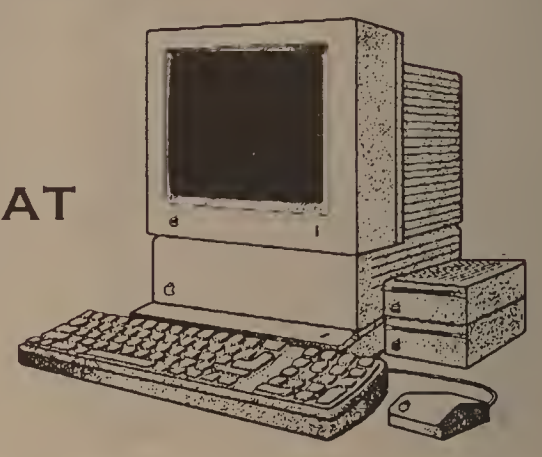
- Mixed case, red: '89 Ch. Recougne, '90 Brusset CdR Cairanne, '90 Bel Arbors Zin, average $5.45 a bottle. Mixed case, white: '91 Ca' del Solo, '91 Jepson SB, '91 R.H. Phillips Chard, average $6.39 a bottle.

Bay State Food, corner of Beacon & Summit in Brookline: this little grocery has a hideous wine & booze hovel attached and has long held first place as World's Worst Wine Shop Ever (All Categories), but this week it managed to hack up two decent bargains. '90 Latour Pinot Noir $6 and '86 Hill-Smith Semillon Botrytis Affected $2.50/half-bottle. ❑

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P.S.- The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has adopted a resolution on February 11, 1993 urging "The people of the commonwealth to contribute warm clothing, medical supplies and food as generously as possible to Operation Winter Rescue.

BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ

1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, .232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m

CACTUS CLUB

939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standarAmerican breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accptd.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR

300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and a traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY 3

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped with poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

MARKETPLACE GRILL
The Oar Bar
FANEUIL HALL'S NEWEST RESTAURANT
Wining at the **Oar Bar** until 2am
Dining at the **Marketplace Grill**, featuring fine regional American cuisine and Sunday Brunch
North Market building, above the Marketplace Cafe
Monday–Saturday, 11:30 am–11:00 pm Brunch, 10:30 am–1:30 pm 227-1272

AMSTERDAM'S
BAR & ROTISSERIE
American Bistro Dining
Grilled Pizza. Fried Wontons. Calamari Rings.
Rotisserie-cooked chicken, seafood and fine cuts of meat.
Ceasar Salad. Mediterranean Salad. Sweet Potato Fries.
And, of course, desserts!
Boston's Best American Bistro food. With a great Bar on the side.
54 Arlington St., Boston Park Plaza Hotel • 426-1111
Seven Days till 2 am. (Food Service till 1). Weekday Lunch • Live Jazz Monday at 9 pm.

ARARAT
RESTAURANT
HOMEMADE VEGETARIAN FOODS
PREPARED DAILY
Falafel
Hommos
Tabouleh
Babaganous
Stuffed Grape Leaves
Mujadara
(Black Lentil
with Rice)
Pilaki (Kidney Beans)
Musakka (Eggplant)
Ararat Restaurant 71 Arlington Street, Watertown, MA
(617)924-4100 • Open Monday - Saturday 11-9

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liquers



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scotches



soft beverages



panini



pizza





255 Hanover Street
Boston

3 Water Street
Boston

1 Elliot Street
Cambridge

349 Newbury Street
Boston (May '92)

DINING

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

Restaurant listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3705.

ANOTHER SEASON
97 Mount Vernon St., Boston 367-0880
A, MC, V, $$
A classic restaurant with a modern menu served in style is what you will find at Another Season. The diverse menu offers wonderful specials and a creative three-course prix fixe menu for $22.00 (Mon. - Thurs.) For reservations, information or a copy of the prix fixe menu for Fall please call 367-0880.

AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, clean cut and authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only one item priced over five dollars, their menu offers the best deals in this category. Choose between rotisseried chicken and kabobs. You'll be an addict of their lamb kebobs after trying them only once. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad and pita and hommos. Ararat also offers take-out service. Hours are 11am-9pm, Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BLUE WAVE
142 Berkeley Street, Boston, 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am -11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303
M, V, A, $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

THE CAJUN YANKEE
1193 Cambridge St.Cambridge, MA 576-1971
MC, V, D, $$
Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings to Boston the best of the bayou. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep-fried cheese, stuffed avocado with chipotal salsa, and blackened scallops. Entrees include: New Orleans seafood platter, sauteed crawfish, and blackened prime rib. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday through Saturday.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo Wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that *feels* like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. All around you are floor to ceiling windows that look out over the streets of Boston's North End. The English-style ales are all robust top fermented, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30AM to 12 midnight Sun.- Thurs. and until 1:00AM Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

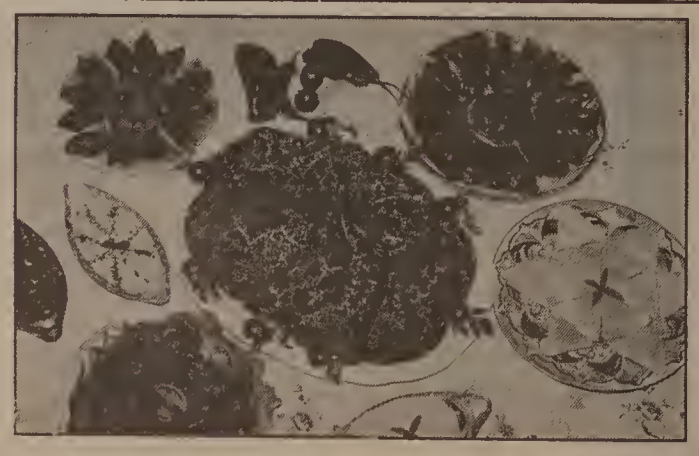
CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos. 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted 1B's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulgirg burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

FOSTER'S BAR & GRILL
5 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate



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Rice Pudding
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Lots More

Old World Charm Still Exists

DINING

ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

Hungry I

71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

Icarus

3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

India Samraat

51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties inclued Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super Lunch Special 12 - 3p.m.Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take out/delivery and catering services available.

Jae's Cafe & Grill

520 Columbus Ave., Boston
421-9405 $$ MC/V/AMEX
Nestled in Boston's South End, this two-floor, charming restaurant offers quality food with a Korean accent. Whether you choose one of the curry dishes, vegetable entrees, or selections from Jae's complete sushi bar, the courteous service and very reasonable prices are the perfect compleiments to any of their delicious meals. Desserts are also not to be missed. Full take out service available.

Jose's Mexican Food

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, MA
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza (about 25 beers to choose from). Mention the Improper Bostonian and get **20%** off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accesible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

Jamaica Jamaica

16 Prospect St., Cambridge, MA 864-9368 MC, V $
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, sample Caribbean inspired dishes at this friendly Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, its hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

Kashmir

279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$
Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

Legal Sea Foods

Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos. 426-4444
A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal". One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod. Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch and dinner. Sat./Sun., dinner menu only in town; lunch available. in the suburbs.

Mamma Maria

3 North Sq. North End, Boston
$$ D, V, MC, A; Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
523-0077
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar

301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2am.

Massimino's Cucina Italiana

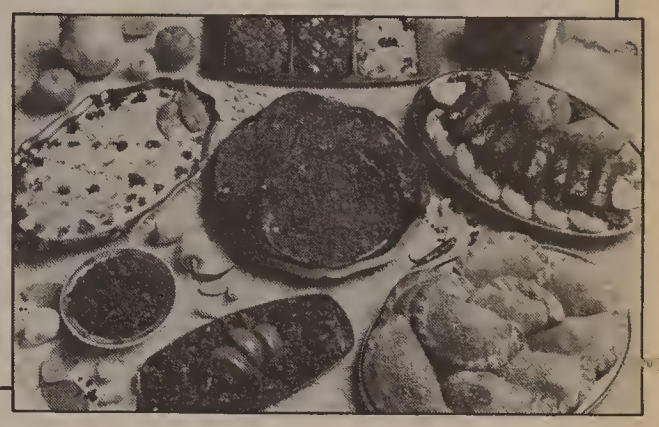
207 Endicott St., Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

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1 MASTERING THE ART OF SELLING
with the Nation's #1 Sales Trainer,
TOM HOPKINS
Date: April 12, 1993 From 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

SEMINAR TOPICS:
- How to make your words work for you
- Why people do and don't buy from you and what you can do about it
- How to build strong rapport every time with new prospects
- Questions to ask to get the information you need to close the sale
- How to make the telephone work for you ...outgoing call strategies and scripts ...ways to handle telephone tag ...what to say to turn inquiry calls into sales
- Specific Phraseology for 10 powerful closes
- How to revive "dead" sales
- 7 keys to building buyer confidence


Tom Hopkins, author of the million selling, "How to Master the Art of Selling".

2 MANAGING FOR RESULTS
Date: April 13, 1993 From 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
How to Gain, Train and Maintain a Dynamic Sales Force!
Developed by Tom Hopkins Int'l., taught by management trainer Don Jennings. Everything you need to know to turn you sales force into a top producing team!
Veterans and rookies will learn all this and more!
*Interviewing and hiring *Sales training
*Tapping superstar potential *Leadership principles
*Goal setting *Results oriented supervision
*It's recommended that sales managers and owners attend together.


Don Jennings has 26 years sales training experience

3 TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE
Jim Rohn
Date: May 11, 1993 From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
THE "NO NONSENSE" APPROACH TO OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
RESPOND TO THIS INVITATION TO MAKE YOUR LIFE ALL YOU WANT
...An intensive seminar to refine those areas of human behavior that are most important to those in search of financial and personal success.
...Take a journey with JIM ROHN into ideas, procedures, insights and inspirations that will dramatically effect you in a way that lets you affect yourself.
...In this seminar, Jim Rohn challenges us to be something more than mediocre. So if you've ever wanted a seminar that contained the material for making you become more than you are, and one containing enough inspiration to last a lifetime...THIS IS THE ONE!

HERE'S SOME OF WHAT YOU'LL LEARN
- The Management of Time
- The Five Major Pieces to Life Puzzle
- The Power of Personal Development
- Problem Solving in 3 Simple Steps
- Skills of Awareness: Majors & Minors
- How to Affect People with Words
- The 4 Steps in Becoming a Success in Anything
- Behavior that Affects Your Impact in the Marketplace
- How Having Reasons Can Create Financial Security
- The Day that Turns Your Life Around


Jim Rohn
Author of "Seven Strategies for Wealth and Happiness"

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Sunday Brunch 11–4

Traditional Irish Music Session
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DINING

Moon Villa
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
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$
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The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pat's Pushcart
61 Endicott St., Boston, 523-9616
MC/V $$
Serving fine Italian cuisine for over twenty years, Pat's Pushcart is a mainstay in Boston's North End. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Don't forget to ask about their everchanging daily specialties—the highlights of their menu.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant & Bar
20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722 (542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D
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Pronto
464 Thames St., Newport, R.I. (401) 847-5251
MC/V $$$
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Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC,V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment.

Sorento's
86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston
536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
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Answer to Previous Puzzle

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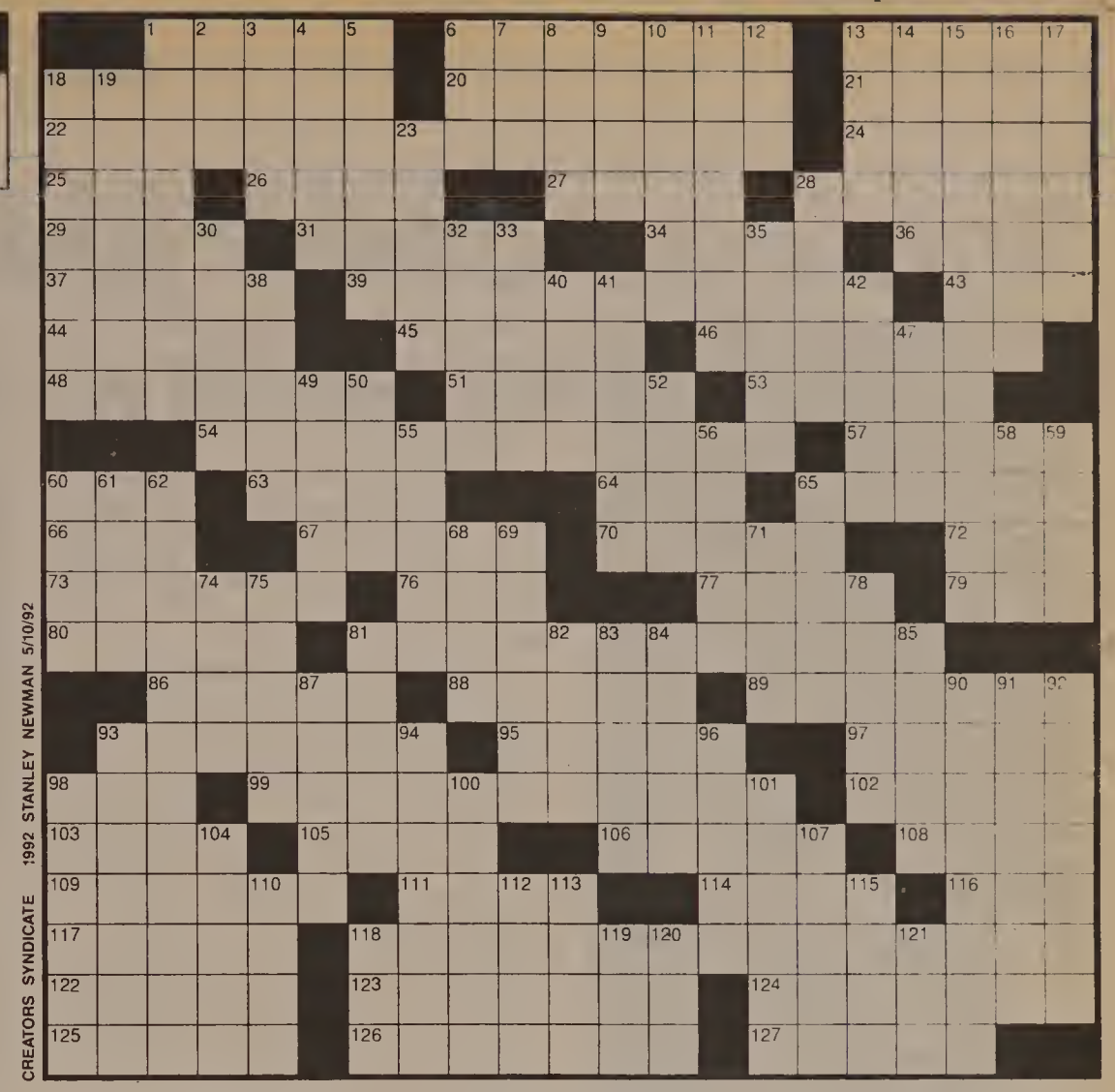
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

MIXED DOUBLES: Couples that go together somehow

by Randolph Ross



ACROSS

1 Like daylight?
6 Crude structures
13 Fire-gone conclusion
18 Foot lever
20 Like Coleridge's mariner
21 Minimal
22 Author/comic actor
24 *Siesta* time
25 General Amin
26 Comic Johnson
27 Comes together
28 Lose courage
29 NBA team
31 Half a '60s singing group
34 Seine tributary
36 Senior member
37 "I __ Right to Sing the Blues"
39 Philosopher/anthem author
43 Start of MGM's motto
44 Swiss mathematician
45 Synagogues
46 Brennan and Heckart
48 Pittsburgh player
51 On Mom's side
53 Sized up
54 *L.A. Law* star/ Pips leader
57 Atlas closeup
60 Xmas time
63 18-wheeler
64 Chiang's adversary
65 Part of ASAP
66 "Liza" lyricist
67 Mathematical relation
70 Make into law
72 Burmese statesman
73 Hoi polloi
76 Lowe or Reiner
77 Pro __
79 D-Day craft
80 Zeena's hubby
81 British actress/ *The Sound of Music* director
86 __ Dependent Children
88 Terpsichore's sister
89 Shell Oil's logo
93 Come out for
95 Big ape
97 Actress Massey
98 Find the total of
99 Vaudeville comic/ humorous author
102 Played over
103 A head of *Time*
105 Oven accessory
106 Founded: Abbr.
108 Comedian Foxx
109 Whist relative
111 Earring shape
114 Privy to
116 Pull even with
117 Like some entrées
118 Disco queen/ British actress
122 Dined at home
123 __ Russia (steppes site)
124 Changes table arrangements
125 Juan Carlos *y* Alfonso
126 Hide away
127 Vicinities

DOWN

1 Put down
2 "Far out!"
3 Greek theaters
4 Extreme concern
5 Kind of insurance
6 Murphy had one
7 Rock musician Brian
8 Slip __ (err)
9 Khartoum's river
10 Be a snitch
11 "Out of my way!"
12 Farm enclosure
13 Fictional terrier
14 Spill coffee on, perhaps
15 Western author/ *Starsky and Hutch* star
16 Makes beloved
17 Boat backs
18 Emotional pangs
19 Weather
23 Floor models
28 "I __ Song Coming On"
30 War horse
32 Pined (for)
33 Weasel-family member
35 Keep distant from
38 *Bedroom at* __ (van Gogh work)
40 Zest
41 "__ Goes By"
42 Himalayan hulks
47 Poetic nights
49 Observant ones
50 Santha __ Rau
52 *The French Connection* inspiration
55 Safecracker's "soup"
56 Secret stash
58 Unimaginably long time
59 Bolt fastener
60 Mercury __ (collectible coin)
61 Part of QED
62 Country singer/ rock singer
65 Unfinished room
68 __ *Russia $1200* (Bob Hope book)
69 Moon of Uranus
71 Cornfield cries
74 Port __, Egypt
75 Finance (a scholarship)
78 Light __
81 Anwar's successor
82 Reddish-brown gem
83 "Thereby hangs __"
84 Things to avoid
85 Aunt in *Oklahoma!*
87 "Go ahead and ask!"
90 Young and Swit
91 Trying to reduce
92 Caters basely (to)
93 Enlighten
94 Feel zeal
96 Was selected
98 Sour brew
100 Very small
101 Supreme Court name
104 Correspondent Pyle
107 Leafy shelter
110 Baking pans
112 Barbra's *Funny Girl* costar
113 Folksinger Seeger
115 Business-page abbr.
118 Airline to Stockholm
119 Slow down, in mus.
120 "Bullet"
121 AFT rival

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HOTHOUSE FLOWERS' 'SONGS FROM THE RAIN'

A Fertile Breeding Ground For Hits



The Hothouse Flowers

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

The Hothouse Flowers have an incredibly bright, large sound. They bring together the hard-won sincerity of a young Springsteen, the sprawling tenor of all the soul greats, and the potentiality in their playing that lends aliveness to rock and roll, and authenticate it with a sound that is as unique as it is eclectic. The real feel of their music brims over with the simple conviviality that draws off of authentic Irish music from the Waterboys and the Chieftains to Van Morrison and on through the annals of traditional Irish storytellers and musicians.

Absent from this country since a WBCN Homeless Benefit at the Boston Garden in October 1990, following the release of their second album, *Home*, the Hothouse Flowers have been anything but stagnant in the periods between their albums. Their latest release, *Songs from the Rain*, shows them to be blossoming into a major force in the contemporary pop scene.

Since *Home*, the band has appeared on recordings that span the pop music spectrum. Among them is Rolling Stone Ronnie Wood's recent *Slide on This* solo album. "We met [Wood] in Dublin," says Hothouse guitarist Fiachna O'Braonain. "He lives outside the city and he's a frequenter of some of the late-night establishments that we like to patronize. We just hit it off and exchanged phone numbers."

Another collaboration followed with Def Leppard singer Joe Eliot for some Leppard B-sides: "This Irish television program puts musicians together who might not necessarily collaborate otherwise," explains singer and keyboard player Liam O'Maonlai. "He's a really solid musician to work with."

American folk singer Michelle Shocked enlisted their help for her critically-acclaimed *Arkansas Traveler* set. "She was traveling around with a mobile studio, recording with a lot of people that she admired," says O'Braonain. "She asked us to help her out on one of the songs, 'Over The Waterfall,' so she came to Dublin and we just recorded there in a day. We've become great friends." They've jammed with The Waterboys and The Dubliners, and various band members have contributed to new albums by singers Andy White and Luka Bloom.

As schoolboys, Liam and Fiachna attended Scoil Lorcain in the south Dublin suburb of Monkstown, where all their subjects were taught in traditional Gaelic, and where they were first introduced to traditional Irish instruments like the bodhran drum, the dijerido, and Liam's signature tin whistle. The friendship wound its way through a brief college stint in 1985, and several bands, until the pair took to busking on the streets of Dublin as the Incomparable Benzini Brothers, actually winning a 1985 Street Entertainers of the Year competition.

Peter O'Toole – bassist, mandolin and bouzouki player and fellow Dubliner – soon joined the troupe, inviting classically-trained saxophonist Leo Barnes along. Maria Doyle of The Commitments was an early member of the group, but soon seceded to pilot her own project, the Black Velvet Band.

A series of crucial turning points brought them from the streets of Dublin to the tarmac of international attention. Following their Street Entertainer triumph, the Flowers were invited to perform on Ireland's "Late, Late Show," one of whose viewers turned out to be U2's Bono, who dubbed them "a masterpiece of a band," and backed up his opinion with an offer of help. The result was a single, "Love Don't Work This Way," released on U2's Mother Record label, which was an instant success throughout Europe. In 1986, *Rolling Stone* named them "the best unsigned band in the world," and within weeks the major labels, seemingly always the last ones to know, came knocking. Within a year, they were signed with London's Polygram Records and have been with them ever since.

Now, with *Songs from the Rain*, the Hothouse Flowers are three albums into the music game and farther along in their understanding of the realities of stardom than is common for a band in their position. The Flowers are as firmly rooted in the soil as they are poised in the sun. They always point to their homeland as both an inspiration and a reality check.

"Thank God for Dublin," says singer Liam O'Maonlai. "Thank God we've got a place like this to come to."

"The Dublin people are always the first to keep us on our toes," adds Fiachna, "The first to let us know if we get too full of ourselves....We had no illusions about conquering the world or any of that. You can get out all over the world and play crap and get away with it. That's fine if you're willing to live with that. But as people, we couldn't live with that."

"You won't get away with that in Ireland," explains saxophonist Leo Barnes. "No way. In London, they might encourage you to play up to all that. But over here? We wouldn't last five minutes." Makes you wonder how U2 slipped by the Irish propriety police, doesn't it?

To say that the Hothouse Flowers are a great new band out of Ireland is fine, but with the overwhelming amount of potential talent out there, it's so easy lose them in the crowd. Longevity and tenacity define real success in the music business. What makes the Flowers so promising in the long run is their ability to tap into the most universal aspects of the human experience, and transform them into pop music that really moves. In mining the most elemental tenets of life, they create a familiarity that only a cynic could resist.

"The best songs are the most personal ones," O'Maonlai explains. "When I write a song about love, sorrow, guilt or forgiveness, I'm likely to be writing about something that just about everyone can identify with. Because I assume that my feelings are like everyone else's and vice-versa. We can only be *so* different from each other." ❑

BOSTON BAROQUE

Playing in the Big Leagues

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

This has been quite a year for Martin Pearlman and Boston Baroque. A new contract with Telarc has proven fruitful; their highly-acclaimed recording of Handel's *Messiah* was not only a best-seller, but was also among this year's Grammy nominees for "Best Choral Performance." Furthermore, Pearlman was the only classical artist to perform at the Grammy awards ceremony, leading the "Hallelujah Chorus" from the *Messiah*.

As it turns out, a gospel arrangement of the "Hallelujah Chorus" was also on the program. The original plan was for it to follow Pearlman, who would lead the more familiar version. However, as the schedule of performers for the awards ceremony took shape, the producers found that the program was running much too long. Their solution was to shorten the time allotted to each artist.

Pearlman's reading of the "Hallelujah Chorus," which normally runs at about three and a half minutes, had to be cut to two minutes. "This was something of a problem for me, because Handel had written his notes some time ago," he explains. "I said that it can't be done and was beginning to think that we wouldn't be able to do it. Walter Miller, the producer of the program, said that it was the only way we could do it You have to understand that Walter is someone who knows classical music and has worked with people like Itzhak Perlman, when he was on the show, and [Walter] got him to cut [his performance] down. Our conversations were all friendly, but there were certain production values that had to be considered."

When asked how this dilemma was resolved, Pearlman continues, "I called Walter the next day and suggested that we play for two minutes and then stop and let the gospel choir finish it. There were two technical problems. They were a little slower than we were and they were a whole step lower. When I got to Los Angeles, someone had put in a modulation at the point where we were supposed to stop. But we didn't use it. I felt – just let it be different, be a different tempo, not try to merge them."

Pearlman's philosophy on working under such foreign conditions is straightforward and practical. "There is a certain kind of Puritanism that gets into our field that we have to be careful of. To me, a Puritan isn't necessarily somebody who has more integrity than others, it's somebody who has less humor. One can just say 'no' and stay home, away from events like the Grammy's," he adds. "But I think what is important is to keep a sense of perspective on what one's musical life is about. Being on

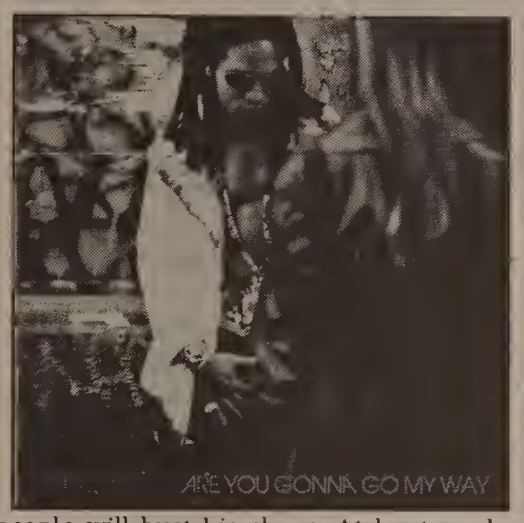
(continued on following page)

ALBUM REVIEWS

KEY

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★★ PASSABLE
★★★ WORTH A LISTEN
★★★★ BUY IT NOW
★★★★★ INSTANT HIT

LENNY KRAVITZ
ARE YOU GONNA GO MY WAY
VIRGIN RECORDS
★★★



Everything goes in twenty-year cycles, so it should be no surprise that the 70's have come back around and sandbagged us with all its requisite nausea: disco, bellbottoms, etc. Lenny Kravitz knew this years ago; he's been flaunting his 60's and 70's influences prominently over his last two albums, and once again on his latest.

The problem is that the 70's are different this time around. Unlike modern phenoms (such as techno, virtual reality, etc.), people don't consider it to be a genuine cultural movement. They're into it for its campiness: the whole thing is very tongue-in-cheek. We're not just laughing *with* it, we're lauqhing *at* it; it's not a style that garners much respect. So while we get a kick out of the off-Broadway versions of "The Brady Bunch," we can't help but chuckle at the dopiness of it all. And this is Lenny's dilemma; as long as he wears his influence so prominently on his gold lamé, ruffled sleeve, he risks being seen as a novelty act. Good tunes are Lenny's only possible saving grace.

To his credit, he frequently succeeds, although less often on *Are You Gonna Go My Way* than on the previous *Mama Said*. The Zeppelin, Hendrix and Marley stylings are out in force, but Lenny can't seem to measure up. Then aqain, who can? But as long as he keeps trying to be Hendrix (or Page, or...), people will bust his chops. At least moder music has the liberty of claiming apples and oranges when compared unfavorably with the past. My advice: book a tour with the Black Crowes, Lenny. At least you'll be appreciated, and maybe you can trade corduroy suits with the Robinson brothers.

BY ROBERT E. HUGHES

WILLIAM GRANT STILL: AFRO-AMERICAN SYMPHONY
DUKE ELLINGTON: SUITE FROM "THE RIVER"
DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
NEEMI JARVI, CONDUCTOR
CHANDOS
★★★★

The ubiquitous Neemi Jarvi is among the most innovative and interesting conductors active today. Still's *Afro-American Symphony*, written over sixty years ago, is a finely crafted essay incorporating elements of blues and the spiritual. If you didn't know what it was, you would likely think that you were hearing a recently discovered piece by Gershwin. The Ellington, heard in an orchestration by Ron Collier (no information is provided on him), can be favorably compared to Darius Milhaud's excursion into jazz, *La Creation du Monde*. But the Duke didn't make excursions into jazz – he was jazz. As for the Detroit Symphony, they sound marvelous, delivering polished and fully committed performances of both works. And wen it comes to the uptempo movements of the Ellington, Detroit's brass section really cooks – and on the front burner. Both works should be better known. Hats off to Jarvi, Detroit and Chandos for giving us the opportunity to hear them.

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

AIMEE MANN
AIMEE MANN
IMAGO
★★★

The white-haired first lady of Boston rock, having tasted stardom fronting 'Til Tuesday, has released a superb collection of 13 well-written, intelligent songs. Mann's voice, easily recognizable, is in peak form, as she sings with poise and strength. What she lacks in range she makes up for in style and lyrical depth. The album opens with a straight rock song "I Should've Known," instantly likable with a catchy hook and a surprisingly powerful guitar solo.

But Mann is at her best on the atmospheric "Jacob Marley's Chain," her voice haunting over sparse arrangements. The pop songs here – "Could Have Been Anyone" and "Stupid Thing" – have intelligent lyrics, an excellent back-up band and practically force the listener to sing along. In "Long Enough For You," a tribute to a older lover, Mann's voice is beautiful, layered over strings and an orchestral arrangements. "I should be riding on the float in the Hit Parade" sings Mann on the danceable "Put Me on Top" – and with this release, she soon will be.

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

THE TRAGICALLY HIP
FULLY COMPLETELY
MCA
★

Back home in Canada, The Tragically Hip have sold enough records to go platinum on one previous release, regularly sell out stadiums in only a few hours, and can hardly use the bathroom without being harassed by their legions of fans. As a result, you'd probably imagine that their first big label American release would just about explode in your hands, right?

Well, not really. On *Fully Completely*, the band attempts to overwhelm its new potential audience with an over-glorified production sound that fails to make up for a lack of truly inspired songwriting. After repeated listenings you'll probably find yourself enamored with only a couple of tunes. The opener,



"Courage," and a later track, "Lionized," are examples of the band's potential, since either would hold up well even on the sparest of recordings. However, more often than not what you get are fairly indistinguishable riffs that wear themselves out early. Even Gordon Downie's strong vocals can't save an album that is never as big as it sounds.

BY MICHAEL COUNTY

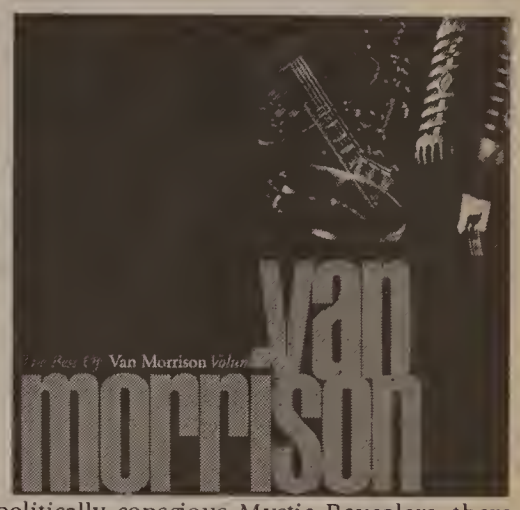
THOMAS HAMPSON, BARITONE
AMERICAN DREAMER:
SONGS OF STEPHEN FOSTER
ANGEL
★★★

Thomas Hampson and company, heard in arrangements by Jay Ungar and Molly Mason (known for their scores to several Ken Burns historical documentaries), capture the spirit of days gone by in this Foster anthology. Casting aside his operatic voice, Hampson sings with a natural tone that is ideally suited to these songs. Poorly performing Foster's music does it a great injustice. As performed here, with an accent on its roots in Anglo-Irish folk music, it is positively infectious.

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

REGGAE SUNSPLASH LIVE
Various Artists
MCA
★★★

Few realize the diversity that exists in reggae. From the pulsating beats and boasting lyrics of dance-hall Dennis Brown to the soulful, politically-conscious Mystic Revealers, there is infinitely more to reggae than Marley's greatest hits. These artists and a dozen others are featured on this collection recorded live at a six day festival in Jamaica.



Many of the tracks showcase exciting acts – it's a great first album for the uninitiated reggae listener. Reggae-soul singer Beres Hammond delivers "She Loves Me Now" sounding like accented Marvin Gaye. His voice is as rich as any of the Motown stars, and the grooves behind him are twice as danceable.

Also impressive is Dennis Brown, known as the Emmanuel the Crown Prince of Reggae. He is a well-established star, and "Wolves and Leopards" shows why. And the Dre'ds, a duo of young children, put Kris Kross to shame. These artists, combined with thorough liner notes by reggae historian Roger Steffens and produced by Lee Jaffe, best known for producing Peter Tosh's *Legalize It*, makes this collection an excellent primer to today's reggae crowd.

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

VAN MORRISON
THE BEST OF VAN MORRISON VOLUME TWO
POLYDOR 1993
★★★★

Among the sea of compilations and "best of's," available these days, only a few can really be deemed *necessary*. There are few musicians whose sprawling history of inspired work demands collection. Even smaller is the group of time-proven craftsmen whose music truly demands a second compilation, a "Best Of, Volume Two." Van Morrison sits worthily among the giants.

His recently released *Best of Van Morrison Volume Two* is a collection of previously-released, mostly late 80's tracks peppered with a couple of early covers of songs by John Lee Hooker and Bob Dylan. While "Don't Look Back" forces us to do just that, much of his later work, including "In The Garden," from *No Guru, No Method, No Teacher*, and "Hymns To the Silence," remind us that, as far as he's gone, nothing has been lost on this guy.

From the epic tragedy *Astral Weeks* to his more recent *Hymns to the Silence*, Van Morrison has consistently shown himself to be a powerfully effective singer. Whether he's careening through waves of gospel-driven harmony or reminding us of what Jackie Wilson said, Morrison's career is a testament to the treasures of a life spent searching and seeking.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

(Boston Baroque continued from previous page)

the Grammys was a great deal of fun."

As a result of that appearance, Pearlman has been receiving invitations to bring Boston Baroque to a variety of new venues. Already planned is a performance of the *Messiah* at the North Shore Music Theater next season.

Boston Baroque will conclude their current season on Friday, May 7 at 8 p.m. in Jordan Hall. Scheduled to be performed are the "Magnificats" by J.S. Bach and C.P.E. Bach. "It's an interesting pairing," says Pearlman. "The son was still very much under the influence of his father at the time he wrote it. There are certain structural ideas shared by both works. But the J.S. Bach "Magnificat" is something of a culmination of the baroque, while the younger Bach's is more modern in that it is more melody-oriented, leaning more toward the classical style." ❑

For tickets and information about Boston Baroque, call 641-1310.

Join us...

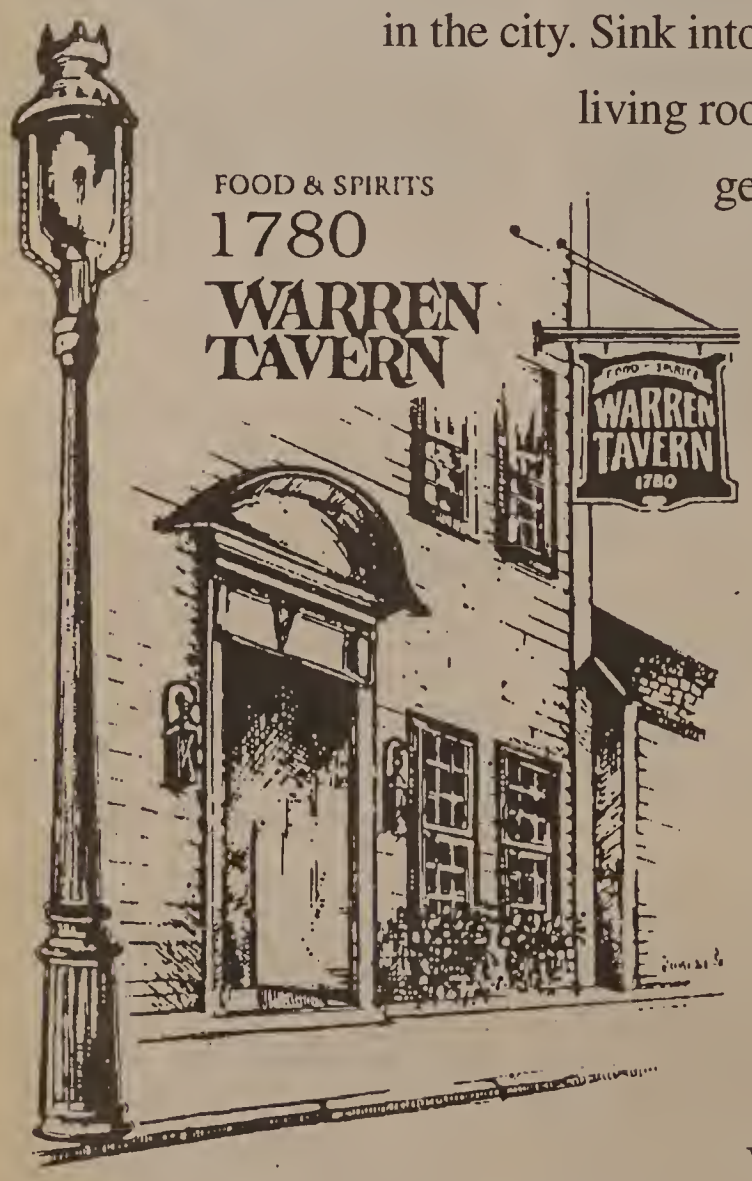
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ABOUT LAST NIGHT...

Where the Yuppies Roam

BY LAUREN DARE, AKA THE LAST CALL LADY

Another night, another bar – oh God, someone pass me the Alka Seltzer, *puhleeze*. My social life is starting to take a serious toll on my gray cells; my brain is writing checks my body can't cash, and I risked life and limb just to drag my sorry self to a bar during the fabulous "blizzard" of '93. Hey, it's a tough job, but I think I'm just the girl to do it.

But where to go and what to do? My eternal question doesn't involve the meaning of life, or the difference between good and evil: my favorite conundrum is "What bar do we go to tonight?" In response, this particular night, someone suggested the Sweetwater Cafe. The Sweetwater Cafe? I said to myself, "Self, isn't this just another flickering star in the great Club Constellation, located somewhere between the Milky Way and complete oblivion, undoubtedly crammed with 'young professionals' (gag) on the make and those who would like to make them? Do we need this?"

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Boston
357-7027

Of course, we went anyway. Who knew? It was actually kind of fun, in a Southwestern themey kind of way, and yes, it *was* full of young professionals, but professionals at what is anyone's guess. My guess is that they were denizens of a career requiring limited reasoning and conversational skills. I arrived at this conclusion following an encounter with two slightly inebriated young men, both of whom are perfect representations of the "Don'ts" you'll find in my forthcoming book "How to Pick up Women Without Looking Like You're Trying Really, Really, Really Hard." However, I won't make you wait for my book to come out. I'll share the gist of that fabulous conversation with you right now:

Unknown drunk: "Whazza ddjgdk?"
Me: (Looking away) Silence.
Him: (Pulling on my sleeve) "Hey, my friend thinksh you're really cute."
Me: (Looking away) Silence.

OK, break in action for just a moment. Picture this scenario: First of all, I'm five inches taller than both of these guys put together. Second, drooling is only sort of cute when babies do it; you can imagine how charmed I am when this adult male tries it on my shoe. Further advances into conversational brilliance were attempted, but fell woefully flat since they were all directed at my back.

Meanwhile, I was turned towards the bar, busy doing Mind Erasers and reading the little brass plaques that cover the bar counter. These plaques can be purchased by customers to commemorate evenings at the Sweetwater. Not wedding type of occasions. Truly important moments, like the time Sarah won her eighth consecutive Air Hockey game, or that night Bob managed to chug six upside-down Margaritas without the expectable backlash.

These tablets tend to display profound inventiveness and creativity – however, I didn't get one. Nor did I get any of the Sweetwater's famous ribs (their kitchen is open till 11 p.m.) because I wasn't sure what kind of nuclear reaction they would produce in my stomach when combined with the Mind Erasers.

I also didn't meet the man of my dreams, but I could tell there were quite a few people who had more successful evenings in that respect, including my two above-mentioned friends who, by the end of the night, had managed to impress two very perky looking girls who didn't seem put off by a little drool. It was basically happy endings for everyone I guess, as I went home alone to my Alka Seltzer, to have sweet dreams while sleeping off the Sweetwater. ❑

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Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, in this section, call our advertising department at 232-3507.

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers. .

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**CACTUS CLUB** 939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200 Join us in the evening and experience our firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can try a Platinum margarita with Sauza Hornitos, triple sec, fresh lemonade and fresh lime juice. Full menu available at bar.

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**LUCKY JOHNNY'S** 731-6753, 1098 Comm. Ave., Boston. Classic Rock rhythms fill the air at this upbeat college bar frequented mostly by BU, BC and Pine Manor students. On weekends, it gets pretty crowded. So beat the lines and get there early. The barback grill is always open and the smaller underground lounge is a nice place to chat. Dress is a relaxed casual to somewhat dressy. Best of all, there's never a cover.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S**
734-0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you. let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. It's central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. No tank tops. Bring I.D. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

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W 31ST

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Boston Beach Club Mighty Charge
Bunratty's Sidewalk Gallery/ The Allens/ Santa/ Miss Yous
Johnny D's Georgia Sea Island Singers/ Jiggle the Handle
Nightstage Trilogy
Regattabar Myanna
Ryles Kolo-Mboka
Scullers Sheila Jordan/ Harvie Swartz
Sit'n'Bull Pub Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters
The Tam The Quarters

T 1ST

Bills Bar D.J.Stew & Perry
Boston Beach Club Alternative Sound Waves
Bunratty's Tequila Mockingbird\ Goodfoot\ Happy Campers\ Avatar Blue
Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield
Ed Burke's Mean Red Spiders/ 100 Proof
Harper's Ferry Slipknot
Johnny D's Ranch Romance
Kinvara Pub Standing Hamptons
Regattabar The Tony Williams Quintet
Ryles Joe Maneri Quartet
Scullers Sheila Jordan/ Harvie Swartz
Sticky Mike's Barbeque Bob & The Rhythm Aces
Venus De Milo Techno with D.J. Debo
Zachary's Joe Mulholland Trio
Zanzibar Search Party
Zoots Jose Ramos & The Special Blend Band

F 2ND

Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Morphine\ Two Ton Comin\ Augusta Furnace
Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield
Ed Burke's Taylor Made/ T. Pearson
Hard Rock Cafe Subteraneans/ Sky Dogs
Harper's Ferry Toni Lynn Washington Band
Johnny D's Monster Mike/ The Boneheads
Kinvara Pub McQueens
Nightstage Willem Breuker Kollektief
Regattabar The Tony Williams Quintet
Scullers Danilo Perez
Sit'n'Bull Pub Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson
Sticky Mike's Rapt Rascals & The Sorority House Horns
The Tam Laurie Sargent
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Wharfield's T.H. And The Wreckage\ Courage Brothers\ Rare Form
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 3RD

Boston Beach Club D.J. Al Perez
Bunratty's Mystery Jones\ Mercybeat\ Mask\ Najarian
Cambridge Brewing Company Black and Grey
Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield
Ed Burke's Radio Kings/ Walk That Walk
Harper's Ferry Boston Baked Blues
Johnny D's Barrence Whitfield
Kinvara Pub Lounge 2000
Regattabar The Tony Williams Quintet
Ryles Wildest Dreams
Scullers Danilo Perez
Sit'n'Bull Pub The Stompers
Sticky Mike's Roll With It
The Tam The Band That Time Forgot
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 4TH

Bill's Bar One People
Boston Beach Club D.J. Nasty Ned
Bunratty's Pax Romana\ Chainsuck\ Funeral Party
Harper's Ferry R&B Jam
Johnny D's New Music Night
Kinvara Pub D.J. Tom
Nightstage Ed Schuller Trio
Venus De Milo *Rio* Night

M 5TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & The Hot Ribs
Harper's Ferry Tokyo Vibrators
Johnny D's Gatorbait Dance Party
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw
Venus De Milo Burn in Hell with D.J. Redboy

T 6TH

Bill's Bar Come With Uncle\40\ Naked Age\ Fleshflower\ Cobalt 6
Cecil's Steve Hurl\ Open Mike
Harper's Ferry Steven Paul Perry & the Believers
Johnny Ds Leon Rosselson/ Dr. Joe
Kinvara Pub Free Jukebox
Regattabar El Eco
Scullers Frank Wilkins
Zachary's Tim Ray Trio

W 7TH

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged
Bunratty's The Cauldron\ Bratface
Harper's Ferry Apollo Talent Night
Johnny D's Santa
Kinvara Pub Screaming Cadillacs
Regattabar The Joshua Redman Quartet
Scullers Orange Then Lite Blue
Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue
Zachary's Kenny Werner Trio

T 8TH

Bill's Bar D.J. Stew & Perry
Bunratty's Eric Martin\ The Derangers\ The 32-20's
Ed Burke's Fortunate Sun/ Acoustic Avocado
Harper's Ferry Tribute to Muddy Waters with original band members.
Johnny D's Big Rock Revue
Kinvara Pub 5-0
Regattabar The Johnny Griffin Quartet
Scullers Ronnie Earl And The Broadcasters
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
Venus De Milo Groov-E
Zachary's Kenny Werner Trio
Zanzibar Motion
Zoots Jose Ramos & The Special Blend Band

F 9TH

Bunratty's Cxema\ Common Ailments of Maturity\ Cul de Sac\ Gestalt
Christopher's Peter Calo Band
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA Brooks Williams
Ed Burke's Swinging Steaks/ Courage Bros
Hard Rock Cafe Voo Doo Dolls/ Jennifer Trynin
Harper's Ferry Tribute to Muddy Waters with original band members
Johnny D's Shirley Lewis
Kinvara Pub Swinging Johnsons
Nightstage Loketa
Regattabar The Johnny Griffin Quartet
Scullers Jon Lucien
Sticky Mike's BJ Magoon & Driving Sideways
Venus De Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Wharfield's Brian Maes & The memory\ Last Cry & guests
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 10TH

Bunratty's Letters to Cleo\ Tommy's DT\ Green house\ The Accidents
Cambridge Brewing Company Plan Be
Colonial Inn-Concord, MA Bill Staines
Ed Burke's Band That Time Forgot
Harper's Ferry The Rick Russell Band
Johnny D's Laurie Sargent
Kinvara Pub Tip the Waitress
Regattabar The Johnny Griffin Quartet
Scullers Jon Lucien
Sit'n'Bull Pub Del Fuegos
Venus De Milo Disco Inferno
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 11TH

Bill's Bar Mighty Charge
Harper's Ferry R&B Jam
Johnny D's New Music Night
Kinvara Pub D.J. Tom
Venus De Milo *Rio* Night

M 12TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night
Harper's Ferry Little Boy Blue
Johnny D's Gator Bait Dance Party
Kinvara Pub Luck of the Draw
Venus De Milo Burn in Hell with D.J. Redboy

T 13TH

Bill's Bar Tidal Wave\ Vindicators\ Talking To Animals\ Scatterfield\ Grind
Bunratty's Handful of Bald Guys
Harper's Ferry Chance & Wild Cards
Johnny D's Dean Stevens
Kinvara Pub Free Jukebox
Regatabar The Dick Johnson/Dave McKenna Gray Sargent Trio
Scullers Frank Wilkins
Zachary's Paul Barringer Quartet

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4/8 - 4/9 Tribute to Muddy Waters with Original Band Members	4/10 The Rick Russell Band	4/12 Little Boy Blue	4/13 Chance & Wild Cards

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER

MARCH 31 - APRIL 13, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
Holy Moley, holy week already! A shift in time, (DST begins on the 4th) and already Palm Sunday and Passover are upon us, followed by a lavish Venus-Jupiter opposition late Monday night. Where to shop? How to stop? Pray the full moon in judicious Libra (exact Tuesday at 2:43 p.m.) can avenge the wrongs we've committed since Mercury turned direct, France turned right, and Yeltsin's progressed sun hit his natal Uranus (upsetting the order again!) two short weeks ago. Did NASA note that scheduling a launch the day Mercury changed direction was asking for trouble and will the weird Mars-Neptune opposition hang like a cloud over the April 7th shuttle launch? Holy Thursday is replete with messages lauding the crusading spirit, but over the Easter weekend difficult sun squares to religious Neptune and revolutionary Uranus, plus militant Mars action, does not bode well for the Prince of Peace or his minions. Who's invading, who's defending and who's skies are friendly enough to fly? Unstable Uranian activity usually signals earthquakes, eruptions and bombs bursting in air. Must you leave home?

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
A romantic entanglement can turn into a tug-of-war. As your Mars ruler battles for truth, justice and the American way, you could invade someone else's kitchen and hassle someone else's mom. Don't add fuel to an old family feud. During these testy times, Aries must be wary: No cosmetic surgery while Venus is retrograde! Take care handling appliances, razors, knives or an old flame with an active imagination and too much medication. As for your job, dramatic changes – for good, for ill – after Easter.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Friendship and your affiliation with a like-minded group fills in for an iffy romance. If you're political, your challenges can be particularly effective, but you may make promises no rational being could keep; if you're a gambler you'll take the long shots and blow a bundle. A hassle with a neighbor or sibling can turn into a fracas, there's a chip on everyone's shoulder. The safest course is to get lost on the golf course or fall down a rabbit hole until the holidays are history.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Play it again, Sam and get paid for it too. A recurring reward appears when your Mercury ruler favors Mars in your money house, which it did around St. Valentine's Day. What brave acts, what brilliant lines did you come up with then that deserve a reprise? Progress on the job, a clever career move and enough publicity to make your mother and mentor proud. Be very careful buying and selling on impulse, don't go off half-cocked, and stay away from guns and the guys who sling 'em.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Artists and Crabs who work for women score big on April Fool's Day, but the reward soon becomes too expensive to maintain. Emotional highs and lows during the Libra full moon as you try to balance how you feel about working, where you live, basic creature comforts and a lofty long-range goal. As the Aries sun provokes aggressive Mars in your sign, aggravating an erratic relationship and whatever else hurts, you may feel you're the one being nailed to the cross. It's a tough two weeks, hang loose.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Affection and nice-looking stuff from a woman of means or even a mean-spirited one. Another round of largess as the full moon plays havoc with your internal system of checks and balances. Pursuing happiness in the fast lane is how Leos respond to nuttiness, and right now everyone seems to be pressing panic buttons at work, the gym and the doctor's office. Be a pussycat and don't play around with drugs, religious fanatics or weapons while your sun ruler puts you at risk during the next twelve days.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
And a child (a Virgin, no doubt) shall lead them. While the other signs are flipping out, stocking up or shooting off at the mouth, yours is the voice of concern and courage. Reason is yet not part of the dialogue, but friends, teammates and kids take your inspired advice to heart and your mate is soothed by your voice, your choice of music and poetry. While it doesn't sound like much, in this troublesome period yours can be the contribution that counts. The full moon highlights a money matter, think positive.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
Negotiating madly, badly? Anything to keep the peace. Full moon in Libra, plus another tense opposition between your Venus ruler and Jupiter in your sign pushes you to make promises, give up points and accommodate any schnook who asks for a favor. Meanwhile a partner, mate, parent, attorney or boss applies heavy pressure to stem your bleeding heart. People are angry, you try to placate them; caught between a rock and a hard place you do the only sensible thing – party down until the insanity stops.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
Neighborhood – down the block or on the other side of the ocean – means everything during these crazy two weeks. And that's not downplaying your romantic adventure or excellent physical performance. But what gets you going are thoughts about your proper place, geographically and politically, and the folks you feel spiritually aligned with. Planning a feast, celebrating traditions and hogging the court may be pleasant diversions, but the issues can't be ignored nor, unfortunately conclusively dealt with either. Remember, patience IS the key to heaven.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
Expectations and enthusiasm are high, but once again the reality can't quite match the promise. Damn that optimistic Jupiter ruler! Making nice for the sake of the family, splurging on an Easter shopping spree may take up considerable time and thought. But the real challenge lies in resolving an insurance, tax or investment matter that's been lingering in limbo since early January when Mars last opposed the planets in your money house. Handle it before the 15th.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Hassles with your spouse, business partner or lawyer challenging your willingness to change a line or a lyric, questioning your faith in a higher power. (Is Clapton still God?) An attack by a sibling or parent is scheduled for Easter weekend but the first shots can come as early as the full moon. With all the oppositions facing you, it's a wonder you can maintain your equilibrium. After the Easter break the hostility abates, it flares up for a minute in June, and then it goes away for another two years.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
Work and service, health and safety – be careful in your habits. A reckless moment on the job, a chicken or an Easter egg that's been around too long can harm you, but your temper can kill you. While your erratic Uranus ruler is opposed by militant Mars and then squared by the brazen Aries sun, there's no telling how furious or dangerous you may become. Angry enough to insist on dramatic changes at work, expensive alterations at home. Try to diffuse this energy before it explodes, huh?

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
Fantasies and fanaticism are both products of a thriving imagination, a Piscean asset that gets you through most situations, good and bad. But when Mars applies additional pressure to your Neptune ruler on the 7th, even the Fish can lose his way and succumb to unfounded fears and rumors. Remember that the closer we get to Easter, the more willing you are to become the sacrificial lamb, especially if a lonely kid or kindly lover is playing on your sympathies, leading you down the primrose path.

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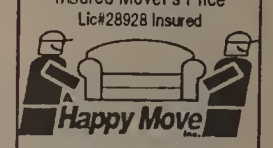
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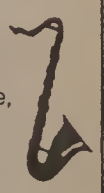
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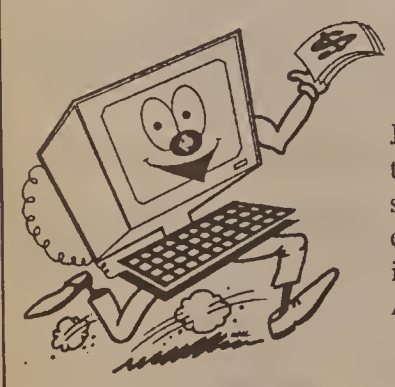
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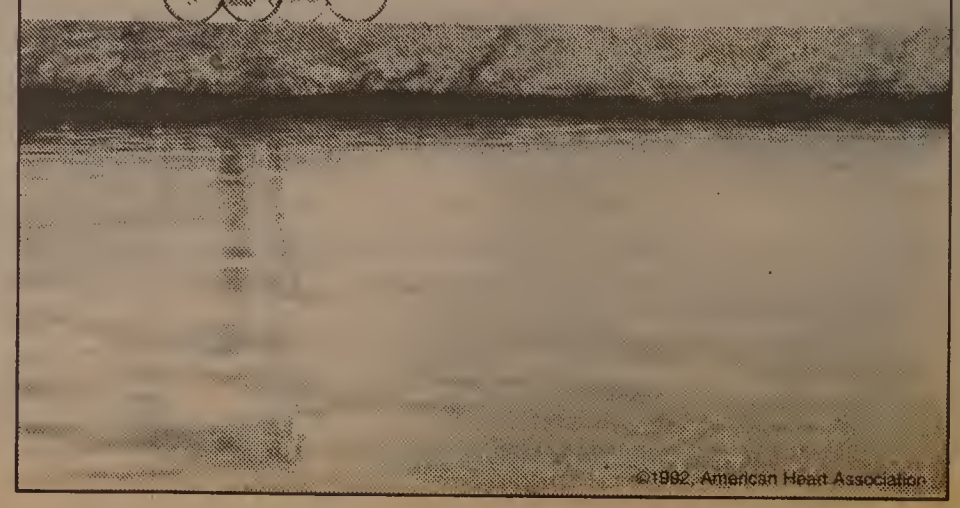
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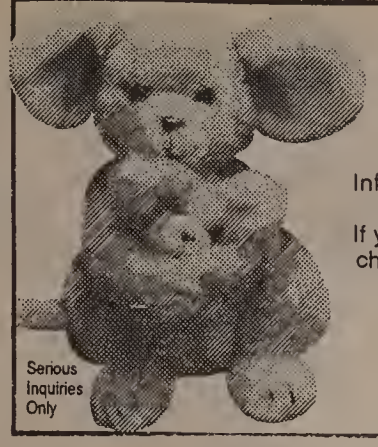
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ALL POINTS BULLETIN
Lost: One brother. **Description:** tall, curly hair, devilishly handsome Irish boxer face. Responds to code name "Q". **Last seen:** Running to one job, running to another job, running to Newport, just plain running. If found, please return to the Editor. Milk carton campaign to follow. I can't do no mo.
Your sister (and her ass)

Margaret, Laura, & Lynn,
I win, you loose (i), and Philip is the prize. He's crazy about me, he has me five times a day (at least.) Such a pity that none of you can have a decent vaginal orgasm. You wouldn't even know what to do with a leather belt and handcuffs (I grew hair on his chest.) Good luck finding the pathetic fools you overweight bimbos deserve. Oh, and thanks for making me look so good. See you at B&D fetish night, NOT!
Cookie

Elders of the BSS,
Don't you dare judge us without the facts. Apathy may have killed DV and BSCF, but not us. A lack of funds did us in. We were poised for the best year EVER before the money didn't come through. If you think so poorly of us, hold your reunion somewhere else. But if you accept our hospitality, you have to accept us as we are—not as you wish us to be.
CB/SFC

L.R.
My we're touchy aren't we? Perhaps you need to realize that I write these messages jokingly. Look out Yog Sothoth is sneaking up behind you! Made you look!

Dear Rob,
Thanks for the disease. I'll be sure to share it with your brother—or did you get it from him? In case it needs to be said, go *&^%*&^ yourself twice and make it hurt.
With love,
Clytemnestra X.
P.S. There's a copy of this letter on your hard drive so you can read it whenever you want. Print out a bunch of copies. Paper a wall.

Yo, Raybo,
Your fear of condoms is irrational. Just think, if you had used them once in a while, the city's special ed. classes wouldn't be so overcrowded.
G.

To the woman in the Red Diamonte,
First of all, thanks for the horn & the look when I didn't move as soon as the light turned green. I just have one question. What pissed you off more—to get stuck behind that big ole truck while I kept going OR what it all those green lights I caught that you didn't? For your information I was downtown 5 minutes later while you were still at Kenmore.
Mr. Black Saab

Mark,
I know that you won't know this is about you, but I have to say it anyway. My girlfriend already works so much that it's affecting our sex life. If you ask here to do much more we won't have a sex life—we'll have a sex death. I'll pay you if you can keep her under 60 hours. That's all I work and I'm happy.
D.'s Boyfriend

L.
How many Fresca points do I have? If I cash them all in at once will I survive?
You know who

D.
All I ask is a big bed, a hot shower, a straight highway, a shopping cart, a well varnished floor, no roommates, and enough time, money, and food to take advantage of all of them (and you.)
M.

Mike,
Its not just the Girl Scout cookies. Its not just the delivery trips. Its not just the meter feeding. I think you're swell because you have the chutzpah to wear a banker shirt and suspenders with old running shoes. Ooh lala!
XOXO

Bonehead,
You left without seeing us again! Thanks a lot. Just don't expect us to send you any more hay for your best friend.

Dennis B.
You didn't show up for this afternoons rehearsal again! Don't you have enough energy to make it in? Come to think of it you do look a bit anemic. Perhaps you should be taking blood supplements.
The Director

F.
You are the sorriest excuse for a man I have ever had the distinct displeasure to lay eyes on. I hope you die a slow, painful death in a pirhana infested swamp. Maybe when you grow up you'll find another woman as good for you as I was. But don't hold your breath. On second thought, hold your breath. For a really long time.
XOXO
You Know Who

Dr. M.
Next time you want to put down a fellow employer by saying he walks like a monkey, just remember, it takes one to know one. Your Polo pants look ugly, too, so get a clue.
The new guy

Butthead,
Thanks for the card...and the new office nickname. I made the mistake of putting your hysterical card on my desk, and, due to the snoop-y nature of my coworkers, it immediately became the office yuk that you call me by my pet name.Thanks
Buttlick

Amy Jo,
Paula and Chris were great, so was Maine! Who would have thought? Thanks for making my teeth numb!
Love,
S. Michael

Listen up, Jerky,
You're BORING me. Why, why, whhhyyy are you so boring? Is it the cloggahs making you crazy? Is it Richard Gere? Is it the earthquqquakes? Is it the (cough, cough) smog??? Or is it just that you miss us to death? It sure is the problem here. Laughs are now at a premium. We miss you, Bonehead. Even the poodie does.
Us

Dietrich,
Stop following us. You've done enough to make us suffer already. Leave us alone or I will drive a length of oak through your cold heart.
Robert C. and Julie M.

Hey Weirdos
Let's make Uncle C. paranoid. Don't show him this newspaper!

Lady Olivia
I was almost willing to give you the benefit of the doubt when you told me you weren't in league with Edward S. But now I hear that you attended Belinda's little gathering. Don't expect any favors from me.
Lucina

L.G.
I appreciate the business you brought to me but please stay away from my store. For the last time I haven't seen your husband.
M. Tracy

Carol
Please stop playing with my mind! I like to be happy. I gave you back your pet, so leave me alone.
Larry L.

Non-Con-Goers
I haven't seen a bunch of stranger people for far too long. Thanks for the memories. I had a great time. See you next year.
Double

Oliver
Hey what say we head downtown and crash some stuffy parties? Those bastards have it coming to them.
Akawa

J-your turn. Dinner, drinks, etc. Get on it, or I won't be the luckiest girl in the WHOLE WORLD anymore. -xxoo, A

Papa C.
Don't think I'm not grateful for all you've done for me, but I really do need to get going. There isn't a half decent manicurist, hairdresser or plastic surgeon around anywhere. By the way could you give me the recipe for that delicious seafood stew? - C.P.

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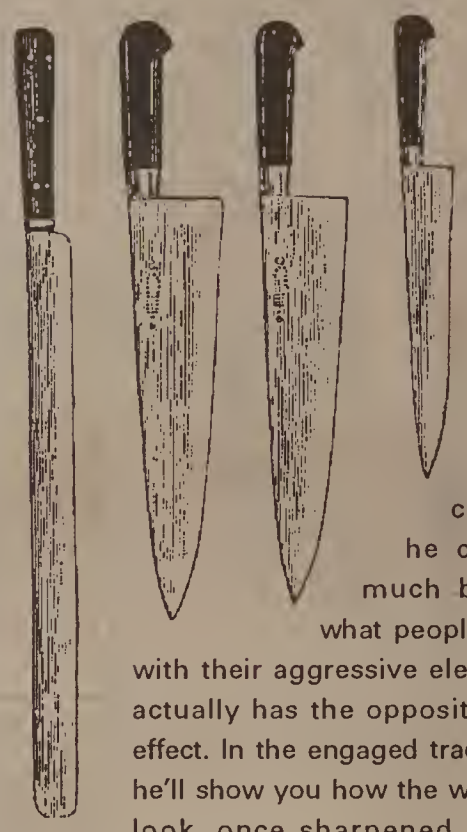
Strike A Pose



The Inside Skinny on Boston Fashion

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

A Keen Interest In Keeping That Edge



Here's a service that satisfies (among other reasons) by the fact that it has an old-fashioned sturdy-trades flavor. Dom Siraco is, in fact, a fifth-generation knife grinder whose forebear operated out of an old-fashioned push cart (the pedal-operated grinder will soon be on display in the shop). Dominic himself wears a long, black, rubbery apron as he works. Among the wheels in the back are his 30" aluminum oxide, water-cooled wheel and another one for fine work and touch up; both are always twirling away, making their high busy-body noise. Of course, many of his customers are professionals with blades as their stock in trade – hair dressers, dog groomers, professional gardeners, restaurant owners. But, speaking bluntly, all households could profit from a roundup of dully-chewing knives, scissors, those grass shears, chisels, hedge cutters including electric ones, pruning shears, hair scissors, pinking shears (which are infuriatingly clunky when dull), little sewing scissors, that green paper cutter leading to a brief stay (Monday to Wednesday) at Siraco Sharpening Service.

If you have a push lawnmower, you can remove the blade and have that done, too. Sure, you may do some home sharpening, but the sharpening Dom can do, and the microscopically curled edge he can produce, is much better; some of what people do themselves, with their aggressive electric sharpeners, actually has the opposite of the desired effect. In the engaged tradesman tradition, he'll show you how the whole knife should look, once sharpened. There are also Russell Harrington knives for sale: boning knifes, French Chef steak or carving knives, bread knives and cleavers.

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The Literary Back Fence

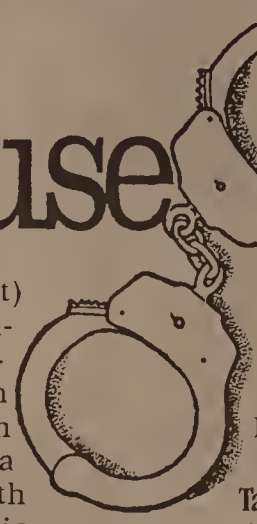
Since making a name, and an age, for herself with her book, *An Eighteen Year Old Looks Back in the Seventies*, Joyce Maynard has always shadowed her own development in print. She has gracefully chronicled her early marriage, the birth of one, two, and three children, their productive, usually cozy-sounding family life, and – of late – the demise of her marriage and the aftermath, which is vividly aftermathing forth. Having had a syndicated column and a book, she has now curled into the accessible form of a monthly newsletter, printed on sadder-but-wiser mauve paper. Now she's on an even closer walk with her readers – confiding, chatting, wondering, asking for their responses and musings on such things as God and body image. Joyce tracks the ways she has been too protective, at times, of her children, her shift into changing that, and the ways she has moved into the territory of post-divorce dating, complete with a matchmaker and a Personal's Ad. There's a charming piece by her son (a 10 year old looks back?). She worries the beads of what went wrong in her marriage – several times revisiting the episode of the extravagant Oriental rug that she bought on a lark (and a windfall check), which her husband repudiated and sent back as too impractical and too expensive. This object-gone-bitter metaphor becomes a discussion point for reader's letters. Because she is both famous and homey-familiar there's something hypnotic about having Joyce Maynard, with "shared experience good and bad," confide in you.



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Down underneath the House Of Blues, in a building painted a tell-tale shade of hickory-smoked blue, is the shop branch of the enterprise, Take It Easy Baby, where you can get duded up to hear, or perhaps sing, the blues. There is a sweet nostalgia to it all, with the ghost of Belushi hovering on ashtrays, T-shirts and in the air. The rough and the pragmatic, such as used 501 Levi Jeans, rather clean and tidy, and Carhartt workmen's clothes built to take the punishment of construction sites, and Black Diamond rainwear are interspersed with the floaty clothes of a hippie yesteryear. They sell those tightly wrinkled long flowered dresses, which recall the fragility of the early Mia Farrow and girlfriends called "my old lady," and even some tie-dyed things that take you back, while clunky black Doc Martens march you forward. Motorcycle culture is lovingly catered to in deer-skin leather jackets (one has a gorgeous Indian head stretched across it) and, speaking of babies, an unbearably sweet yellow leather jacket for some blues-bambino-in-training of about six. A little leopard-skin lycra in catsuit form, some ties painted dreamily with such icons as Lucille Ball and Elvis, a shirt with a skull and bones pattern, and a man's jacket with lapels crammed with buttons trailing the antic styles of various eras. A few CD's and a monitor that tells you what's up, musically, at the House Of Blues, reminds you that this is a sort of green room, though blue, for the performances upstairs. The motto is the same: Help Ever, Hurt Never.

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Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, Chicago Tribune and was a staff writer for Glamour. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
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6 Vogue, Take Note



Ah, the high fashion of New York, Paris, Milan, Boston. One of these seem not like the other? Be not fooled. Glorious Beantown has more than its share of fashion talent, including local designer (and co-president of Boston Designer's Collaborative) Denise Hajjar. Look and read, and learn why buying local might be the most fashionable move you've made.

BY MARY LAWLOR

10 The Boston Barathon



Another year, another spring, another Boston Marathon...but wait. For those of us who are too tired, too busy, or (let's be honest) too lazy for to take on the real McCoy, there is an alternative. Regular people, do you have what it takes for the ultimate challenge? Yes? Then let us introduce the all-new Improper "Boston Barathon."

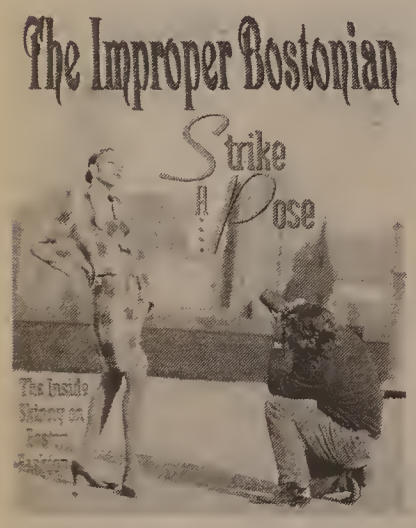
BY NICOLE MILLS

13 Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales



As if their name alone wasn't incentive enough to make you want to see this comedy troupe, know that HMFT offers the viewer songs, sketches and general mayhem. If you're in the mood for group hysteria, on a very palatable scale, read the column, then make the trip.

BY ROSS GARMIL



On The Cover

Photographer: Tracy Aiguier

Models: Gina Barrow
Maggie Inc.
David Chokes
Ford Model Mgmt.

Makeup & Hair: Jay Pendley

Fashion: D'Hajj Couture

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Improperly Yours



Mim Michelove

In theory, it seems so glamorous. A fashion photo shoot: beautiful models, beautiful clothing, photographer's high-tech trade tools all around. Hair people, makeup people, clothing people, even accessory people hover about discussing fabric, skin clarity, lighting. It's the business of images, and how everything looks in the final analysis.

But, as anyone who's ever been involved in any "fashionable" industry knows, what you see in the final photographs ain't what really happened on the shoot. You don't get to see the real, truly non-glamorous side to the shot, like the way everyone on the gravel roof had to wear sneakers or go barefoot, so the rooftop didn't get damaged. Or the way the 6 a.m. April wind whipped so hard and cold off the Atlantic that the models huddled together for warmth between takes, and the camera equipment blew helter skelter. You don't get to see the ugly steam pipes in the background, or the backs of the clothing, pinned tight to appear fitted.

What you do see, however, is the point of it all: beautiful models in beautiful clothing, posing without a care in the world. Daring you to look as good; tempting you to think you could. Showing you that, despite their own adversity, a little fashion goes a long way to making everything feel a little more glamorous.

Improperly yours,

Susanne E. Schantz

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AROUND TOWN



To many people Patriot's Day is mostly the day when those foolish athletes run the Boston Marathon. But there's a reason that this day was set aside, and the good folks over at the **Paul Revere House** are ready to tell us about it. From April 18 to April 21, they will be hosting a series of events designed to educate the rest of us on the true meaning of Patriot's Day Prices range from $2-$3 with discounts for senior citizens, students, and children. The fun starts off when "Paul Revere" visits Boston on the afternoon of Sunday, April 18. Portrayed by actor David Bossio, Revere answers all those probing questions about his ride and life. The next afternoon will be a reenactment of the Continental Line march onto the grounds of Paul Revere's House. And, from the 19 to the 21, children will be invited to don hats and characters, and perform in their own recreation of Paul Revere's Midnight Ride (although this ride takes place at 10 a.m.). These events, however, are limited to 20 people and reservations are required. For reservations and details call 523-2338.



The **Mark Curry** express is rolling into town. Blazing out of Rising Star Central at breakneck speed, this 6 foot, 6 inch locomotive of a comedian will be making stops at the Comedy Connection in both Boston and Springfield on April 16-18. If you haven't heard of Curry yet, perhaps you should check your pulse. With his own top 20 sitcom, "Hangin' with Mr. Cooper", his own half-hour HBO special, and already having hosted the popular "Showtime at the Apollo," Curry is one of the hottest stand-up comedians in the business. Regardless of whether or not you've heard of Mark, go see him. The only regret you may have is the stitches he'll leave in your side. For information, call 248-9700.

Okay, everyone who loves to shop, raise your hand. Keep it up...higher...all right, you can put it down now. Sure you love shopping; who doesn't? And what better place to shop than **Newbury Street**, Boston's own Shopping Paradise? On Tuesday, April 27, the **Newbury Street League** will hold their **11th Annual Auction at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel**, including a silent auction, a live auction run by professional auctioneers from Skinner, Inc., and a raffle. Every shop on the street has been encouraged to donate at least $250 to the auction, meaning all of the merchandise you go to the street for will be in one place, awaiting your bid. Proceeds from the auction will go to help sponsor the other programs run by the Newbury Street League, such as fund raisers for area homeless shelters and a semi-annual outdoor art exhibit. A light supper will be served, and guests will be invited to take the **Old Town Trolley** over to **Charley's Eating and Drinking Saloon** for a buffet later that evening. For further information, call 267-7961.





The world's smartest elephant, Tunga the Mongolian Contortionist, and a clown named "Mr. Fish" – Fellini soap opera or Seinfeld season finale? Neither; these and other exotic circus acts may be viewed beneath one roof as part of the Children's Museum's presentation of **The Big Apple Circus**. This year's production, "Goin' Places," is running through May. The 2,000 seat, fully-heated big top will be located at the Fan Pier (New Location) on North Avenue in Boston. Tickets are on sale now at all Ticketmaster outlets, the Children's Museum lobby and Bostix at Faneuil Hall. Phone charged tickets can be obtained by calling Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Ticket prices range from $10-$28. Every seat is less than 50 feet from the ring.



After the **Battle of Marathon** in ancient Greece, one lone soldier was sent to Athens to bring word of the Persian defeat. The poor soldier ran 26 miles from Marathon, uttered one single word – **"Victory"** – and died of exhaustion. Today's marathon, fortunately, is somewhat less gruelling. The **4th Annual Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge**, is a true celebration of life's acheivement. Runners not only completing the Marathon, but also gathering $1,000 worth of pledges in the process. Sounds rough, huh? Well, it is rough; after all, it's a marathon. However, this doesn't mean discomfort forever. With that in mind, Dana-Farber supplies their runners with a number of fringe benefits, including a T-shirt, group training runs, a pre-marathon dinner and breakfast, a post-marathon banquet and awards ceremony, and a post-marathon massage. Plus, runners will be paired with pediatric patients for the Jimmy Fund clinic in the Patient Partner Program. They clothe you, train you, feed you, and massage you – now that's the way to run a marathon. For information, call 632-3020.

Strike a Pose

Boston Designer Denise Hajjar Provides the Inside Skinny on Boston Fashion

by Mary Lawlor

Denise Hajjar launched her own business, with all the hope and enthusiasm possible, at age 24. By 30, she felt like a failure. When she started, she had dreams of becoming a famous fashion designer, of having a showroom on New York's Seventh Avenue and selling her designs nationally. She dreamed of seeing fashions – her very own – featured in top magazines. At age 30, none of this had happened.

It took her family, Hajjar says, her friends, even her Syrian grandmother to point out what she had in fact achieved. She had her own business and had done it all on her own. Today, five years later, Hajjar has a spacious salon on Boston's Commercial Street, and a business that has doubled last year's volume.

What Hajjar also has at this point is perspective, and pride. She feels her fashions are just as good as the New York designers.' She says she's not Donna Karan. And she's not Calvin Klein. She's Denise Hajjar.

Sure, she still wants to sell nationally and see her creations on the pages of the fashion magazines. But she wants to do it from the Hub. And Boston, it seems, wants to claim her as one of their own.

the Interview

How do you start a new spring collection and season?

I start by thinking of my clients first – what they've been wearing and what they want – and still be fashion current. We're both going forward at the same time. We work together. They want change and I want change. I pick something very new each season. I'm selling to the fashionable working woman.

I can't be like Christian Lacroix. He's in a different league. For example, I didn't do bell-bottoms. Pay clients won't buy them, not one of them! Or the see-through fashions; my clients won't wear those either. These women want clothes they can wear from day to evening. I'm not in a position to make a statement. I'm in the business of selling clothes.



Tracy Aiguier

Ford model Jonas Everets (suit by Ches Couturiers) dances the day away with Gina Barrow (dress, D'Hajj Couture), of Maggie Inc.



Tracy Aiguier

Isn't that a Karate Kid move? Ford's David Chokes (suit and jacket, Ches Couturiers) lives on the edge.

Has it been hard to stay in business and weather these economic times?
My business doubled last year because the same women – with good jobs – said "I need clothes and I don't have extra money to throw away." They know I'm going to give them what they want. I listen to my clients. I don't take them for granted. We respect one another. I don't intimidate them. They always come back. When they call me on the phone, I always answer their questions. They may call around but they come back.

The business has also grown due to the many women who have seen my fashion shows, plus word of mouth. I belong to many organizations which means meeting still more women. It's networking.

Have you been able to hold your prices?
This season is the first time in three seasons I went up ten to 15 percent due to the cost of fabric and labor, but it hasn't been a problem. I still feel I'm affordable. For instance, a woman can buy a good pair of pants in the stores for $250. My custom pants are $190.

For whom do you design? Is it mostly women who can afford expensive clothes?
My clients are 33 to 65. They're highly professional women – attorneys, doctors, interior designers, advertising executives. And women on their way up who have seen my things and want one good outfit. They come back each season.

What are the prices at your salon?
In the daytime grouping, the custom suits range from $450 to $550; dresses $200 to $300; blouses $135 to $250; jackets $225 to $325; pants $175 to $190; and skirts $140 to $180. My evening wear is priced at $300 to $600. The entire collection is done in a variety of fabrics. Everything can be interchanged to the liking of the clients.

You're now president of the three-year-old Boston Designer's Collaborative. Tell us about how the BDC helps young designers.
It began when a designer called me and asked me to get together with other local designers to start something that would promote fashion awareness. The first two years we did fashion shows and took press beatings because we weren't professional enough. We learned to take ourselves seriously last year. I wrote a mission statement with goals and objectives. I presented an agenda – all of that.

Our aim is to promote the talents of Boston's fashion community. It's a trade organization with a goal to promote Boston's fashion designs to an international level. We want to involve the area's best designers, retailers, publicists, marketers, financiers, so that we'll have a new mega-industry for the region.

We want to establish the city as a true alternative design center from New York, Paris, Milan, and Tokyo. If we're successful, it's estimated that Boston's fashion industry could eventually bring in well over $1 billion a year to the state from global markets in retail, manufacturing, licensing, and tourism revenues.

We hope to involve corporate sponsorship and support from leading area department stores, fabric suppliers, garment manufacturers, media, travel and hotels, banks, universities, and government offices of economic development. It's working. Our recent fashion show was a huge success. We have almost 40 designers and another 30 who are professional membership from the fashion industry.

Are there many menswear designers in BDC?
Yes, there's Marienbad (Patrick and Stanley) who make incredible sweaters, worn by lots of celebrities. And there's Ches who makes great suits and coats. I'd like to see more menswear designers start a business and be based in Boston.

The American designers are obsessed with costume craziness for fall. They're doing the Edwardian look, the Victorian look, those long, black witches dresses that look like they should have brooms as accessories. Have designers gone too far?
It's wasted fabric to do those extreme looks. The designers are running out of ideas. They're reaching and it's not working. I don't think the masses will buy the extremes. But there will always be the fashion victims – maybe one or two percent. You'll find the bell-bottoms on sale at the end of the season. They're okay on the younger girls, such as my intern who is 23. It's new to them. This age never saw the bell-bottoms or platform shoes or the grunge look. It's not new to me. Why would I want to go back and do this?

Since you're a woman and have built the business on your own, do many young designers come to you for advice?
Yes, because there are so many more of them these days.



Tracy Aiguier

Don't mess: Gina (in a suit by D'Hajj) means business.



Tracy Aiguier

Denise Hajjar faces the world next to two of her favorite fashions.

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Queen Sizes!

Strike A Pose

They're always surprised to see how hard it is. This is not taught in fashion school. They're amazed at how long it takes to build a business and the effort that goes into it. And it all began with a $3,000 gift from my family...Today, I have my company, D'Hajj Couture.

In fashion, how do Boston women compare against New York?
There is fashion in Boston. Women do dress and I've seen a change in the past five years – it's phenomenal. They're dressing much more fashionably. They realize that they can look beautiful and professional at the same time. In the past, no one took time to explain and show the options to women.

If a woman's not a size 8, and thinks she can't wear a straight skirt, I show her that she can. She gets excited when I explain what needs to be done in order to wear it. I help them with body shape. I'm a built-in colorist, I suggest accessories. I don't leave them hanging. I also keep a record of their wardrobes. I may say, "remember that navy blazer, you can wear this new navy, red and olive plaid skirt with it."

Many of the French and Italian designers consider the American designers to be marketing machines rather than innovators. Does this bother you?
I don't consider this negative. We're in business. I don't have the luxury of backers with millions of dollars. Matter of fact, in order for my business to reach another level, I'll need financial backing. This means I'd be able to purchase fabric in quantities and get my designs in national showrooms so buyers will see my line. I'm constantly saying "How can I make a creative garment marketable?" That's what I strive for. That's what it's all about.

How do you see fashion in the future – in the year 2000?
There's nothing new you can do. Once you've achieved a look, what changes are the fabrics, colors, proportions and detail treatment. These things consistently change. How you interpret is your look. I don't think we'll ever be wearing space suits.

Mary Lawlor, a resident of Brookline, is Fashion Editor of Boston's Where Magazine.

In the Photos: Make-up and Hair by Jay Pendley. Fashions by Denise Hajjar/D'Hajj Couture and Francesco DiRusso/Ches Couturiers.



Tracy Aiguier

Eileen Barron (of Copley 7), in a summer dress by D'Hajj, basks in the sunlight.

The Spoke Page

For more information about advertising on the Spoke Page, contact J. Michael Stevens, Senior Account Rep.

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THE BOSTON (and An "Improper" Version of

by Nicole Mills

The Boston Marathon – the ultimate test of physical fitness and willpower. People train all year just to prepare for April 19, when this grueling, 26-mile event winds from Hopkinton to Boston's Back Bay. But there is an alternative to the shin splints, the weakened knees, the loss of control over bodily functions that are so common to these dedicated athletes. For those who have either faced the Marathon's grueling route and decided to hang up their Reeboks, or who have been armchair-contestants for years but yearn to compete with a dedicated field of contestants, The Improper Bostonian proudly presents its own Big Race – **The Boston (and Beyond) Bar-athon.**

For the few and the brave, the day starts at 8 a.m. sharp on Marathon Monday, at the **Central House** in Hopkinton. The starting line of the real Marathon moved to Hopkinton in 1926, and the Central House has been steadily celebrating this proud tradition. True, for the purist, this bar is technically behind the starting line. However, since it lies within spittin' distance of the starter, and the beer starts flowing at 8 a.m., we decided it was good enough for Improper Bar-athoners.

Finally, the start. Months of hard work have led up to this moment. The contestants are all pumped up, the crowd is elbow to bottle, we line up, the television cameras are rolling, the pistol cracks, and...We're off!

From the Central House to **TJ's**, located on the Hopkinton/Ashland line, is just a short sprint. TJ's is notorious for being the first bar actually on the Marathon route. Many runners have been known to get this far, and then hang up their numbers when tempted with a cold one. TJ's has an outdoor license, and on Marathon day, the parking lot overflows with people who are in good enough shape to do a few 12 oz. curl-ups, but not fit enough to go the whole distance. TJ's offers a "Pasta Feed" the night before the race for runners, and a breakfast buffet the day of the race for $3. When the first cut in our numbers reaches TJ's, the field starts shrinking; the dedicated contestants head back out onto Route 135, and point their noses towards...

Ebenezer's in Framingham. Ebenezer's is done up like an old-time saloon. They used to offer a parking lot party for the Marathon, but the town revoked their outdoor license. Now, on Marathon Day, the bar empties out at quarter after noon, when everyone heads outside to enthusiastically greet the runners. This lasts approximately long enough for the crowd to realize that they are standing outside drink-less, watching some masochists in running shoes. For Bar-athoners, it's still early in the course, and our contestants are still pretty fresh, with the exception of some slightly sweaty foreheads. Gleaming brows are wiped, and it's an easy half-block trot to...

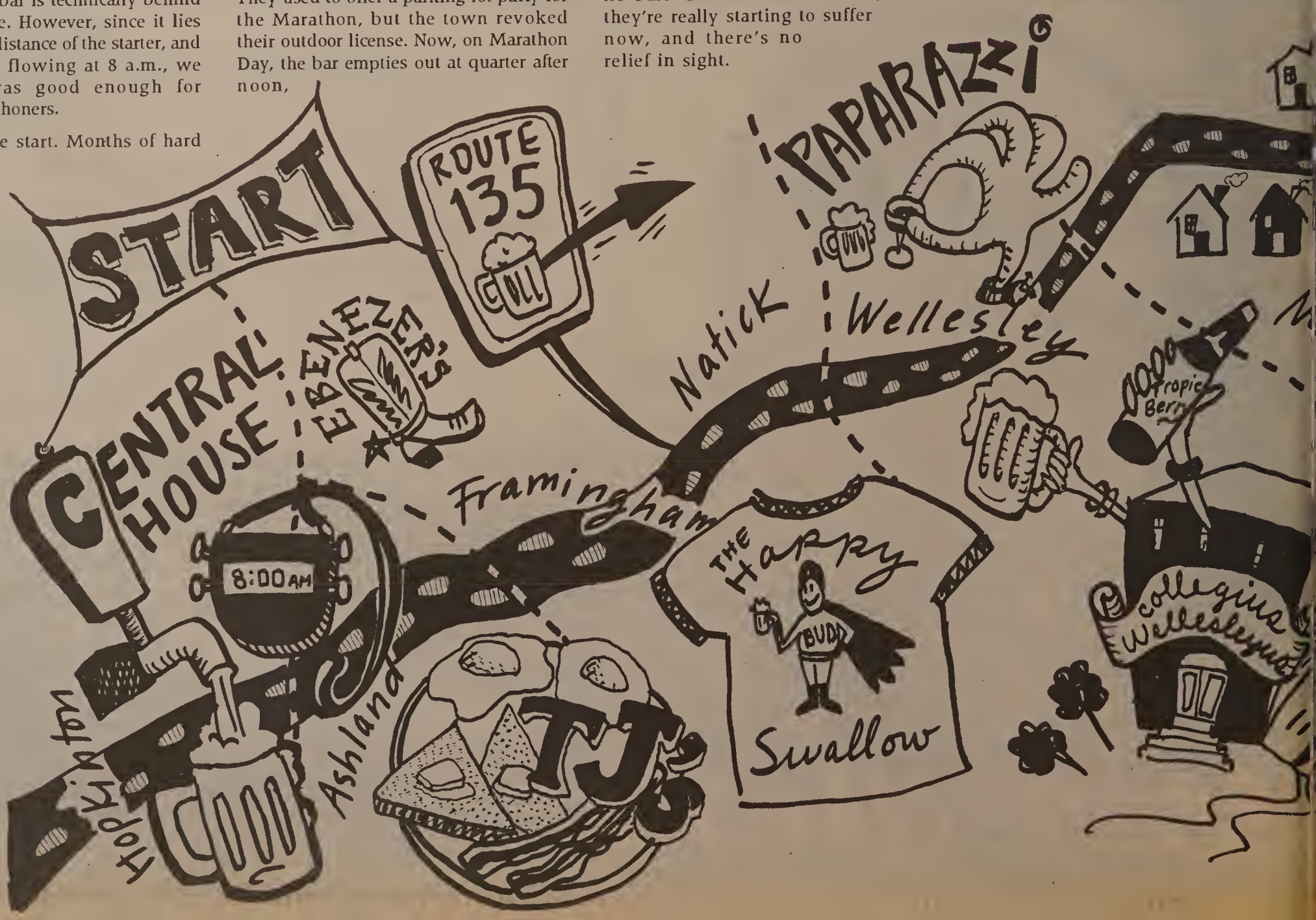
The Happy Swallow, also in Framingham. A little hole in the wall, the Swallow features lots of Jack Daniels T-shirts, baseball hats, and authentic Budweiser memorabilia. The clientele is slightly less enthusiastic about the Marathon, but still more than willing to pour the contestants some race-sustaining cocktails; at this point, Bar-athoners need all the liquids they can get, because it's kind of a haul to the next bar.

From the Happy Swallow, the Marathon route winds its way out of Framingham to Central Street, in Natick. Things are looking grim for the contenders, because Natick is a dry town – no bars. Some of the field look like they're really starting to suffer now, and there's no relief in sight.

Everyone looks longingly at the **Town Line Liquor Store**, and we lose two competitors to the promise of a cold six-pack and some Sambuca nips.

Miles 10, 11 and 12 roll numbingly by. The field reaches the halfway mark, and Wellesley College looms up on the right. Maybe there are some sympathetic Wellesley Bar-athon supporters who will help out the athletes with some liquid relief. The Wellesley women welcome the contestants with warm beer and wine coolers – please! But it's better than nothing, and slightly refreshed, the challengers push on.

Dying of thirst, the racers dash into the new **Paparazzi** in Wellesley Center for some over-priced and under-sized drinks. Checking the route map, they realize they are heading for the toughest part of the course: the last 10 miles and Heartbreak Hill. Who knows where they'll find the next bar? The field quickly decides to throw back a few more cocktails before easing off their bar stools, tightening their laces, and hitting the road again (some of them, face first.)



Beyond) BAR-ATHON the Beantown Race

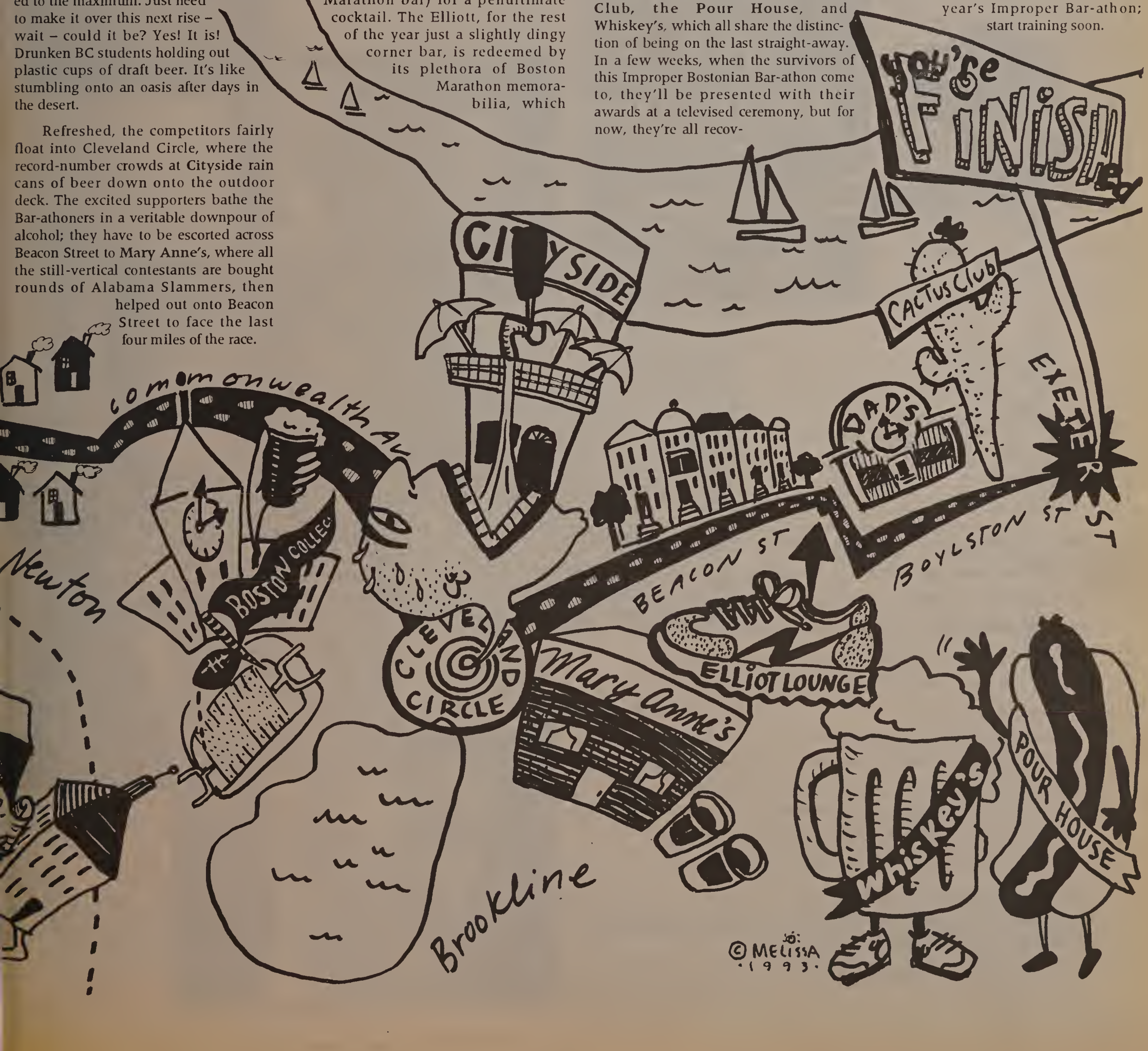
At this point, the course leaves Wellesley and enters Newton. These are the agonizing miles of residential, suburban, bar-less no-man's land. Shin splints and blisters are nothing compared to blinding thirst. At Heartbreak Hill, some of the field start to hallucinate – neon Miller signs and tall frosty glasses of fruity alcoholic beverages appear at the side of the road. Endurance is being tested to the maximum. Just need to make it over this next rise – wait – could it be? Yes! It is! Drunken BC students holding out plastic cups of draft beer. It's like stumbling onto an oasis after days in the desert.

Refreshed, the competitors fairly float into Cleveland Circle, where the record-number crowds at **Cityside** rain cans of beer down onto the outdoor deck. The excited supporters bathe the Bar-athoners in a veritable downpour of alcohol; they have to be escorted across Beacon Street to **Mary Anne's**, where all the still-vertical contestants are bought rounds of Alabama Slammers, then helped out onto Beacon Street to face the last four miles of the race.

Knowing that the Finish Line is drawing near, the valiant but struggling athletes take heart, and push themselves to the limit, gaining three more miles to Kenmore Square. The crowds are going crazy, police lines are being overwhelmed, the end is so close they can almost taste it, but before they do, it's into the **Elliott Lounge** (which enjoys the reputation of being the Marathon bar) for a penultimate cocktail. The Elliott, for the rest of the year just a slightly dingy corner bar, is redeemed by its plethora of Boston Marathon memorabilia, which inspires the by-now almost comatose Bar-athoners.

The remaining racers are carried out bodily and hauled over the Finish Line by well-meaning spectators. Since they're passed out cold, none of the athletes knows who has won, nor do they particularly care, as their prone bodies are sprayed with celebratory champagne provided by **Dad's Diner, the Cactus Club, the Pour House**, and **Whiskey's**, which all share the distinction of being on the last straight-away. In a few weeks, when the survivors of this Improper Bostonian Bar-athon come to, they'll be presented with their awards at a televised ceremony, but for now, they're all recovering nicely at Seminole Point, knowing that they have pushed themselves to the limit and conquered one of the most challenging courses in Marathon history.

Admittedly, this form of contest is not for everyone, especially not for the faint-hearted or weak-livered. But if you're searching for a respite from all the physically exertive Boston Marathon hoopla, the field is still open for next year's Improper Bar-athon; start training soon.



ATTENTION
IMPROPER
PARTY
PLANNERS



If you are organizing an soiree, party or gala and would like pre-event coverage in the upcoming *Improper Bostonian* Social Calendar, send all pertinent information, three weeks in advance (or more), to:

Editor In Chief
The Improper Bostonian
17 Station Street, Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146

Please be sure to include date, time, place, ticket price, and dress code.
Coverage is subject to space and time constraints.



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■ Help set the table for change at **PARTY FOR A PLATE**, an evening of great food and great music — all to benefit the Boston Food Bank. More than twenty of Boston's best restaurants dedicated to alleviating hunger will donate a presentation of their best creations to taste. Dinner 6 to 8 p.m. Music and dancing 'til Midnight.

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April 14, 6 p.m. ■ Avalon 15 Lansdowne St., Boston

Tickets: $25 per person
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SPONSORS: Boston young alumni clubs of Boston College, Fairfield University, Georgetown University, Notre Dame, Saint Mary's College, St. Michael's College and Providence College.

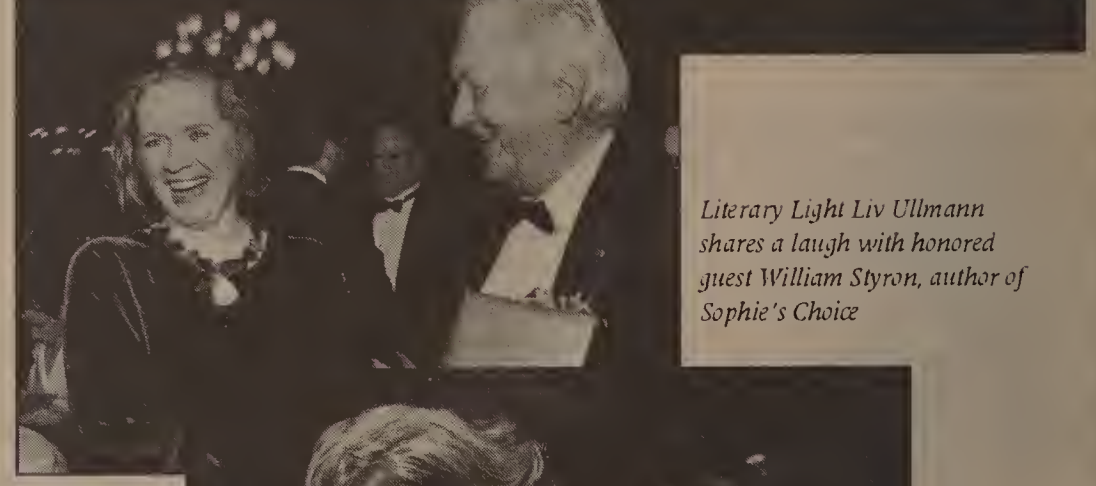
PROPER BOSTONIANS

PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

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MARCH 28, 1993



Board of BPL Associates members John Sedgwick (left) and Donald Lowrey (right) pose for posterity



Literary Light Liv Ullmann shares a laugh with honored guest William Styron, author of Sophie's Choice



Event Coordinator Joanna Datillo (left) with Literary Light Susan Minot (right)



Guests Ellen Kennelly (left) and Ian Helsant (right)



Beacon Hill writer John D. Spooner with wife Susan and daughter Amanda

HEAVILY MEDICATED FAERIE TALES

No, They're Not Shacking Up with Snow White

BY ROSS GARMIL

Once upon a time, there lived six funny people. They were happy, funny people who lived happily and funnily on their own; skipping, laughing, playing, singing, and, every now and then, performing elective surgery. And then, one day, one of the happy people said, "Hey. We're all funny. Let's be funny together."

They all liked this idea, and so they banded together to form a troupe of happy, laughing, playing, singing funny people who decided that elective surgery wasn't really their shtick. The other people said, "No, that's not right. People aren't supposed to be funny in a group. That's for one person alone to do with a microphone, and perhaps some props. Now that's comedy. This group thing is just sick." But the funny, happy people didn't listen to them.

"We don't care what you think," they said. "We like being funny together. And we don't have to stay here and listen to you. We're going to Boston!" And so they did, but when they arrived in Boston, the happy, funny people found the city to be much bigger than they imagined. They found that they could no longer just be called the happy, funny people, and this made them sad. Until one day, one of them said, "Hey. Let's call ourselves 'Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales.'" (Now you know why they're so happy.) This idea made them all happy again, so them and their name descended upon Boston.

You may not be familiar with the comedy of Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales, but you should try to change that. You see, metaphysically speaking, every sketch comedy troupe faces two challenges: writing funny material, and giving funny performances. Though HMFT's talent lies more on the performing end of the proverbial stick, they do succeed in both of these tasks, thereby providing the audience with an entertaining show.

This is not to imply that their writing is weak. From musical numbers such as "She's So Catholic" about a parochial student attending "Our Lady of Excruciating Chastity," to game-show spoofs like "Let's Piss Jerry Off," where contestants who succeed in angering poor Jerry win a "great big box full of lots of stuff," to a trip to the Monty Python-esque "Complex Café," where the waiter and anyone wishing to dine must adopt the nervous disorder du jour, HMFT's original and imaginative writing supplies the audience with fresh, off-beat humor.

But the true talent of this group lies within their performance, primarily because of the strong character work. Whether a monologue is being delivered by the blissfully ignorant Southie housewife, Peg, (who confides that her son-in-law "is Jewish – but I suppose he can't help that," and further tells that her son "[isn't] a bad kid. He just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time...with a gun,") or the "rotting corpse-like remains of Sir Richard Burton" is giving a dramatic reading of A Little Too Much Fun with Dick and Jane, or other tales are performed by a group of very demented "actors" named "The Guys Who Say 'Haaaaaay,'" the result is the same. The audience is presented with thoughtful, three-dimensional, hilarious characters rather than mere one-joke stereotypes, seen too often in skit comedy both live and on television.

And the moral of this story is: go see Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales, and you can live happily ever after, or at least for a few hours.

Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales performs at the Leland Center at the Boston Center for the Arts on April 21, 22, 24, and 25. Call 288-5585 for show times and reservations.



The cast of Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales.

JOKE OF THE EVERY OTHER WEEK

George Bush, Bill Clinton, and Hillary Clinton all die and go to heaven. God asks each of them "Who were you?"

"I used to be President," Bush responded.

"I was just the current President," Clinton answered.

"None of your business," Hillary said. "And get the hell out of my seat."

Congratulations to Douglas Leighton of Boston for his bold effort of mailing in something funny. In recognition Douglas Leighton will be rewarded with two tickets to the Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall.

Not a bad deal, huh? Well, you too can take part in this great offer. And what would you pay, $19.95? No, only 29 cents. Simply write your joke on a piece of paper, include your name and address, put the paper in an envelope, lick the envelope (just the part with the glue), place a stamp in the upper right hand corner of the front of the envelope and then in the middle of that same side write:

JOKE OF THE EVERY OTHER WEEK
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
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• COMEDY LISTINGS •

Catch a Rising Star is presently closed while the club relocates. We will inform you when they re-open and then, as always, give you their biweekly listings.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Wed. 4/14- Ed Regine, Dave Fitzgerald. Thu. 4/15- Lisa Ann Walter. Fri. 4/16- Mark Curry, Kevin Knox. Sat. 4/17- Kevin Knox, Dave Fitzgerald. Sun. 4/18- Dave Fitzgerald, Mark Curry. Mon. 4/19- Kevin Knox, Bob Marley. Tue. 4/20- D.J. Hazard, Bob Marley. Wed. 4/21- Bob Marley. Thu. 4/22 & Fri. 4/23- Bob Nelson. Sat. 4/24- Paul Nardizzi. Sun. 4/25- Rich Ciesler, Steve Hurley. Sun. 4/25- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 4/26- Kevin Knox, Steve Hurley. Tue. 4/27- D.J. Hazard, Steve Hurley.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Cover $10. Always packed and second hand smoky.

Fri. 4/16 & Sat. 4/17- George MacDonald, Seth Jones, Mike Mallet. Fri. 4/23 & Sat. 4/24- Tom Cotter, Keith Washington, Karen Moore.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston. 267-6626. See D.D.'s above. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 10p.m. Cover $9.

Fri. 4/16 & Sat. 4/17- Chris McGuire. Fri. 4/23 & Sat. 4/24- Boston Comedy Showcase.

Nick's Comedy Stop, 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

Wed. 4/14- Vinnie Favorito, Ngaio Bealum, Bruce Fine. Thu. 4/15- Bruce Fine, Ngaio Bealum, Paul DiAngelo. Fri. 4/16 & Sat. 4/17- Ngaio Bealum, Leo Baldwin, Paul Prevenza. Sun. 4/18- Kevin Knox, Ngaio Bealum. Mon. 4/19- Billy Martin. Tue. 4/20- Jim Lauletta, Ngaio Bealum. Wed. 4/21- Vinnie Favorito, Ngaio Bealum. Thu. 4/22- Paul DiAngelo, James Stephens III, Monica Piper. Fri. 4/23 & Sat. 4/24- Monica Piper, James Stephens III, Paul Elwell.

Stand-up Comedy Café at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. Boston's oldest original comedy club since 1968. Shows are Sun.-Thu. at 8:30p.m., Fri. & Sat. at 8:30p.m. & 10:30p.m. Tickets are Sun.-Wed. $6, Thu. $8, and Fri. & Sat. $10.

Stitches, 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Wed.: Women in Comedy. Every Sun.: Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.

Thu. 4/15- Headliner Showcase. Fri. 4/16- Tony V., Warren MacDonald, Bob Gautreau, Janine Difullio. Sat. 4/17- Bob Gatreau, Janine Difullio. Thu. 4/22- Headliner Shocase. Fri. 4/23- Bill Braudis, Chris Zito. Sat. 4/24 8:30p.m.- Bill Braudis. Sat. 4/24 10:30p.m.- Bill Braudis, Frank Santorelli.

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Falling Down

Michael Douglas, sporting a crew-cut, glasses, white button-down shirt, and a pocket protector, abandons his car in a Los Angeles traffic jam and sets out on foot for home. After exchanging his briefcase for weapons, the man known only by his license plate D-FENS explodes when confronted with the familiar stresses of urban life. Is he an average white guy who has been pushed to the edge? Or is he an over-the-edge, vigilante sociopath? This movie is sure to strike a chord with anyone who has ever had a bad day.

Il Ladro Di Bambini (Stolen Children)

After a mother is arrested for prostituting her eleven-year-old daughter, a young military officer must escort the girl and her ten-year-old brother from Milan to a home for children in Sicily. Drawing heavily on the Italian Neo-realist tradition, director Gianni Amelio quietly chronicles their journey along busy, noisy highways, running past impassive soul-less high-rises. The three gradually bond with one another, and the officer realizes the extent to which the girl has been victimized: by her mother, by the men she serviced, and by the society that should be protecting her. Inevitably, he, too, becomes a victim. The characters are affecting (yet another nod to Neo-realism: both children were non-professionals), the pace is slow but steady, and the bright, bleak urban landscape is haunting.

Love Your Mama

Ruby Oliver, director, producer, and writer of *Love Your Mama* has the distinction of being the second African-American woman to have her film released nationally (the first is Julie Dash, director of *Daughters of the Dust,* the third is Leslie Harris, director of *Just Another Girl on the I.R.T.*). If only her semi-autobiographical story (about a Chicago mother who fights to hold her family together and help her daughter realize her dream of opening a day-care center) were more compelling. It has some winning moments, but mostly it moves stiffly, awkwardly, and Moma gives too many impassioned speeches. One would have been enough. The film never moves you or inspires you the way, one suspects, a couple hours in the company of Ruby Oliver would.

Rich In Love

The film opens with a fait accompli: wife and mother (Jill Clayburgh) has up and left. How her quirky and charming but vague family (that was probably dysfunctional even before she left) copes is what interests director Bruce Beresford. Kathryn Erbe is convincing as Lucille, the bright, appealing, but annoying high school senior who tries to control everything and everyone. Equally convincing is Suzy Amis as older sister Rae who returns home pregnant and married and not pleased. But together the characters amount to less than the sum of their parts. That they barely seem connected, let alone related, doesn't seem to bother anyone at all, and if they don't care, why should we? However, Charleston, S.C. is gorgeous; intriguing dark undercurrents occasionally surface, and Albert Finney as the dear, befuddled overweight patriarch knocked off his perch is a joy to behold.

INDEPENDENT'S DAY

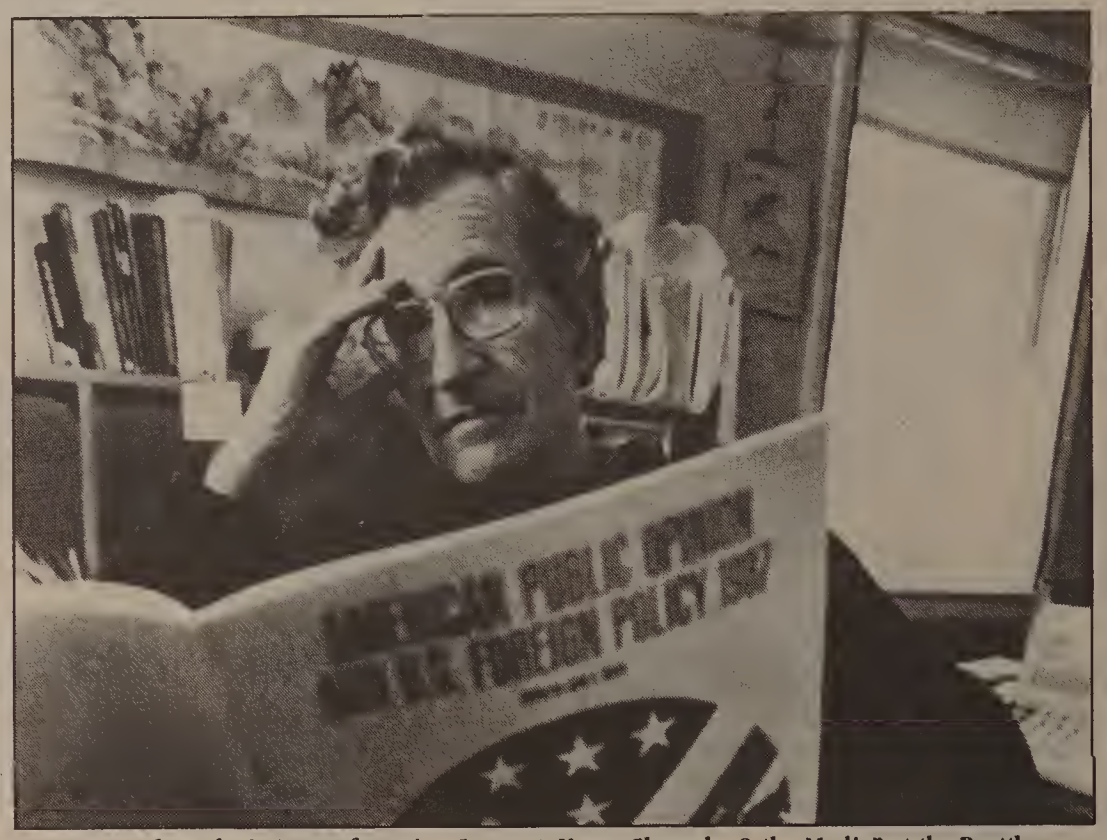
Gerald Peary Picks & Pans the Independents

BY GERALD PEARY

Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media

Directed and written by Mark Achbar and Peter Wintonick. At the Brattle Theatre, April 23-29.

Who would have predicted box-office success for *Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media*, produced by Canada's National Film Board and co-directed by Torontonian Mark Achbar and Montrealer Peter Wintonick? With an unwieldy title, *Manufacturing Consent* is also forbiddingly long – 167 minutes – and unapologetically dense, political, and issue-oriented. The unorthodox choice of protagonist for this documentary is an M.I.T. linguistics professor, Noam Chomsky; and the highest point of drama is Chomsky's chilling retelling of a faraway war in the 1970s, the holocaust in obscure East Timor at the hands of the invading Indonesians.



Noam Chomsky in "Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky & the Media" at the Brattle

Yet never in Canadian theatrical history have so many people lined up and paid to see a documentary. And the same phenomenon could happen – why not? – with the current release of *Manufacturing Consent* in the U.S.

What is Achbar and Wintonick's secret? The filmmakers follow Chomsky as he circles the globe arguing his left-leaning, often idiosyncratic analyses of political issues. And that's it. But Chomsky's rhetoric is so compelling and persuasive, and his unwavering commitment is so energizing, that *Manufacturing Consent* becomes a remarkably exciting film. Viewing *Manufacturing Consent* makes one feel privy to amazing information about how the political world ticks, and irate that the regular American media has kept this information away from its citizenry.

I saw *Manufacturing Consent* at the Berlin Film Festival in February, where the documentary played to packed, sold-out houses. Each screening ended with impassioned questions from the young German audience about Chomsky: "When does he have time to sleep, or teach his classes, or do linguistics? Does he ever lose an argument?"

Manufacturing Consent offers in Chomsky an appealing role model for empowerment at a time when many grass-roots activists need to believe that they can affect change. If Chomsky – one man, one voice – can take on the government, and the media, so can all of us make democracy work in the U.S.

Vermont is for Lovers

Directed and written by John O'Brien. At the Museum of Fine Arts April 17,18.

Harvard graduate John O'Brien, a native of Turnbridge, Vermont, took two out-of-staters, George Thrush and Marya Cohn, cast them as about to-be-married New Yorkers George and Marya, and set them loose to improvise dialogue among wizened rural Vermonters, who play themselves. The urgent subject of the made-up conversation: love and matrimony.

George and Marya are typically stressed-out, uptight, ambivalent, young yuppies, ready to break up one moment, ready to wed (nervously) the next. How long could it last? The Vermonters they talk to for advice have no such estrangements. Once you marry, you stay so for life. Yep. That's about it. And every one of them have been married for longer than Rip Van Winkle slept.

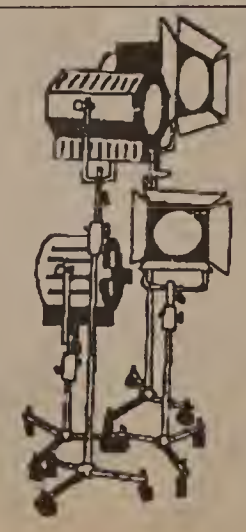
Don't expect *A Midsummer Night's Dream* out of this low-budget pastoral comedy, but *Vermont is for Lovers* is simple, unpretentious, and, often enough, lots of fun in a loopy anthropological way. The common-sense, monosyllabic New Englanders are especially amusing. And George Thrush, a Boston architect in real-life, isn't half-bad as the charmingly spoiled groom.

Banya

Directed and written by Chris Schmidt. At the Coolidge Corner Moviehouse.

The Boston production crew behind this ungainly experiment to make a feature in Russia must have been advised that foreign-language films are hard sells to distributors. Therefore, *Banya* is seventy percent in English. Well, some kind of English. The visibly uncomfortable Russian actors seem literally spoon-fed their (stilted) English dialogue. They appear to have little idea what the words mean, even less how to pronounce them. And why do they speak English anyway?

It seems that director-writer Chris Schmidt's quartet of over-the-hill, passive male heroes run away from home each summer and pretend to be a Chicago blues band. To feel American, they speak American. Where's the story? An American photographer, Sabine, comes along to inject some drama and sexual tension. Unfortunately, she's a bore also. And her 1970s drab clothes...was there a costumer on this unfortunate picture?



IMPROPER BOSTONIAN FLICK PICK

The Charles and Seine converge April 22-25 for the First French-American Workshop sponsored by the Harvard Film Archive, open to the public. There will be four days of films, round-table discussion, and informal meetings with important filmmakers from both countries. Watch especially for a tribute to the late French filmmaker Jacques Demy, famous for ***Umbrellas of Cherbourg****, and the April 22 afternoon seminar with the great American "B" director, cigar-chomping Sam Fullller, at the Brattle Theatre. Fuller, who influenced the films of Jean-luc Godard and Wim Wenders, brings with him his tabloid classics,* ***Forty Guns*** *and* ***Pickup on South Street****, plus his socko* ***White Dog*** *about the deprogramming of a racist canine! For information on the series, call 496-6046.*

LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE

Chocolate Magic



Pedro (Marco Leonardi) and Tita (Lumi Cavazos) have an illicit private moment in "Like Water for Chocolate"

BY KAJ WILSON

Any chocoholic intuitively knows what tests have proven: chemically speaking, eating chocolate is like falling in love. Mexicans even have an expression for the relationship between love and chocolate: "Like water for chocolate" means to be agitated or sexually aroused. True to its title, Mexican director Alfonso Arau's film *Like Water For Chocolate*, based on wife Laura Esquivel's novel of the same name, tells a tale of love, lust, food, and foment. In the tradition of Latin American magic realism, it mixes the supernatural with the mundane, and serves up a romance with a feminist flavor.

The de la Garzas are wealthy ranchers on the northern plains of Mexico in the early 1900s. Family tradition dictates that youngest daughter Tita (Lumi Cavazos) never marry but care for her widowed mother until death do them part. Mama Elena (Regina Torne), a wicked witch of a mother, forbids Tita to marry Pedro (Marco Leonardi), the love of her life. Instead Mama marries him off to the unappetizing eldest daughter, a woman as rigid and selfish as her mother but without her mother's limited appeal.

A dutiful daughter, Tita seems to accept her fate, but she can't and won't stop up her feelings, and she rebels covertly, using food as her weapon. She is a marvelous but unusual cook: her dishes express her deepest emotions and desires. The wedding cake she bakes for her sister at her mother's command makes everybody cry and throw up. A key ingredient in her quail in rose petal sauce (the meals are based on actual recipes) is her desire for Pedro, and the dish so arouses her lusty sister Gertrudis (Claudette Maille) that her body shoots off sparks which burn down a building.

Will Tita ever find happiness with Pedro? Will she ever escape her mother's clutches?

The story is told in an extended flashback by Tita's niece Esperanza (whose name means "hope") and a connection is made between Tita's inevitable domestic rebellion against her mother and the Mexican Revolution that is roiling outside. And the story certainly has a feminist slant: it champions feelings over tradition and gives us characters such as Tita, Nacha (a family servant), and even Mama Elena, who are strong and independent life-givers and domestic artists in their own right. The de la Garza women have a role in the man's world outside, too: Gertrudis leaves home naked on horseback in the arms of a handsome revolutionary, and she returns years later a general.

The female/domestic revolution versus the male/political revolution comparisons and connections are a bit vague and confusing, especially given that the worst villains are women, namely the mother and sister who mostly say to hell with feelings if they conflict with tradition. The film tends to play more as a fairy tale for adults about a good daughter and her evil stepmother and stepsister than as a shining example of magic realism.

Nonetheless, *Like Water For Chocolate* is a sweet dish, a romance with all the right fixings: flowers, lace and leather, candles (hundreds of them), beautiful scenery (the elegant domesticity of the de la Garza ranch is set nicely against the harsh beauty of the Coahuila Desert) and passionate glances. It's a dish that's almost as good as it looks. ❑

LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE

Directed by Alfonso Arau.
Screenplay by Laura Esquivel.
At the Nickelodeon.

KEY

A Winner

A Toss Up

For the Birds

CRITIC'S CHOICE

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
A Few Good Men	★	★	★	★	★	★	◎	◎	★
Aladdin	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Falling Down	★	★	✓	★	✓	◎	✓	◎	◎
Groundhog Day	★	★	◎	★	★	★	–	★	★
Homeward Bound	★	★	◎	★	★	–	–	–	–
Mad Dog & Glory	★	★	★	★	★	✓	◎	✓	–
Point of No Return	◎	◎	◎	◎	✓	✓	◎	✓	◎
Scent of A Woman	◎	★	★	★	★	✓	◎	★	✓
Sommersby	★	★	★	◎	◎	★	–	★	★
The Crying Game	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★

FLICKS IN A FLASH

MAD DOG AND GLORY

An exhilarating odd-couple story that takes a smart look at the complexity of male bonding. Wayne Dobie (Robert De Niro), a shy evidence technician for the Chicago police, saves the life of loan shark Frank Milo (Bill Murray), who thanks Dobie with a temporary gift of the beautiful Glory (Uma Thurman). The romance that blossoms between the two is one of the few predictable developments in Richard Price's otherwise clever script, which fortunately focuses more on the relationship between the men. De Niro is convincing as an ordinary guy who longs to be an artist. Murray stands out as the charming, sinister, and unhappy Milo, who longs to be a stand-up comedian.

OLIVIER OLIVIER

Though there are no Nazis, nor heartbreaking scenes in the Warsaw Ghetto, (as there were in *Europa Europa*), director Agnieszka Holland's most recent film, *Olivier Olivier*, is far darker in spirit, and weirder. Set in contemporary rural France, the young Olivier rides off on his bike and disappears. A few years later, the Parisian police return a kinky Parisian teenager claiming to be Olivier to the bosom of a family that was screwed up even before his disappearance. Psychologically dense, the tale climaxes in black magic and mystery, with even a shaky claim to happiness.

POINT OF NO RETURN

The U.S. remake of Luc Besson's 1991 hit *La Femme Nikita* about a drug-addled she-punk forced to turn assassin to survive. The original had the look and feel of an American film: it was slick and violent. Director John Badham's version is an imitation of an imitation – minus the style and soft at the center. Bridget Fonda as the heroine, Maggie, doesn't have Anne Parillaud's feral intensity, but she's engaging and manages to rise above the mediocre material.

SOMMERSBY

When Jack Sommersby (Richard Gere) returns home from the Civil War after years of being away, his wife (Jodie Foster) is understandably wary: the old Jack was a drunk and wifebeater – this Jack is gentle and kind. The husband sets about wooing his wife, being a father to his boy, and restoring their Tennessee farm. Inevitably, his past comes back to haunt him. The movie works best as a love story. Less interesting is Jack's transformation into a community leader who champions a tobacco-growing scheme that promises to make his neighbors – black and white – prosperous landowners. It means too few domestic scenes and too many shots of tobacco plants. You may want to bring a handkerchief or pick up extra napkins with your popcorn. The ending is a wet one.

GROUNDHOG DAY

Bill Murray plays Phil Connors, a callous weatherman, trapped in time in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania on Groundhog Day, forced to relive the same day over and over again. (Imagine waking up to I Got You Babe playing on the clock radio every morning.) If Phil (the Punxsutawney groundhog is also named Phil) was in a rut before, now he's really stuck. He finds, much to our amusement and his surprise, that endless repetition offers infinite variety and opportunities. In spite of himself, he changes into a decent human being. The lovely and clever Andie MacDowell shines; we believe that MacDowell could inspire anybody to change for the better.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR THE CHILDREN OF ARMENIA



PHOTO BY DR. CAROLANN NAJARIAN

President Levon Ter Petrossian of the Republic of Armenia has declared Armenia a state of national disaster. He has appealed for assistance from the world "in order to secure the survival of the people through the harsh winter months." Independent studies by UN teams, the United States, the American Red Cross and the International Council/of Voluntary Agencies corroborate the severity of the situation in Armenia.

You can help us get precious milk and baby formula to the children of Armenia, the most helpless victims of this crisis. Since 1989, The Armenian Children's Milk Fund has been airlifting supplies—helping to feed thousands of children in Armenia. Won't you help ease the suffering and save lives this winter? Please rush your checks to:

ARMENIAN CHILDREN'S MILK FUND

c/o The First Armenian Church

380 Concord Avenue • Belmont, MA 02178 • (617) 484-3561

All funds go directly toward the purchasing of supplies. Operating costs have been underwritten by Armenian Missionary Association of America

140 Forest Avenue • Paramus, NJ 07652 • (201) 265-2607 • FAX (201) 265-6015

The Steppingstone Foundation and the Improper Bostonian present:

The 2nd Annual

SPRING SWING

At the Children's Museum, May 22, 1993

Join us for this special night, and experience the Children's Museum in a whole new way. Dance to the band Walk the Walk, enjoy the food & drink, and don't forget—all of the exhibits are open! Watch for more details in future issues of the Improper Bostonian.



SHOE BUSINESS

Boston Ballet's Cinderella

BY WALTER WADAS

Cut loose with the Boston Ballet for the next two weeks. That's when the company presents "Cinderella," a charming tale about the sex life of the foot and the shoe. Set down by Charles Perrault in the seventeenth century, the story is a natural for ballet, which is a foot and shoe intensive business. Moreover, the scullion to sweetheart via silica slipper neatly parallels a young dancer's rise on toe shoes to ballerina.

Boston, however, is not mounting a revisionist, libido-liberating production a la Mark Morris. Cinderella here remains a fairy tale and a fable. As Hiller Huhn, assistant to the director, says, "The fable allows Cinderella to experience her dream." Huhn's tone is nostalgic, almost plaintive, as he extols the ballet's fantasy: "People often cannot face reality. They have to find dreams to get them through."

Although the music sometimes sounds like some souring sweetness that Nino Roca might have composed for Fellini, Prokofiev's core isn't used as a source of dark ironies. In the tradition of Frederic Ashton, director/choreographer Ben Stephenson presents a straightforward story ballet.

Fantasy and fable are there for the audience to enjoy at will. With emendation. In ballet, there are always idiosyncratic emendations. Prokofiev provided music for Cinderella's father—I don't remember him from my childhood story either!—but none for her stepmother. Stephenson finds a way to add this character.

Moreover, he casts the ugly stepsisters as men en travestie (that's "in drag" for us low-life). Huhn says the tradition of the English pantomime is the source of this cross-gender casting. As stepsisters, Boston Ballet's Laszlo Berdo, Karl Condon, Todd Eric Allen and Howard Merlin get to camp the parts in broad ways, absurd and farcical.

If that isn't enough, at some performances Laszlo Berdo plays a stepsister and at others he plays the prince. As he says, "I enjoy the opportunity to play a straight part as well a character role." Highlighting the "slight contrast," Berdo adds "one wears heels; the other doesn't."

Karen Scalzitti, who plays Cinderella to Devon Carney's prince and to Berdo's stepsister, seems to delight in the cross-gender casting. She says, "The dancers really get to have fun. Their actions are silly and exaggerated. It's all very funny."

Pointing out that the sales shop offers her used ballet slippers, Scalzitti remarks about the attraction to dancer's shoes. She knows of at least one admiring fellow who had a pair of hers. And the boys, Karl and Devon, have their admirers too, she says.

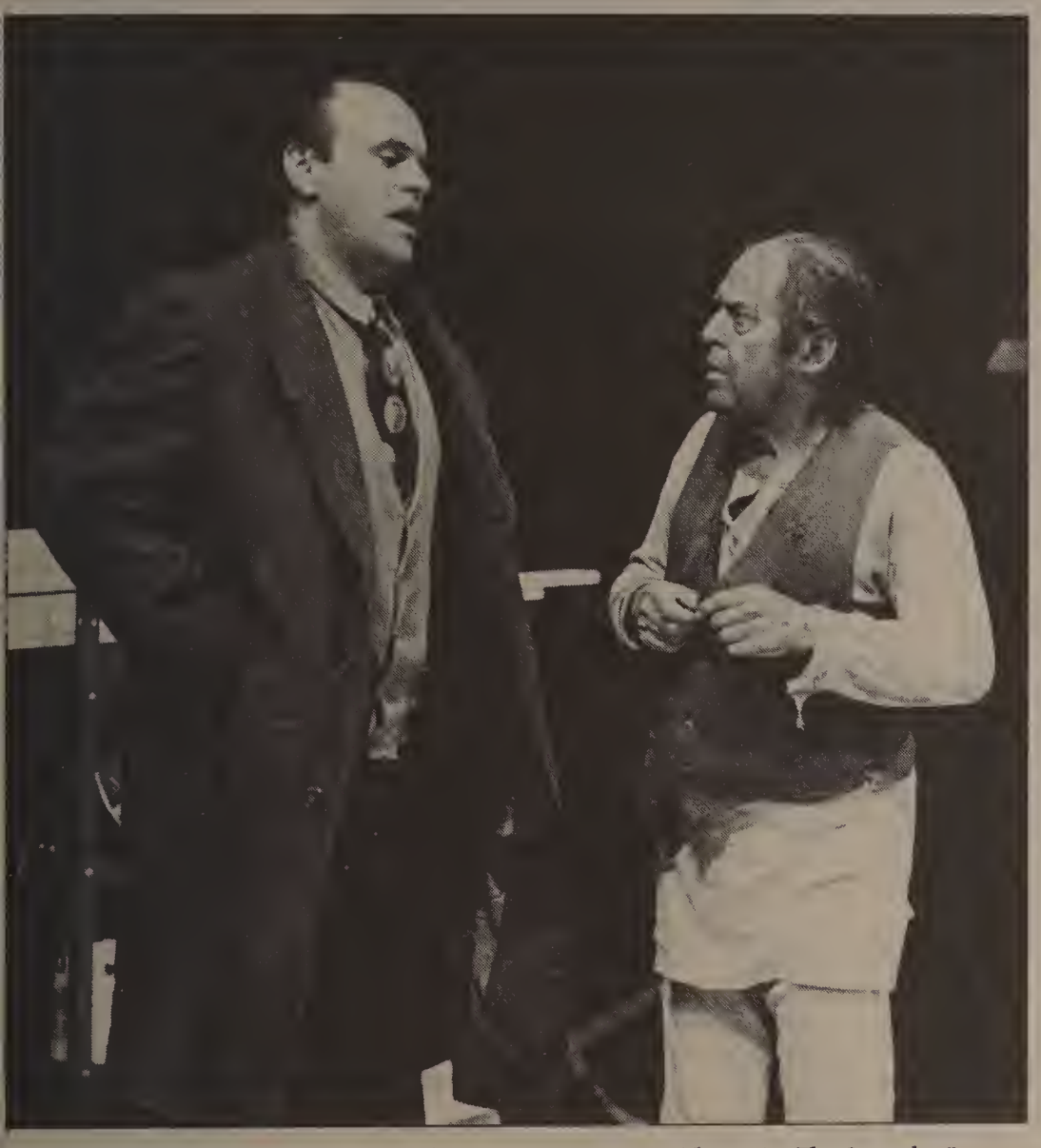
That puts the glass slipper on quite a different foot, proving, perhaps,, that not only Jerry Lewis can play "Cinderfella."❑



The Boston Ballet's Karen Scalzitti and Devon Carney in "Cinderella"

THE CARETAKER

Pinter's Masterful Drama on Brotherly Strife



Jack Willis and Jeremy Geidt in The American Repertory Theatre's "The Caretaker"

BY NANCY LEONARD

As one famous story has it, when playwright Terrence Rattigan saw "The Caretaker," he told its author, Harold Pinter, that he knew what it was about: "It's about the God of the Old Testament, the God of the New, and humanity." But Pinter coyly rejected the idea. "No, Terry," he retorted. "It's about a caretaker and two brothers." Well, either view, or any other between these polar opposites, would be just about as plausible. "The Caretaker" remains as impenetrable in 1993 as it was upon its first production in 1960.

That said, and story meaning aside, this revival at the American Repertory Theatre, under David Wheeler's impeccable direction, is splendid and compelling, perceptively weaving curt dialogue, comedy, and menace into a starkly atmospheric drama. The rhythms are resonant, and there's a dark subtlety to the whole. But mostly, it seems, the power of the acting is what makes the evening so commendable, particularly a tour de force performance by ART senior actor, Jeremy Geidt.

The action takes place in an upper story room of a West London house. Aston, who lives there, enters with a down-at-the-heels old man, whom he's just rescued from a fight. The attic room is littered with stacks of newspapers, assorted objects, and general debris. Under one pile, there's a second bed; and the visitor, who's been calling himself Jenkins for the 15 years since the war (though his name is Davies), is invited to stay. The next day, Aston's brother Mick comes upon the scene. He says he's the landlord, though his behavior is more thug-like than entrepreneurial.

Aston, laconic and impaired from electric-shock treatments, works with his hands. He's supposed to be decorating the place, but his real goal is to build a shed in the backyard. He thinks maybe Davies, whom he looks after despite being annoyed by his habits, can be the caretaker. Later, Mick advances the same proposition, but wants references. Davies repeats what we've heard before, and will hear later: his papers are with a guy in Sidcup, and if the weather would just break, he could get down there, prove who he is, get it all sorted out.

As the play progresses through its several scenes, Davies switches his allegiance from Aston to Mick, but that doesn't work out either. He can't fulfill the latter's dreams of making the old place a palace. Ultimately, the visitor becomes an outsider in a familial stand-off, and has to leave.

Although there's as much detail in the script as clutter in the room, Pinter's purpose remains elusive. The vivid details of this play give life to the evening's spare formulation, but are not particularly suggestive. What's going on probably has something to do with power and identity in an existential void. The work feels like Beckett's - Davies' running concern about shoes, for example, and his always-postponed trip to Sidcup - but there's less insight into heart and mind. Mick's alternating moods and manipulations link more generally to theater of the absurd.

The production catches the comedy as well as the bleak uncertainties in the work. Jeremy Geidt's cockney bum is a perfect evocation of a lost soul, resiliently continuing his lifelong struggle for a modest place in the world. He doesn't want to offend, but is not shy about making demands, and sizes up his shifting situation with a survivor's instinct. The actor turns a passage about a clock into a wonderful stand-up routine, and later kicks Aston's bed with splendid childlike resentment. His glimpses of victory are quite touching, and his losses come with strong feelings. Overall, it's a relaxed personification that doesn't seem like "acting" at all.

Jack Willis is superbly enigmatic as Aston, the taciturn, well-intentioned older brother, who is only too aware of his limitations. There's something chilly in his self-control; his benevolence is a question mark in the proceedings. His tightly-modulated, emotion-laden speech at the end of the second act is stunning.

Mark Zeisler, in black leather jacket, with a toothpick dangling sardonically from his mouth, is mostly edgy and explosive as Mick, despite the odd touch of concern. His second-act aria about decorative possibilities, linguistically out of his league, is startling.

Derek McLane's raked, thrust set backs up to a slanting roof with a narrow window, from which the final arresting image emerges. The costumes by Catherine Zuber and Kenneth Mooney are distinctly in character. John Ambrosone's moody lighting perfectly traces the action, while Maribeth Back's sound design enhances the mood.

Pinter's obscurity can be intimidating, and the subject of intense debate. But the ART's "Caretaker" is simply a masterful mystery. It deserves a return engagement after its very brief run. ❑

STAGE NOTES

BY NANCY LEONARD

It's been a long, snowy winter, but signs of spring are appearing.

The Eleventh Annual Elliot Norton Awards are to be given out this year on May 17 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. A gala dinner, celebrating this esteemed drama critic's 90th birthday, will precede the 8 p.m. awards ceremony. Kitty Carlisle Hart will be the guest of honor. Claire Bloom will receive a lifetime achievement award, and will also perform. Playwright Terrence McNally will accept a creative achievement award. The winner of the Elliot Norton Award will be announced that evening, along with the winners of other prizes. This year, there will also be a new award for outstanding design. For ticket information, call Chamber Theatre Productions, which is producing the event, at 542-9155.

The North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly has announced its 1993 subscription season, which begins with a new production of "Oklahoma" (June 3-19) starring George Dvorsky. The Tony Award-winning "City of Angels" has its local premiere June 24-July 10. Cyd Charisse will re-create her Broadway role in "Grand Hotel" from August 5-21. "Brigadoon" plays September 2-18. Jo-Anne Worley will star in the Boston area premiere of Dan Goggin's "Nunsense II: The Second Coming" from September 23-October 9. "Guys & Dolls," with Georgia Engel, caps the season, October 14-30. Two celebrity concerts are part of the series: Jim Nabors in concert with Phyllis Diller, July 12-17; Rosemary Clooney and the Concord Jazz Quartet, July 26-31. For further information, call (508) 922-8500.

The world premiere of "The Company of Angels," by Alan Brody, will be at Newton's New Repertory Theatre, April 15-May 23. Following positive audience response to a staged reading last year, artistic director Larry Lane decided to mount a full-scale production of the work. Based on a true story, the play concerns a troupe of young Jewish actors in Poland in 1945, and the power of theater to bring hope to a war-ravaged world. For tickets call 332-1646.

At Sudbury's Chiswick Park Theatre, Craig Lucas' "Prelude to a Kiss," runs April 30-May 23. For information and tickets, call (508) 443-5550.

ARTS

THE CALENDAR

DANCE

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for *Cinderella*, that timeless fairy tale of enchantment and romance. Performances run Apr. 15-May 2. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

MIT
at Sargent Dance Theater
Boston University
1 University Rd., Boston
Choreographers Bill Evans and Beth Soll present a concert of solo works Apr. 23-24 at 8pm and Apr. 25 at 3pm. Tickets are $10. Call 547-8771.

Movement Art
at Mass. College of Art
621 Huntington Ave., Boston
The *Movement Art Showcase* is an eclectic showcase of improvised and choreographed works by several artists. In the North Building, Room 175; tickets are $7.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery Per Tutti
558 Tremont St., Boston
To open its new location, this gallery host a group photography show through Apr. 30. This gallery also features an espresso bar where patrons will be able to combine the pleasures of art and coffee.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Close-Up/Still Life" through May 23. Drawn mainly from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features images by photographers such as Steiglitz, Abbott, Moholy, Steichen, Ray and Brandt. Parallel themes are brought up to date by contemporary photogs such as Coplans, Spano and Nixon.

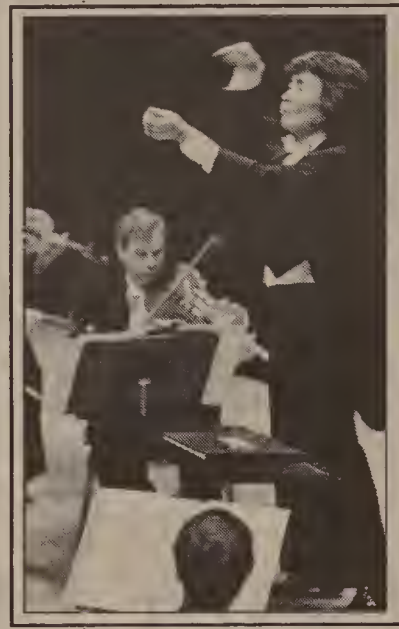
Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball" and a group show called "Striking Images." Both contain fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. The former runs through July 30; the latter through May 30.

★ TICKETS ★
SPORTS★CONCERTS★EVENTS
Miss Saigon .....$45 up
Van Morrison .....$45 up
Neil Diamond.....$45 up
Bruins Playoffs .....
603-898-3727
★ ★

CLASSICAL

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8pm, the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
The Bank of Boston Celebrity Series continues Apr. 17 at 3pm with the Kronos Quartet (chamber music) and Apr. 18 at 3pm with pianist Benjamin Pasternack. Also, the Boston Academy of Music presents Donizetti's rarely-heard operatic masterpiece *Linda di Chamounix* on Apr. 16 at 8pm.



IMPROPER ARTS PICK

Conducting business: Renowned Musical Director Seiji Ozawa will lead the final two Boston Symphony Orchestra programs April 15-27, featuring such works as Haydn's Symphony No. 67. Call the BSO at 266-2378 for ticket reservations.

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

Symphony Hall
Mass. Ave. at Huntington Ave., Boston
The Bank of Boston Celebrity Series continues with a performance by the Canadian Brass on Apr. 23 at 8pm and pianist Krystian Zimerman on Apr. 25 at 3pm.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30pm; Tues.-Wed. 6:30pm; Thurs. and Sat. at 11am.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30pm every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
As part of the series "Le Cinema de Papa: French Cinema 1950-55," come see *Royal Affairs in Versailles* Apr. 16-18 at 8pm. Tickets are $5. It's about the French Revolution and has an all-star cast. *Four Bags Full* will be shown Apr. 23-25 at 8pm; its a suspenseful farce about two men in Nazi-occupied Paris who try to lug a contraband pig from one end of the city to the other.

Harvard Film Archive
at the Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St. Cambridge
HFA presents the "Twilight of the Tsars: Early Russian Cinema Before the Revolution, 1908-1917" film series from Apr. 16-28. Also, come particpate in four days of films, roundtable discussions and receptions with up-and-coming directors in a French-American film workshop called "Avignon en Cambridge '93." Call 496-6046 for a schedule for either event.

MIT
Mass. Ave. at Mem. Drive, Cambridge
MIT's Japanese film series continues in room 1-390 with *A Taxing Woman Returns* and *Insect Woman* on Apr. 16 at 7pm and 9:15pm, respectively. Free admission. Call 253-2839 for more information.

Museum of Fine Arts
365 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Icelandic Cinema series features *Under the Glacier* Apr. 11 at 1:45pm; *Wallpaper* Apr. 16 at 6pm and *Sodoma Reykjavik* at 8pm; and Magnus at 1:45pm. The Cinema de Papa series continues Apr.15 at 8pm with Summer Maneuvers. Two special engagements: *Vermont is for Lovers* on Apr. 11, 17 & 18 (call for times) and *Masala* on Apr. 18 at 7pm. All films have English subtitles; tickets are $6. Call 267-9300.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Call 723-2500 for show times.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
The museum hosts a rematch of MIT's classic LEGO Robot Design Competition from 1:30-3:30pm on Apr. 25. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Although some of the outdoor exhibits will not be open until the weather warms up, there is still plenty to see indoors, such as the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas) and the House of Birds. Even in the winter, you can see Hooves and Horns outside, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Gore Place
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is locate on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours, inside and out, run Apr. 15-Nov. 15. Call 894-2798 for hours.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture until May 30. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition

(continued on following page)

ARTS

WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY LESLIE SEMONIAN

"Recall your foremost childhood ambition."



Sharina, 16, Boston
"I wanted to sing R&B like Anita Baker. Now I want to be a rapper like Naughty by Nature."



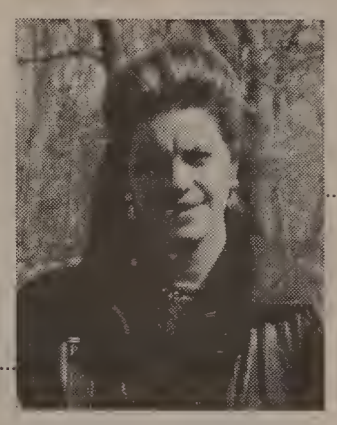
Charlie, 25, Brookline
"I wanted to be the lead singer in a rock and roll band."



Nicole, 22, Brighton
"A famous tennis player. I wanted to make tons of money and enjoy myself at the same time."



Dana, 45, Boston
"I'm more or less doing now what I wanted to do as a child."
(Dana Bisbee is the Society Editor for the Boston Herald)



Susan, 25, Wellesley
"I always wanted to become first female president, but I see Hillary Clinton beat me to it!"



Carl, 28, Boston
"Be a forest ranger & marry a rich girl from Houston whose rich dad owned oil wells."

- an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a playful hands on exploration of geometry .

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 3 and part two until September. Also, see the Harold Samuel Collection of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings through May 9. Artists featured include Hals, Brueghel, van der Neer and others.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
On Apr. 18, the museum has special events lined up to celebrate Earth Day. Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit through May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures! Through May 16, take a whimsical look at some of the attitudes people hold toward wildlife, domesticated animals and the environment in the exhibit "The Good, the Bad and the Cuddly." Call 589-0251.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

Peabody & Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem
The nation's oldest maritime museum is presenting "The Great Age of Sail: Treasures from the National Maritime Museum of Greenwich, England" until June 2. It features over 100 of the world's most famous and highly-prized treasures of maritime art. Call 508-745-1876.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
at the Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Cambridge
The A.R.T. presents the world premiere of Han Ong's *The L.A. Plays*, an illuminating look at the dark time of Hollywood streetlife and the action-junkies who live and die there. Performances run through May 2 in repertory with *Silence, Cunning, Exile* through Apr. 29. Inspired by the life of photographer Diane Arbus, *Silence* charts 20 years in the life of a fashion photographer-turned-chronicler of America's shadowy subculture. Call 547-8300.

Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* is now performing an open-ended run. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

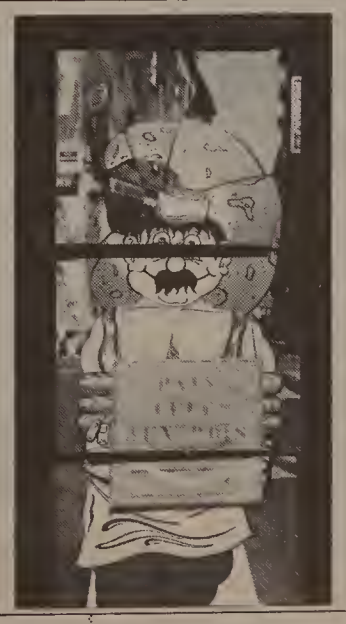
Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St., Boston
David Mamet's critically-acclaimed *American Buffalo* runs through April 18. It's set in a Chicago junk shop where three small-time crooks plot to rob a man of his valuable coin collection. Call 437-7172 for times and tickets.

Medieval Manor
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

Merrimack Rep. Theatre
Lowell Memorial Aud.
E. Merrimack St., Lowell
The MRT presents Peter Shaffer's world-renowned play *Amadeus*, about the life of Mozart and the mediocre composer who claimed he murdered him. Runs Apr. 23-May 15. Call 508-454-6324 for times and tickets.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Theatre
at the 1st & 2nd Church Theatre
66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents *Spike Heels*, a comedy that reverses traditional stereotypes and hilariously exposes issues of seduction and sexual harassment in the workplace. Runs Apr. 22-May 15, Thurs-Sun at 8pm. Call 247-7388 for reservations and information.



IMPROPER ARTS PICK

Seeing triple: The works of photographer Robert Richfield are on view at The French Library, 53 Marlborough Street, through the month of April. Richfield creates multiple-paneled color pieces, detailing constructs of merchant signs. Call 264-351 for more information.

New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the world premiere of *The Company of Angels*, set in Poland in 1946. Based on a true story, a troupe of young Jewish actors joins together to bring hope to a desperate world. Runs Apr. 15-May 23. Call 332-1646 for more information.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant or Paolo's Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

LECTURES/READINGS

AIDS Action Committee
at the Harriet Tubman House
566 Columbus Ave., Boston
"Brother to Brother - Keys to Open the Doors" is a workshop for African-American gay men that will be held Apr. 8 at 6pm. Admission is free but registration is required: 437-6200 x499.

Arco Forum
at Harvard Univ.
79 JFK St., Cambridge
Free.

Bookcellar Cafe
1971 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Political satirist Barry Crimmins lectures on the old master himself, Mark Twain, at 8pm on Apr. 21. Amazingly enough, the event is *free*.

Brookline Adult Education
at the Main Library
361 Washington St., Brookline
Brookline author Linda Barnes has changed detective fiction, carving a niche for herself and her character, Carlotta Carlysle. On Apr. 27 at 7pm, Barnes will discuss the art of writing detective fiction. Free, but preregistration is requested. Call 730-2700.

Clothesline Project
at the Transportation Building
At Boylston & Tremont, Boston
The Clothesline Project is a survivor-created visual display of the impact of violence against women; shirts are created and added to the line by women or in memory of women who are victimes of battering or sexual assault. Come to an all-day event Apr. 17 beginning at 11am to share this powerful experience. Speakers will be there. Call 227-2787.

Ford Hall Forum
at the Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston

(continued on following page)

ARTS

SCHOOL OF THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, BOSTON



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(617) 267-1219

School of the Museum of Fine Arts
230 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115

Affiliated with Tufts University

The School of the Museum of Fine Arts admits students of any race, color & national or ethnic origin.

(Theater Continued)

Radio/political personalities Marjorie Clapprood and Judy Jarvis will discuss the new role radio talk shows are playing in politics on Apr. 15 at 7pm. Free. A Q&A session will follow. Call 437-5800.

JFK Library
Columbia Pt., Boston
Native Yugoslavian and Harvard fellow Aleksa Djilas will speak on the violence in the Balkans on Apr. 20 at 5:30pm; former U.S. ambassador to Greece Monteagle Stearns will comment. Northeastern Univ. professor Robert Gilbert will examine the lives of our recent presidents on Apr. 25 at 2pm; on Apr. 27 at 5:30pm, John Frohmayer, former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts under George Bush, will discuss the state of art in America. All forums are free, but reservations are recommended: 929-4571.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Come learn about Film Noir each Thursday at 7:30pm from Apr. 15-29. Look at major motifs, femmes fatales and this genre's influence on the films of today. Call 267-9300 x300 to register.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Harvard prof. David Maybury-Lewis will address why our concern for the environment must include concern for the rights and cultural survival of indigenous peoples. On Apr. 18 at 3:30pm.

Wordsworth Books
at the Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
Admission is free, but tickets are necessary; pick them up at Wordsworth bookstore or the teatre.

GALLERIES

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston
In conjunction with the Society of Arts & Crafts gallery at 101 Arch St., Boston, Alianza presents the work of New England women jewelers from Apr. 9 to June 4.

Nostalgia Factory
336 Newbury St., Boston
For the month of April, this store features "Curl Up and Dye," a display of old advertising that illustrates our obsession with hair. Free.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston
Through May 2, see a stunning array of decorative art in the show "Celebration of Excellence: Artists Exhibited at the Society and Represented in the Permanent Collection at the Museum of Fine Arts."

SPECIAL EVENTS

Beanpocket Tourney
at Boston Billiards
126 Brookline Ave., Boston
The 3rd annual collegiate tournament to benefit the Student Environmental Action Coalition will be held Apr. 20. College students are invited to enter five-member teams with a donation of $25. To sign up, call 536-POOL.

Jewish Professionals
at Zanzibar
1 Boylston Pl, Boston
The Society of Young Jewish Professionals (ages 21-49) hosts a "Lox Trot" on Apr. 18 at 8pm. The party costs $12 in advance or $15 at the door; call 367-8989 for tickets or more information.

Orchid Show
at Park Plaza Castle
Arlington at Columbus, Boston
The 15th annual New England Orchid Show welcomes spring in full bloom Apr. 16-18 with orchid arrangements and mini-landscapes. There will be workshops and educational horticultural films as well. Open 9am-6pm; admission is $5. Call 973-8850.

Ski & Sports Club
at the Hyatt Regency
Memorial Drive, Cambridge
The Boston Ski & Sports Club celebrates the official end of ski season on Apr. 16 with a dance party featuring Barrence Whitfield and the Savages. Buy tickets now or in advance, but tradition dictates that anyone with a broken leg gets in free. Call 789-4070.

Walk America
various sites
The March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation is holding its annual fundraising walk on Apr. 25. Stop by Brooks Pharmacy, T.J. Maxx of call 1-800-458-0039 to register.

Walk for Hunger
begins at Boston Common
Money raised from Project Bread's Walk for Hunger on May 2 will go to 424 food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and other emergency feeding programs throughout the state. To sign up, call 723-5000 or register the day of the event from 7-9am.



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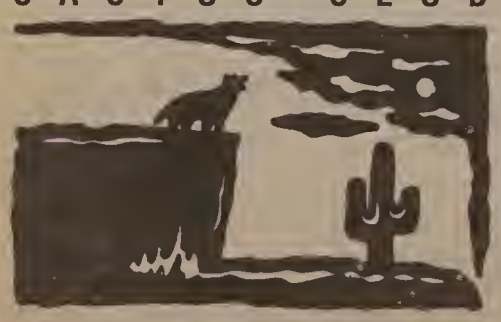
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CELEBERITY GUEST DINING REVIEW

Casa Romero: Staying Power

BY JOYCE DELLA CHIESA

Stepping down into the grotto seclusion of Casa Romero, you feel the ambiance of a real Mexico City restaurant. Located right off the public alley on Gloucester Street, between Commonwealth Ave. and Newbury Street, the Casa is beautifully appointed with richly-colored tiles, bold looking Mexican high-back chairs (great for privacy), and various artifacts reflecting the rich heritage of Mexico, and the restaurant's owner.

Leo Romero, the distinguished looking and congenial owner of this eatery brings his love for the arts and traditional, family recipes to this romantic spot, which is now in its twentieth year. That is a long time in the Boston restaurant business, and there is a reason why: Casa Romero's consistency.

CASA ROMERO

$$
30 Gloucester Street
536-4341
Dinner Only
MC/Visa Accepted
Open 7 days a week
Sun.-Thur. 5-10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 5-11 p.m.

As soon as you are seated, you're served fresh salsa and real tortilla chips along with the menus. This salsa, which seems too hot at first, will have the most timid of palates asking for more. It's addictive. We enjoyed house margaritas (made with Sauza Gold Tequila at $3.75) and Mexican beer (there are several varieties, all at $3.75) while our friendly and bilingual waiter explained the specials and answered questions about the menu. If you can, enjoy the outside garden, which is one of the loveliest meeting spots in the city (it wasn't open yet at the time of this review).

For our appetizers we chose ceviche of fresh fish ($5) and chicken flautas with guacamole and sour cream ($4). Both were terrific. The ceviche consisted of perfectly sliced and cubed pieces of sweet fresh pollack, marinated with onions, jalapenos and lots of lemon and lime juice. The sweetness of the fish and the tartness of the citrus were in perfect balance. The flautas were crispy and delicious. They are made of flour tortillas, stuffed full of chicken, rolled, deep fried, then topped with beautifully creamy and flavorful guacamole, a touch of red salsa. The final touch was a welcome dollop of sour cream. A truly terrific dish, full of flavors and textures. We also sampled the mixed green salad ($2.50), which delighted us with a nice mix of radicchio and a variety of carefully cleaned greens served with a red wine vinaigrette.

For our main selection, we chose grilled fajitas of chicken ($12), deviled giant shrimp in a tomato and chipotle sauce ($16) and enchiladas poblanas of chicken with mole, cheese and sour cream ($10). We also ordered a very nice bottle of red wine, an '89 Coronas (Torres) Penedes from Spain ($16). The fajitas were served with warm soft tortillas so you could roll the tender, juicy pieces of chicken and sweet grilled vegetables inside. This is always fun to do and oh, so good. The shrimp were very large and tender. The sauce that topped them sizzled from the hot, smoky flavor of the chipotle peppers which blended perfectly in a rich tomato sauce. And we were delighted with our classic chicken enchiladas with mole. A rich and creamy dark sauce with smooth texture covered the enchiladas, which were sprinkled with a light amount of cheese and melted for a mouth-watering presentation. All entrees are served with Mexican rice and delicious refried beans.

We were so content and satisfied that we were ready to forgo dessert until told the special of the evening: a perfectly ripe half mango, beautifully presented in a pool of raspberry sauce and a dollop of slightly sweetened whipped cream ($4). We also tried the classic flan ($2.50), smooth, light, soft and creamy with a touch of cinnamon. Both were a delicious finish to another memorable meal at the Casa Romero. We look forward to our next time here. Maybe the garden will open early this year.

Our celebrity reviewer, Joyce Della Chiesa, is the guest chef who matches menus to music at Sculler's "Cooking with Jazz," at the Guest Quarters Suite Hotel in Boston. If you go to visit her there, say hello to her husband, Ron, host of both "Music America" and Sculler's jazz.

APPETEASERS

BY PETER MCNAMARA AND CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

DOG'S DAE

The warm weather just around the corner ensures that **Chip's Firehouse Ice Cream** on Charles Street in Beacon Hill will soon be the coolest spot in town. With old-fashioned flavors like vanilla (made with choice bourbon vanilla beans, frozen pudding, maple walnut and pistachio sans food coloring), they deliver tastes from days gone by. However, what makes this place very, very special is their attention to their canine clientele, serving Boston's only "doggie sundae." That's right – topped off with a mini-doggie-biscuit, veterinarian approved.



Ursula Argyropoulos

Michael Rugnetta of Joseph's Pastry Shop serves Hazelnut Soup at the Great Chef's Taste Fair

HERSTORY

A daytime Newbury Street refuge for approximately 85 poor and homeless women will celebrate Mother's Day, May 9, with a delicious banquet and live entertainment for their guests. To make this day memorable, Lunch Place is asking supporters to make a donation in honor of one special woman in their lives. In return for the donation, the Lunch Place will send that woman a card designed especially for the occasion. People interested in supporting the Women's Lunch Place may send their donation, name, address, and the name and address of the person to whom they want the card sent, to **The Women's Lunch Place**, 67 Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 02116, or call 267-1722 for more information.

WET YOUR NOODLE

Saturday afternoons can be a tough time to please your palate in Boston, but take heart. The **Copley Plaza** Thai Sous Chef **Sam Sriweatner** is preparing spectacular dishes from his homeland, as well as other Asian countries, including Japanese yakisoba, Chinese chowfoon, Indonesian bakmi goreng, pad Thai, as well as Burmese and Vietnamese dishes. For the nice price of $10.95 per person, Boston's only noodle buffet is a great mid-day meal-deal for the weary Saturday shopper. For more information, call the Copley Plaza Hotel: 267-5300.

VEG-OUT

Attention all vegetarians. **Cambridge School of Culinary Art**, nationally known for their professionally-trained chefs, is hosting a one day cooking session for the vegetably-minded novice. Learn to prepare a delicious vegetarian meal, from hors-d'oeuvres to dessert, using wholesome, fresh and nutritious ingredients combined with sophisticated techniques. Space is still available for the May 15 session at 11 a.m. Call to make reservations at 354-3836. (Also, use this opportunity to join their mailing list.)

BROKEN RIBS

More than just the barbecue sauce will be heating up this summer, as Boston prepares for two of the biggest "rib fests" to hit town in years. (For a town full of Beans, we sure know our meat). **The American Pit Masters Bar-B-Q Round Up** arrives in Boston in mid-June (June 18-20 in downtown Boston), while **The Great Yankee Rib Cook-Off**, in its second year on City Hall Plaza, will be here August 26-29, to spread the word about *their* ribs. Stay tuned for more information.



Ursula Argyropoulos

Victoria Kennedy cooks up a storm at the Great Chef's Taste Fair

DISAPPEARING ACT

As we reported in this column six months ago, **The Magic Pan** has finally turned off the burners at their Newbury Street location, and shall be replaced by JMB Restaurants of Burlingame, California, who will take over and open up **Milano's Italian Restaurant** in its place. Expect a mid-May opening.

S.O.S.

The annual "**Taste The Nation**" will be held on Friday, April 30, beginning at 7:30 p.m., at the Hynes Convention Center. More than 1,000 people will sample the creations of the participating chefs, at a price of $75 per person. One hundred percent of all funds raised will benefit hunger relief agencies including the Boston Food Bank, Project Bread and Oxfam America. Tickets are available through Boston Food Bank, 427-5200, or Ticketpro, 931-3100.

Congratulations to: Chef **Carrie Kellerby** of the Cactus Club on the arrival of her new boy, **Camdon**, and to **Al Stankus** who will be co-editing the **Zagat Restaurant Guide**, along with **Jane Lavine**. ❑

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI

Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos. 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO

236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30am - 2pm.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ

1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, .232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m

CACTUS CLUB

939 Boylsion St., Bos. 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT

138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m, is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE

222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE

84 Beacon St., Bos. 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30am - 2:30p, $12 - $16.

HARBOR TERRACE

296 State St. at the Marriot Longwharf Hotel, Bos. 227-0800
A veritable smorgasbord with over 60 breakfast, lunch and dinner items awaits you at the harbor terrace. Take in the harbor vista at this Sunday buffet from 10am-2:30pm. $21.95; under 12 half price.

HUNGRY I

71 1/2 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11am-2pm.

JONAH'S SEAFOOD CAFE

575 Memorial Drive, Camb. 492-1234
The reasons for their award-winning Sunday Brunch Buffet are immediately evident upon entering here. For $22.95, it's all-you-can-eat from their seafood-theme brunch which includes a raw bar, carvings and omelette stations and more.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR

300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 am to 1:30 pm.

O'LEARY'S

1010 Beacon St., Brookline 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

PARKER'S RESTAURANT

Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Bos. 725-1600
Cut-glass windows and a traditional decor for Proper Bostonians compliment this award-winning Sunday brunch. Fresh seafood, cheeses, fruit, salads and a complementary glass of champagne. Service is tops. Sun. 11:30am-2:30pm. $24.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL

70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30am - 2:30pm. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge .

SERENDIPITY 3

120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos. 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA

160 Commonwealth Ave. 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Featuring a brand new brunch menu, Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way with home fries ($5.95), or salmon hash with peppers, red onion and potato, topped with poached eggs and a tomato-mustard sauce ($7.95).Wether it be out under the stars or in from the cold, come join us at Spasso!

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ

338 Newbury St., Bos. 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9pm.

WARREN TAVERN,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from 12:00 to 3:30. $4.95 - $6.95

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1010 BEACON STREET BROOKLINE 734-0049

In Vino Veritas

Mondavi On the Move

BY JONATHON ALSOP

These Mondavi people just will not quit. Already a huge force in Boston (and everywhere else), they've adopted a new motto: when you compete against yourself, you always win. In 1987, Mondavi bought Vichon Winery and then bought the legendary Byron Vineyards in 1990. Vichon and its second label, Vichon Coastal, have been in Boston for a while, but always on the back burner. Now Mondavi is releasing Byron in Boston and only nine other markets, so the push is on. We re-tasted some Vichon and tasted the Byron for the first time recently; the Vichon was very good, except for the vain '88 Cabernet Sauvignon and its asking price of $25. Every one of the Byron wines was outstanding, especially the Sauvignon Blanc, all at very good prices. These will be the wines of summer around here, and as far as I'm concerned, Byron could easily beat Mondavi if they keep on like this.

• '90 Vichon Chevrignon (50/50 blend of sauvignon blanc and semillon), $9: beautiful green aromas, lively and herbal, deep flavors, tastes like rain, smells very good.

• '91 Byron Sauvignon Blanc, $10: a serious bottle of wine, strong exotic aromas of tropical fruit and wet stones, fantastic flavors, crisp explosive citrus, gorgeous body, can't stop thinking about this wine, my new favorite.

• '91 Byron Chardonnay, $14: aromas rose as we poured and hit me from a distance, huge nose of vanilla, butterscotch and pear, perfect acidity, persistent butter and cream; never tasted the Reserve, but it's hard to imagine it could possibly be any better than this. When you see it on sale for $11, buy big.

• '90 Byron Pinot Noir $14: big nose of fruit and spice, very lean and focused with sharp acidity, a little simple right now, still twice the wine you'd get from Burgundy at the same price; easy to imagine the Reserve could be better, though.

• '88 Vichon Cabernet Sauvignon, $25: dark color, some creamy fragrances, dried fruit flavors, oddly lifeless, tasted over two days and went nowhere fast.

Fine Wine On A Tight Budget

Beacon Beverage, Brookline: '90 Buehler Zin $7, '89 Goosecross "Estate" Chardonnay $9 (*not* the regular chard for $7, in a nearby rack), and '90 Bel Arbors Zin an incomprehensible 3/$12 given its quality in a famous vintage.

Winecellar 2000

The turn of the millennium is one of those "buy-now-drink-later" scenarios no wine lover can resist. Let's start our hypothetical 21st century winecellar with a case of '89 Domaine Chante Perdrix Chateauneuf-du-Pape, a beautiful CdP in a stellar year, from Brookline Liquor Mart, about $200. Tremendous now, better later, and by 2000, the Chante Perdrix will have maximum flavor, maximum smoothness, and maximum price.

Westport White

Winemaker Bill Russell, from Westport Rivers Vineyard just outside Boston, has fashioned a delicious and affordable blend called Westport White from chard, botrytis-affected chard (if you can believe it!), riesling and pinot blanc. The result is a very full-bodied white with deep, creamy fruit, soft citrus and great acidity. The botrytis – a main component in French Sauternes – contributes a little bite, as well as a mild lingering heat on the tongue. Absolutely outstanding, beautifully twisted into uniqueness. To compare, Westport White is like Cotes-du-Rhone white or Aussie semillon, only stronger, and with its own distinct personality. Available at the vineyard and Marty's (April is American Wine Month), $8. ❑

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ANOTHER SEASON
97 Mount Vernon St., Boston 367-0880
A, MC, V, $$
A classic restaurant with a modern menu served in style is what you will find at Another Season. The diverse menu offers wonderful specials and a creative three-course prix fixe menu for $22.00 (Mon. - Thurs.) For reservations, information or a copy of the prix fixe menu for Fall please call 367-0880.

AMSTERSDAM'S BAR AND ROTISSERIE
54 Arlington St., Boston 426-1111
A, MC, V $$
An American bistro featuring rotisserie cooked chickens, fish and meats. Also serving a wide variety of appetizers ranging from golden calamari rings to homemade shrimp wontons and salads including classic caesar and mediterranean. Well known as a late night spot, Amsterdams is open daily from 11:30 am - 2:00 am with the kitchen open until 1:00am. Live Jazz Monday nights. Wheelchair accessible. Discount parking.

ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, clean cut and authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only one item priced over five dollars, their menu offers the best deals in this category. Choose between rotisseried chicken and kabobs. You'll be an addict of their lamb kebobs after trying them only once. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad and pita and hommos. Ararat also offers take-out service. Hours are 11am-9pm, Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St,. Bos. 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard 242-1911
MC / V $$
This casual yet elegant European Style Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. While there, sample one of the many delectable meals such as cutlets of veal sauteet with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms served over homemade fettucini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our Cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BLUE WAVE
142 Berkeley Street, Boston, 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos. 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7am-10:45am. Continental Breakfast: 10:45am -11:30am. L: 11:30am-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m., D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. till 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors". Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFFE ITALIA
279 Newbury St., Boston, 536-3556 $
Sip cappuccino and espresso from the early morning light into the balmy summer night at this authentic Italian cafe. Mangia imported pastries, Gelati, calzone, arancini, panzarotti and more from 8 am-12am Monday through Thursday and 8am-2am Friday through Sunday. Relax and enjoy a late night dessert on their outdoor terrace open until 2 am on weekends.



CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline 232-3303
M, V, A, $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from Macaroni and Cheese with OVen Dried Tomatoes and Roasted Garlic to Red Pepper Linguini with House Smoked Salmon and Trout. Homemade desserts. Daily lunch and early bird specials. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1am. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$
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CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos. 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located at Downtown Crossing. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted 1B's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos. 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00am-3p.m..

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

FOSTER'S BAR & GRILL
5 Blossom Street, Boston, MA 02114, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild mushrooms and sundried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos. 227-3524
MC, V$$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Bos. 426-1790
A,D,MC,V $$$
Melt your mouth but not your wings at this informal but sophisticated American regional restaurant in the South End. Dine at mahogany tables under softly lighted period fixtures. A favorite appetizer on the ever-changing menu is the polenta with braised wild mushrooms. Compliment your chanterelle glazed lobster with fennel ravioli with one of 100 choice wines. Enjoy jazz at the bar every Fri. Casual dress. Dinner daily. Sun. brunch is served 11am-3p.m..

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties inclued Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super Lunch Special 12 - 3p.m.Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take out/delivery and catering services available.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, MA
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area) 354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere.
Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza (about 25 beers to choose from). Mention the Improper Bostonian and get **20%** off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accesible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

JAMAICA JAMAICA
16 Prospect St., Cambridge, MA 864-9368 MC, V $
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, sample Caribbean inspired dishes at this friendly Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, its hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

KASHMIR
279 Newbury St., Boston 536-1695
MC/V/A/DC $$
Indian food in the heart of Newbury Street! The proprietors of this beautiful, new restaurant have years of experience — and it shows. Luncheon and dinner specials include Tandoori Chicken and Shrimp Curry. In addition, Kashmir features a weekend long brunch, and boasts a cozy street corner outdoor cafe. Chic, exotic and delicious!

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos. 426-4444
A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb. 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos. 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal". One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod. Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch and dinner. Sat./Sun., dinner menu only in town; lunch available in the suburbs. Open daily 11-11pm.

DINING

Mamma Maria
3 North Sq. North End, Boston
$$ D, V, MC, A; Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
523-0077
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering reigonal American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2am.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Bos. 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-10p.m..

Moon Villa
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos. 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4am for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049 V, MC, A, DC
$
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's feature extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite T.V.'s. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 am-2am, 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pat's Pushcart
61 Endicott St., Boston, 523-9616
MC/V $$
Serving fine Italian cuisine for over twenty years, Pat's Pushcart is a mainstay in Boston's North End. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Don't forget to ask about their everchanging daily specialties—the highlights of their menu.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant & Bar
20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722 (542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D
Voted Boston's best pizza by *Boston* magazine and voted the best deep-dish pizza in Chicago - but come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full-service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches. Huge $1.50 drafts always on special. Open from 11 a.m. to late night.

Pronto
464 Thames St., Newport, R.I. (401) 847-5251
MC/V $$$
Enjoy Italian and continental cuisine among fresh flowers and great music in charming Newport. This elegant European-style bistro serves lunch daily 11:30 - 4 p.m.. Dinner is served 5 - 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 5:30 -11 p.m. on weekends. Fine wines are available by the glass and for the months of August and September, breakfast will be served 8 am - 12 p.m. on weekends.

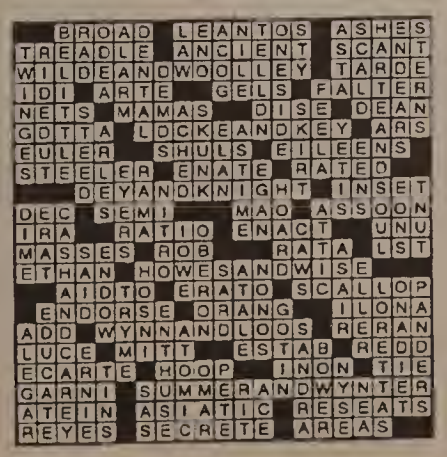
Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC,V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment.

Sorento's
86 Peterborough St., Bos. 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make
for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston
536-8656
A,M,EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location, So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Warren Tavern,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history approximately 212 years. The Tavern is one of the oldest restaurants in the country. The Tavern features an original decor of low bea.m.ed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward A.m.erican with a little international flair. Lunch 12-3:30. Dinner 5-10:30. 5-9 on Sun..

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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1 MASTERING THE ART OF SELLING
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SEMINAR TOPICS:
- How to make your words work for you
- Why people do and don't buy from you and what you can do about it
- How to build strong rapport every time with new prospects
- Questions to ask to get the information you need to close the sale
- How to make the telephone work for you ...outgoing call strategies and scripts ...ways to handle telephone tag ...what to say to turn inquiry calls into sales
- Specific Phraseology for 10 powerful closes
- How to revive "dead" sales
- 7 keys to building buyer confidence
Tom Hopkins, author of the million selling, "How to Master the Art of Selling".

2 MANAGING FOR RESULTS
Date: April 13, 1993 From 8:30 am to 12:30 pm
How to Gain, Train and Maintain a Dynamic Sales Force!
Developed by Tom Hopkins Int'l., taught by management trainer Don Jennings. Everything you need to know to turn you sales force into a top producing team!
Veterans and rookies will learn all this and more!
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*Goal setting *Results oriented supervision
*It's recommended that sales managers and owners attend together.
Don Jennings has 28 years sales training experience

3 TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LIFE
Jim Rohn
Date: May 11, 1993 From 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
THE "NO NONSENSE" APPROACH TO OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
RESPOND TO THIS INVITATION TO MAKE YOUR LIFE ALL YOU WANT
...An intensive seminar to refine those areas of human behavior that are most important to those in search of financial and personal success.
...Take a journey with JIM ROHN into ideas, procedures, insights and inspirations that will dramatically affect you in a way that lets you affect yourself.
...In this seminar, Jim Rohn challenges us to be something more than mediocre. So if you've ever wanted a seminar that contained the material for making you become more than you are, and one containing enough inspiration to last a lifetime...THIS IS THE ONE!
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- Skills of Awareness: Majors & Minors
- How to Affect People with Words
- The 4 Steps in Becoming a Success in Anything
- Behavior that Affects Your Impact in the Marketplace
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INTERVIEW

A Candid Conversation With Diane Modica, Commissioner for the Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs and Licensing

BY MARK SEMONIAN

For the past nine years Diana Modica has been Commissioner for the Mayor's Office of Consumer Affairs and Licensing. Her responsibilities include granting entertainment licenses for Boston's bars, clubs, restaurants and arenas. She is a lifelong resident of East Boston and is currently a candidate in District 1 for the Boston City Council.

I.B. What types of changes have you witnessed in entertainment in Boston since you first began your job as commissioner nine years ago?

D.M. We've seen a proliferation of comedy clubs, there's probably been a tripling of them in the city. Boston's always sort of had an underground reputation for spawning some real comedic talent, i.e. Jay Leno, but I think now we've become part of the comedic loop nationally, for both importing and exporting talent.

[Some] identified the Euro market and said "Gee here are some kids that have some money to spend," they began to attract them by moving from one club to the next and offering services as production companies. They were drawing them to various clubs. Paradise and Avalon got the first wave of the Euro kids. The production companies are now being integrated into or scooped up by the existing clubs.

I.B. Is the club business cleaner today than it was nine years ago?

D.M. I think we have established a fairly high standard of operations and a level of expectations with club owners. It's been a long road, but we've worked very closely with the Boston Police Department to make sure that there is a uniform application of the licensing standards across the city. We have two Boston Police detectives that work with us, they have become the enforcement arm for us – they carry out over a few thousand inspections a year. Their presence has been established in over 800 places across the city. I think the standards of performance have improved because of that.

Business plans have been improving. We let them [the club owners] know that we expect them to put in writing what it is that they plan on doing and how they are going to maintain order on the premises. We ask them to think of their format, how they will advertise and promote it. There have been times when people have engaged in advertising that has created huge lines of persons waiting to get into the clubs. We ask them to think of on site security and communicate this to their staffs.

I.B. What does it take to compete today in the club business?

D.M. Most of the people who are successful network within the neighborhood and understand how city agencies work. They've become good corporate citizens, they invest in the community, they sponsor charity events. They've fine tuned their marketing. Customer service and satisfaction is always stressed.

I.B. What's the most outrageous request you've ever received for licensing?

D.M. What seemed crazy yesterday seems to be normal today. The bungee scene seemed to be outrageous to us. It seemed to be fraught with risk. And after checking around, we found that this was being done throughout the country and around the world.

I.B. I read somewhere of the new human bowling trend in bars, where patrons strap themselves inside a life-sized bowling ball and their team mate bowls them into six-foot tall pins.

D.M. People are looking for some sort of impact in their lives. I would suggest they look inside themselves as opposed to outside for the impact. It's almost as though people have become numb to the world and they're looking for something to sort of bang them in the head and say "you're alive!" All this need to feel "impacted" is I think being taken in a direction that's maybe a little more risky than need be.

I.B. Does that mean we don't need alcohol?

D.M. Most people don't have a problem with responsible drinking.

I.B. Is there any chance that Boston clubs will ever close later than two in the morning?

D.M. Ah, how come I knew this was coming up? Suffice to say, Boston is a neighborhood city and there are a few places where there are not residential homes located adjacent or close by. [Her voice takes on a stern tone.] I think there's a conflict between the needs of people to sleep and the desires of people to party. In addition, the liquor licenses are regulated strictly, they can not go beyond two a.m.



Photo by Peter Shankman

The fact remains that people have to sleep, people have to get up early in the morning to go to work and the police are also limited in their resources. Beyond two a.m, there would be public safety issues that might require the police to be called for assistance. And I think the neighborhood people have something to say about having the police deployed at 4:30 in the morning for a club closing as opposed to being on duty in the event that they need them for some other matter.

I.B. Does the Boston lifestyle need more European influence?

D.M. Yes, absolutely, this European Bistro trend, where people sit and people watch. It's good for our health. As people, we have to slow down, we need more time to relax, to reflect and to really enjoy and be with the moment. I don't do enough of that, and I'm sure most people don't. But the European influence is helpful.

[Boston could benefit from] the Mediterranean culture, with it's love of food; [also] Paris, Rome, and the Greek islands. But also the Irish pubs, they're very friendly places, and people there are generally interested in Americans, they love to talk with you, and they're just very affable people.

I.B. What does Diane Modica do when she goes out at night?

D.M. I go for functions, I don't necessarily go out to party at a club. I like restaurants, I like eating good food. I like the movies,.. I like the live theater.

I haven't tried Kareoke yet, I'd have to do that in the privacy of my own home before I'd even dream of getting up in public. And concerts, but not always.

I.B. So, chances are that we're not going to see you on Lansdowne St. some Friday night dressed up in grunge?

D.M. You never know – hope springs eternal. ❑

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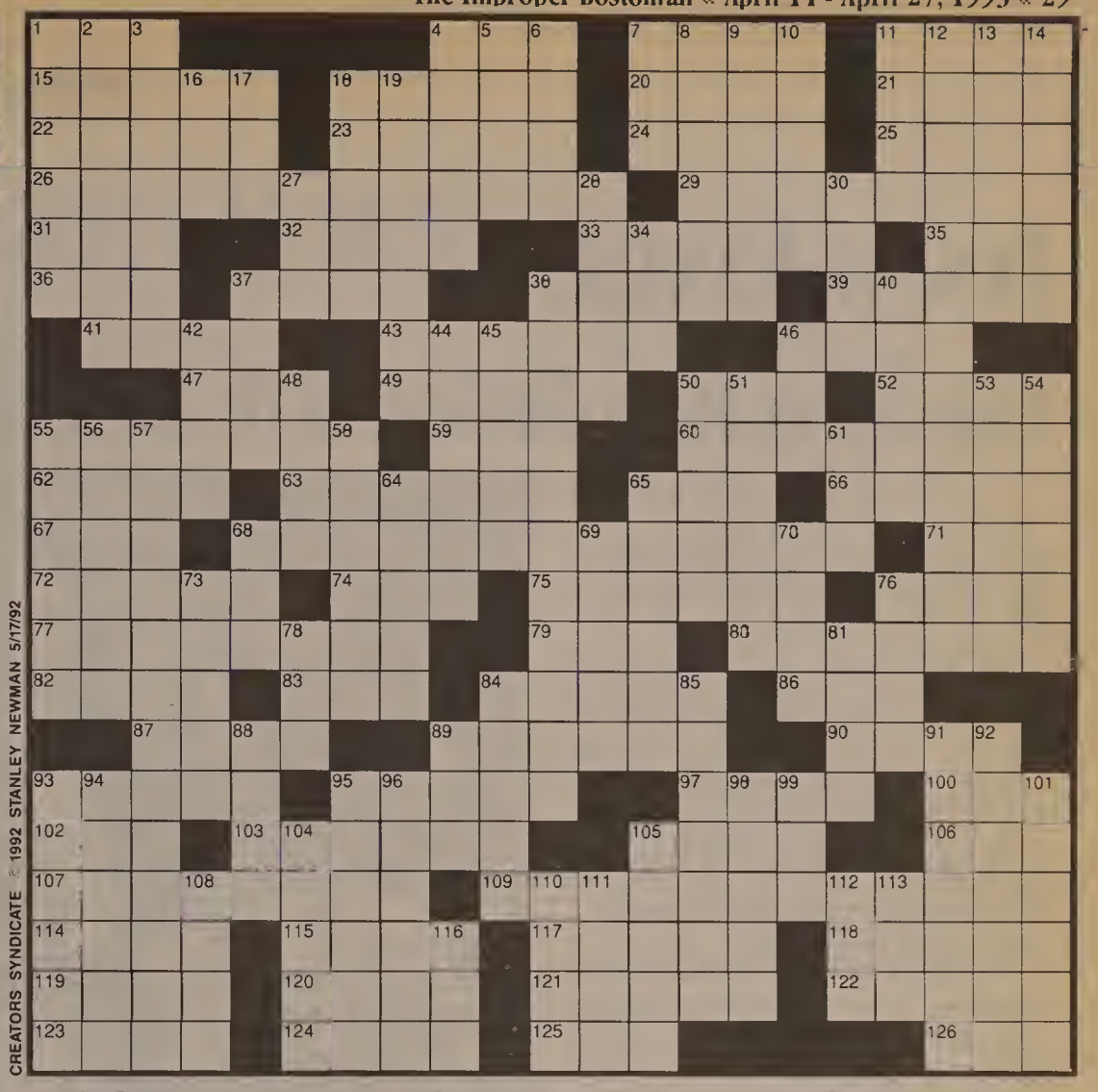
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

WORKERS' WORDS: On-the-job possessives

by Robert H. Wolfe



ACROSS

1 Apt name for a fisherman?
4 MV divided by V
7 Neck and neck
11 Aerobics centers
15 "What's in __?"
18 Carpenter's wear
20 Forbidden thing
21 "Rule Britannia" composer
22 Where __ (hub of activity)
23 Budweiser rival
24 Ref. source
25 *Bye Bye Birdie* tune
26 Classroom favorites
29 Semiautomatic rifles
31 Silly Putty holder
32 __ *of the Spider Woman* ('85 film)
33 End of a Hemingway title
35 Greek cross
36 Daniel visited one
37 Give up
38 Oregon Trail town
39 Embarrassing episode
41 Indian prince
43 Some cars
46 Señor, in Stuttgart
47 Frequently, in verse
49 Jackson Hole's river
50 Sault __ Marie, MI
52 Showroom caveat
55 Jefferson was one
59 Auxiliary verb
60 Grub for Goldilocks
62 Gloucestershire neighbor
63 Itinerant one
65 Do an ILGWU job
66 Titan rocket stage
67 London's Old __ Theatre
68 Clay-molding devices
71 A or B_{12}: Abbr.
72 Apse table
74 __ Aviv
75 Yankee's last name?
76 Construction zone
77 Publicity photos
79 Hockey great Bobby
80 Light-fingered one
82 Fictional governess
83 *Silent Spring* subject
84 Tenochtitlán resident
86 Heavy-hearted
87 Houston and Peckinpah
89 Suitable for soirees
90 Feudal worker
93 Struck down
95 Add beauty to
97 Shoot the breeze
100 Comparative suffix
102 Petroleum byproduct
103 El Greco's home
105 Criticize harshly
106 Cake-sale sponsor
107 Papal appointment
109 Creative impediment
114 CEO, often
115 Bar mixer
117 Head off
118 General Dayan
119 Homer's instrument
120 Preceding nights
121 Knock off
122 Bar mixer
123 Latin I verb
124 Danson and Koppel
125 Umiak builder: Abbr.
126 Pothook shape

DOWN

1 Slow-__ (plodding)
2 Number-line marking
3 Curly pasta
4 Barley and soybeans
5 Apple center
6 "Meet Me __ Louis"
7 Wind up
8 Cartoon credits
9 Sheathe
10 __ Dame
11 Literary pseudonym
12 Apprentice of a sort
13 __ condor (largest flying bird)
14 Actor Hayakawa
16 Singer Davis
17 Ordinal ending
18 Sharp-smelling
19 Be gifted with
27 Supplement, with "out"
28 Donna Reed's TV surname
30 Pedestal part
34 "__ Master's Voice"
37 Cozy eatery
38 13
40 Auto speedster Breedlove
42 Name of four presidents
44 Tooth material
45 Chance taker
46 *Leave __ to Heaven*
48 Polynesian staple
50 Full-ahead link
51 Poolside offerings
53 Set off
54 Two-__ (small plane)
55 Lay waste
56 How villains behave
57 Healthful directives
58 Covered sparsely
61 __ Tafari (Haile Selassie)
64 Eniwetok event
65 Tripoli has them
68 Telephonic trio
69 Brewmaster's concerns
70 "Shall we?" response
73 Take __ (get off your feet)
76 "Smooth Operator" singer
78 Driver's license et al.
81 __ *of Eden*
84 Road-sign shape
85 Common sights in Beijing
88 Parcel (out)
89 Dick Cheney's org.
91 Snappy comeback
92 Realizes at auction
93 Clip alternative
94 Povich and Wills
95 Dining area
96 Transferred, in a way
98 Western writer
99 Breakfast times: Abbr.
101 Gardeners, often
104 Beginning
105 New York cut, e.g.
108 "Nothing but blue skies do __"
110 Relay, for instance
111 Big name in lithography
112 Ritzy auto
113 Mauna __
116 Mule's parent

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JESUS JONES

The Next Revolution Will Be Computerized

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

Jesus Jones don't play rock and roll. "We don't really play traditional instruments in the accepted sense; there aren't any traditional guitar, bass or drums," says Iain Baker, who plays a sampler for the English fivesome, in a recent phone interview from England. "We play guitar lines into the computers, which are then messed around with. On the album, there is no live guitar at all. If we took all the samples off the album, you'd be listening to an a cappella album with [lead singer Michael Edward's] voice on it and nothing else."

The result of these efforts is *Perverse* (SBK/EMI), a cutting edge techno/rock /pop/dance sound that finds the band utilizing technology while retaining their abandon and excitement.

"Since everything is sampled, people think 'Oh, my God, it must be a really boring dance record' or it must be cold and clinical, but it is not. You can't just say, 'computer, churn me out some songs.' It doesn't know what to do. You have to have the songs in there to start. Garbage in, garbage out is the classic thing with computers," he continues. "You can't just throw a load of rubbage in their and hope it is going to write a masterpiece for you. Which is why the whole idea of using computer generated sounds works. The human element was there right from the genesis of the album. And I think that is reflected in the way it sounds."

Baker samples the guitar of Jerry De Borg, the bass of Al Jaworski, and the drums of "Gen" into a dozen tight, pulsating, dark, anti-nostalgic songs. Only singer-songwriter Edward's vocals remain unsampled.



Sample the tunes (and fashions) of Jesus Jones

Baker says a common misconception regarding the band is that their use of sampling creates a boring live show. "The computer will load up the same samples on the keyboard, each night," he explains. "But the way I play them each night could be completely different, and it frequently is. The way I play certain guitar lines or certain violin lines changes day to day in the same way a guitarist knows he has to start off with a certain guitar pattern but times he changes it perceptibly. That sort of thing can happen with sampling as well."

Therefore, Baker says, sampling is as valid a form of expression as can be obtained from any other instrument. "Samples can come from absolutely anywhere," he says. "The whole thing about them is that it doesn't matter what they are to start with. What makes it so interesting is you can be driving down the road, and a motorbike will go past, and you will hear the noise and be like, wow, what a noise. Wouldn't it be great to take it out of the context it is in, and change it around, and put it in a place where it shouldn't be.

"For example," he continues, "repeat the noise three time over a bar. And that is the beauty of sampling. And that is where it comes in to its own. It's not like we listen to a record and be like 'That was a nice drum fill, we can take that out and put it on our record.' There is no point in that for us, we like to take things from strange and wonderful sources."

The samples are added to a much darker album than 1991's *Doubt*, which made Jesus Jones instant stars with the hit "Right Here, Right Now," another anti-nostalgia song. Baker believes *Perverse* is a significant step forward.

"The songs on *Perverse* are perverse. There has been a rise of cynicism. They are slightly left of center, there is something confusing about them. But at the end of the day, they are much more rewarding. They are much more lasting."

The stand-out tracks include a tribute to the technology which the band is based on, "Zero and Ones," and the current single "The Right Decision." But the album's most compelling song is "The Devil You Know."

"'The Devil You Know' is a complete loathing of nostalgia," Baker says. "The whole point is we are not being given a choice anymore. There is so much retrogression going on, so much emphasis on the past and what has been done before. People feel safe with what has been done before. We are only being given the devil you know, we are not being given the devil you don't know. What we advocate on the whole album is the devil you don't know. What if it is more rewarding than the devil we've all ready got? What if it opens up more possibilities?" ❑

Jesus Jones play the Orpheum April 19

THE HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY

New Takes On Old Wonders

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

Throughout history, composers have adapted works by their predecessors to accommodate both the instruments and performance style of their own times. It is a sure sign that the period instrument movement has come of age when ensembles like the Handel and Haydn Society, which specialize in such an approach, begin presenting Handel as arranged by Mozart and Bach reworked by Mendelssohn, which is precisely what Christopher Hogwood has programmed for H & H's final pair of concerts in Symphony Hall.

Felix Mendelssohn is credited with resurrecting Bach's major choral works in the early nineteenth century. On Friday, April 16 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 18 at 3 p.m., H&H will present Mendelssohn's 1829 version of J.S. Bach's "St. Matthew Passion" with David Gordon, Richard Zeller, Dominique Labelle, Marietta Simpson and Paul Elliot in the solo roles.

Two weeks later, in a faster than usual turnaround, Hogwood returns to Symphony Hall with H&H for Mozart's orchestration of Handel's "Ode for St. Cecillia's Day." Sharing that program will be C.P.E. Bach's Symphony in B flat and J.S. Bach's motet "Singet dem Herrn." Soloists in the Handel, which L'Oiseau-Lyre will later record as part of Hogwood's ongoing series of Handel's works as arranged by Mozart, are Lynne Dawson, John Mark Ainsley and William Sharp. Performances are on Friday, April 30 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 1 at 3 p.m.

Ticket prices for all concerts range from $17 to $45 and are available through Ticketmaster (931-2000) or the H&H box office (266-3505). For frugal concert-goers, one-to-a-person rush seats are available for one hour only at the Symphony hall box office for $6 beginning at 5 p.m. before the evening concerts and at 12 p.m. before the afternoon concerts. ❑



Christopher Hogwood, Artistic Director of the Handel & Haydn Society, conducting the H&H period orchestra

ALBUM REVIEWS

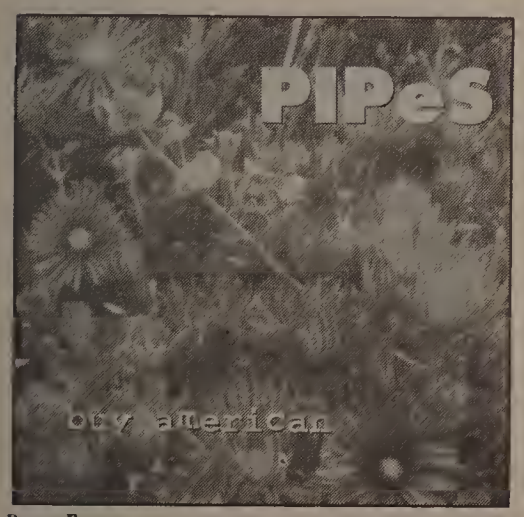
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PIPeS
BUY AMERICAN
PERMAGRIN RECORDS
★★★

Musically, PIPeS have nothing that really distinguishes them from the hordes of college bands who produce similar pop noise. The sound is just too familiar: basic, three-chord post-punk, and a singer whose voice can't always cover the necessary territory, but tries real hard anyway. Fortunately, they've managed to string together a collection of tunes catchy enough to keep them from being relegated to the circular file. "Shake" sounds like INXS getting mugged by the Chili Peppers, and "Burn" is an unpolished gem. When vocalist Jeff Robbins murmurs, "I don't want to die, maybe I do...burn, burn, burn," he seems resigned to his confusion; you can picture him throwing his hands up in despair with the rest of the Generation X-ers. Their press package states emphatically that you can dance to their music, but that's no endorsement; you can dance to "Achy Breaky Heart," too. PIPeS has the ability to move you when you're standing still; we'll see if they can expand on that. Maybe they'll finally capitalize that "e" in their name when they properly capitalize on their talent.

ROBERT E. HUGHES



DILLON FENCE
OUTSIDE IN
MAMMOTH RECORDS
★★★

As the final scabs of Seattle peel off music's wounded knee, Chapel Hill, NC's pulsating core of seasoned rock bands are finally creeping out of the wings. Recorded with native producer Lou Giordano at Cambridge's Fort Apache, they've upped the strings and kept the edges a bit frayed. Not as published as last year's Rosemary, Outside In relies less on calculated formulas and ventures with spontaneity and live performance (prime Giordano motifs).

"One Bad Habit" adopts the best fretwork of Bob Mould and the soaring harmonies of Teenage Fanclub and creates perfect ear candy. Although the retro 70's ballad "Any Other Way" could pass for another love song by Mr. Big, Dillon Fence has the chops to prevent it from drowning in smarmy pulp. Not all the songs work, however. "Waking Up" lacks direction and vision. On the whole, however, Outside In is a solid sophomore effort that should send record companies scurrying for the next shuttle to Chapel Hill. It seems like pretty soon everyone will be looking over Dillon Fence.

REY ROLDAN



KEVIN LEE & THE LONESOME CITY KINGS
RESTLESS
MCA RECORDS
★★

The first sentence of their press release to know what to expect from Kevin Lee & the Lonesome City Kings: "If you're in the mood for a hard-working, no-nonsense rock & roll band, look no further..."

That aside, the biggest gripe with these guys (besides that cumbersome moniker; couldn't you have picked something a little shorter?) is that they are just painfully average. They're not bad; they all seem to be fairly proficient on their respective instruments, the singer's got a decent-enough voice, the production quality is good. But what's the point?

Musically, lyrically, stylistically, they pilfer every rock & roll cliché in the book. Apparently, "no-nonsense" is synonymous with "no-creativity;" there is absolutely nothing here that hasn't been done a thousand times before. If you need to know what they sound like, think .38 Special or reasonable facsimile. Perhaps the title Restless was meant to refer to their effect on the listener.

ROBERT E. HUGHES

THE BOSTON CAMERATA
THE AMERICAN VOCALIST: SPIRITUALS AND FOLK HYMNS, 1850-1870
JOEL COHEN, DIRECTOR
ERATO
★★★

Besides exploring the music of medieval and renaissance Europe, Joel Cohen has pursued a parallel path with the folk traditions of the Americas. It was, in fact, with folk music that Cohen started as a performer, before discovering the likes of Machaut and Dufay.

In his latest venture with the Boston Camerata, Cohen recreates what may well have been a Sunday afternoon's entertainment at a social gathering in a mid-nineteenth century New England home. The material on this program ranges from rustic, austere harmonizations that echo the spare, functional architecture of a New England church, to a genteel setting of "Shall We Gather at the River," alluringly sung by Anne Azema and Elizabeth Anker.

STEVEN D. BROWN

MENDELSSOHN:
INCIDENTAL MUSIC TO A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
LYNNE DAWSON, SOPRANO; SUSANNE MENTZER, MEZZO SOPRANO
ROTTERDAM PHILHARMONIC
JEFFREY TATE, CONDUCTOR
EMI CLASSICS
★★★

The incidental music that composers wrote to accompany plays functioned in much the same way as does today's film music. Mendelssohn's score to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is preeminent within the genre. Given the current economy, mounting a full production of this play with music is beyond the budget of most theater companies. This two CD set, containing both the play (with a few minor cuts) and the complete music, is the next best thing to being there.

The Peter Hall Company aptly conveys Shakespeare's comedy , with a suitable variety of colorful accents to highlight class standing. Tate's well-paced reading of Mendelssohn's score evokes its elfin magic and weaves seamlessly amidst the action. This would be a fine gift for a young person with a developing interest in music, theater or both. For those wanting only the concert suite, Yoel Levi and the Atlanta Symphony's Telarc recording (paired with the Italian Symphony) deliver pointed, light-handed readings of each.

STEVEN D. BROWN



THE BRADY BUNCH
IT'S A SUNSHINE DAY: THE BEST OF THE BRADY BUNCH
MCA RECORDS
★★★

Unless you're living in a bellbottom—proof cave, you have probably noticed that there has been a Brady Bunch revival that only seems to be getting bigger. The most recent wide-collared chapter in this polyester saga is a CD release that features the Bradys performing songs made famous by their t.v. show, plus several unreleased cuts and other tidbits for diehards.

One of the most amazing aspects of this album is how so many of its songs are such successful rip-offs. For instance, on the previously unreleased "Cheyenne" Barry Williams (Greg) sounds so much like David Cassidy that you might think someone put on a Partridge Family album while your back was turned, and the Maureen McCormick (Marcia)/Chris Knight duet "Road to Love" is simply a teeny-bopper's version of "The Wedding Song."

There are some duds on this album such as the saccharine (and slightly nauseating) "Merry Go Round" and the barely tolerable cover of "American Pie," but there are some real charmers, too. Susan Olsen (Cindy) sings a sweet, lispy rendition of "Frosty the Snowman," and Florence Henderson's campy attempt at country twang on "Bom to Say Goodbye" is a real hoot.

DAVID AVERY

DEPECHE MODE
SONGS OF FAITH AND DEVOTION
SIRE RECORDS
★★★★

Depeche Mode have spent the better part of the past decade or so carving out quite a niche for themselves. The fact that they've been in our bedrooms so long gives them a level of audience intimacy that recent acts can't achieve. Watching Tori Amos lament or Nine Inch Nails rage, one feels a bit like a sheepish interloper; it's like watching someone cry on the subway. But Depeche Mode is an old friend; they can sob in our presence, and we love them more for it.

Depeche Mode clearly hopes this to be their Achtung Baby, a point of self-reinvention after numerous years and albums in their signature style (even the CD's booklet smacks of U2's latest: black and white photos of the band in studio and in various seedy surroundings), but it goes beyond added instruments and Gahan's newly-sprouted long hair and whiskers. Like the female models in their videos, with their sharp cheekbones and cruel mouths, D.M.'s music has always been beautiful, but cold. In Songs of Faith and Devotion they are finally writing about love as a feeling, instead of as a concept.

ROBERT E. HUGHES





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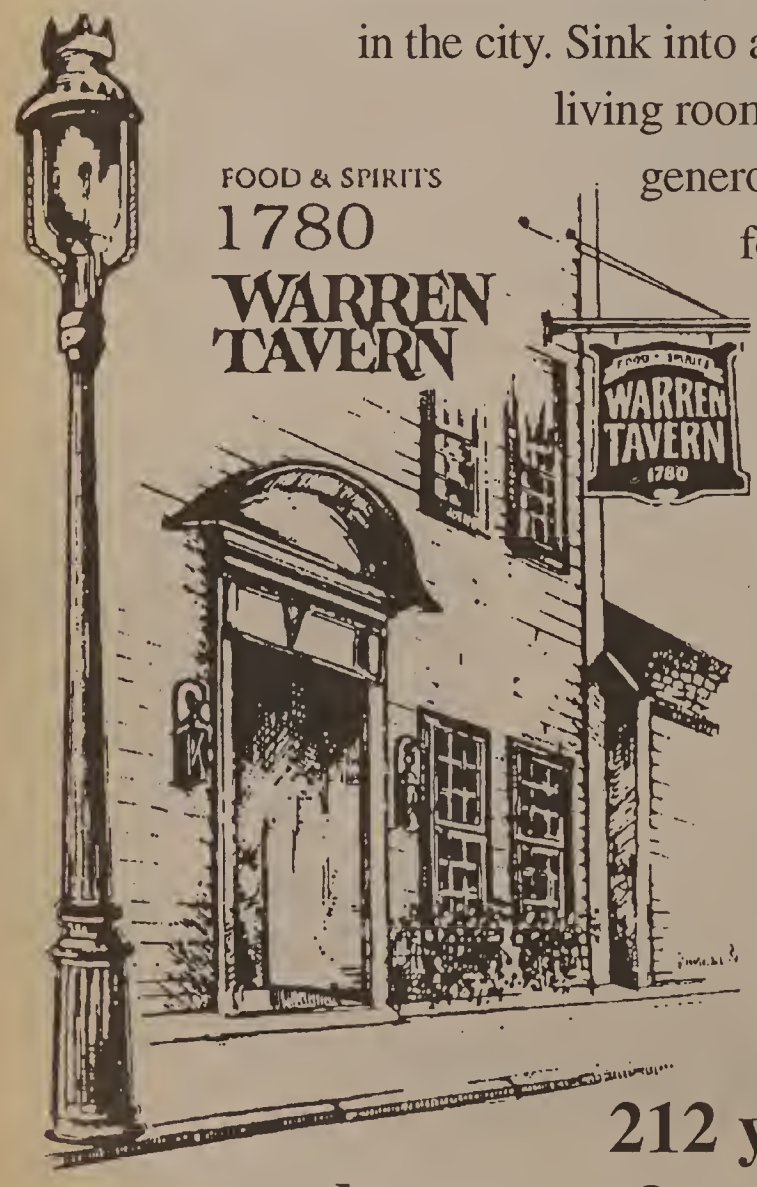
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About Last Night...

Giorgio Armani Restaurant/Bar Where the Hip Get Hopping

BY LAUREN DARE, AKA THE LAST CALL LADY

The hipper-than-thou crowd has a new mecca on Newbury Street, and it's certainly what the free world needs: another trendy boite where you can rub shoulders with the relentlessly upscale. Yes, it's the Giorgio Armani Express, located in the block between Exeter and Fairfield Streets on Newbury. I don't deny that there is a niche in the market for a restaurant/bar like this one; after all, these poor people need somewhere to regain their strength and refresh themselves after dropping $500 for an Armani T-shirt next door at the retail store.

EMPORIO ARMANI EXPRESS RESTAURANT/BAR

214 Newbury St,
Boston
437-0909

The immaculately over-dressed clientele of Armani is willing to put up with a few minor discomforts, such as sitting at tables the size of a large pizza that stick rather uncomfortably out in the middle of the bar traffic, and being waited on by a staff wearing outfits that resemble little Mao Tse Tung jumpsuits.

Despite these minor grievances, the coolly blase clientele all appear thrilled to be here, at least as thrilled as coolly blase people can be. Everybody is wildly overdressed, mostly in black and white. Everybody smokes, and everybody tries to look as sophisticated as possible while lamenting the fact that they "should have been in New York this weekend."

The bar/cafe downstairs functions primarily as an accommodation for the spillover from the restaurant upstairs (both close at midnight on the weekends), so this is not really the place to end your evening. No one is drinking enough, for one thing – everyone is too afraid of losing their cool demeanor. It would be mildly hilarious to get loudly and obnoxiously drunk in Armani just to gauge the shocked reactions, but believe me, dahlings, I just don't think it's "done" here.

Another thing – Armani just doesn't strike me as a great place to scoop a date. Everyone at the bar seems a little self-obsessed, and my guess is that they probably just go home and have sex with themselves (ahem). However, if you're embarking on a viciously chic night out on the town, Armani is the perfect place to start, especially if you have a date who will pay for everything.

Here, should you indulge, are the rules for "doing" Armani: pull up out front in an expensive car of German make; valet park, but be careful to ignore the valet when he opens your door for you; enter sweepingly; drop your coat on the floor, wait for one of the waitstaff in their Third World bellhop uniforms to hang it up for you; give your name to the Maitre d'; slip him either a $20 or your phone number to ensure you get a good table upstairs, then announce that you'll be at the bar. Order, without looking at any one bartender in particular, an Absolut martini, and see how long it takes to arrive.

That accomplished, sit back to sip and observe the scene without looking like you're actually checking anyone else out – if you're caught looking, it implies that you're a) impressed, b) jealous, c) interested, d) any or all of the above, and of course the correct answer is e) none of the above, if you're truly sophisticated. When the Maitre d' comes over to tell you that your table is ready, you can sweep grandly up the stairs to disappear into the upper reaches and enjoy some complicated pasta. If you follow the Golden Rules, and don't embarrass yourself with any major social faux pas, you too can easily start off a successful and enchanting evening in this paradise of the terminally chic. ❑

BARS & CLUBS

Bar & Club Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, in this section, call our advertising department at 232-3507.

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers. .

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 pm, so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB**, 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an I love jazz attitude on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well. . Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues.. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**CACTUS CLUB** 939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200 Join us in the evening and experience our firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can try a Platinum margarita with Sauza Hornitos, triple sec, fresh lemonade and fresh lime juice. Full menu available at bar.

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale" is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30am-2:30pm.

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province, Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little. In fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30am-12am Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**MONDAY'S PIANO BAR**, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline. 277-1200. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 pm Mondays, Dave Cuddy. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdys, Dottie Dean.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30pm. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S**
734-0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. It's central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available.

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only Valid ID's accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. No tank tops. Bring I.D. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

To have your clubs live acts listed in our 4/14 - 4/27 issue fax your listings to Christopher Francescani at 232-4305 by April 18

W 14TH

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged: The Lune\ Free Wings\ DJ

Bunratty's The Injurys\The Sweetest Day\ Captain Black

Club 3 Little Joe Cook

Diamond Jim's Al Vega Showcase

Edible Rex Rumblesaurus Rex

Great Scott Unplugged with Randy & Mike

Harper's Ferry Apollo Talent Night

Johnny D's Mandolin Extravaganza

Kinvara Pub Screaming Cadillacs

Regattabar The Dick Johnson\ Dave McKenna Gray Sargent Trio

Scullers Trombone Madness

Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band

t.t. the bear's Inhale Mary\ Blanket Party\ John Monopoly\ Brian Kulz

The Harp Irish Folk Music

The Middle East (upstairs) Hammerhead\ Pig Pen\ Slughog\ Madbox

The Tam Naked Lunch Box\ Sky Dogs

Zachary's Matt Jenson Trio

T 15TH

Bill's Bar DJ Stew & 7

Bunratty's Wrecking Crew\ Tree\ Bezerker\ Ritual Sacrifice

Club 3 Spanish Fly\ Hollywood Squares

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Edible Rex Reaction

Great Scott The Candles

Harper's Ferry Bruce Marshall Group

Johnny D's John Abercrombie

Kinvara Pub Hot Tub Piranhas

Province St. Pub Two Bones & A Pick

Regattabar The Terence Blanchard Quintet

Ryles Henry Cook Quartet

Scullers Vanessa Rubin

Silhouette Lounge Nasty J & the Grinders

Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & Sidewalk Blues

t.t. the bear's Mung\ Girl on Top\ So What\ Glue

The Middle East Loud Speaker\ Jane Noel\ Justine\ Deepermi (Jackie O)

The Tam Robin Lane\ Great Atomic Parer

Venus de Milo GROOV-E

Western Front Rumbafrica

Zachary's Gary Wittner Trio

Zanzibar Jah Spirit

F 16TH

Bunratty's United States\ Naked Age\ Mother of God\ Grinding

Club 3 Chuck Smittyon Skies

Colonial Inn Mary McCaslin

Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott Undercover

Grog The Movers

Harper's Ferry The Marcells

Johnny D's Mighty Sam McClain

Kinvara Pub Hot Tub Piranhas

Province St. Pub Silus Jr. & The Hot Ribs

Regattabar The Terence Blanchard Quintet

Ryles Boston Baked Blues

Scullers Capt. Jack McDuff Quintet

Sit'n Bull Pub The Fools

Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue

t.t. the bear's Legendary Lunch\ The Keep\ Landfill\ Glugman

The Harp Mark Morris and Catunes

The Middle East Dust Devils\ Sleepy Head\ Crain\ The Shaggah's

The Tam Chuck Morris\ Sidewalk Blues

Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz

Western Front Souljahs

Wharfield's The Stompers\ The Subterraneans\ Crisis of Faith

Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 17TH

Bunratty's Bulkhead

Cambridge Brewing Co. The Chilli Brothers

Club 3 Evelyn Swoons\ Dead Lazlo\ Kam Chung

Colonial Inn Orrin Star

Commonwealth Brewing Company Wilson Blue

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Edible Rex Del Fuegos

Great Scott Toadhouse

Grog There Goes the Neighborhood

Harper's Ferry The Band That Time Forgot

Johnny D's Toni Lynn Washington

Kinvara Pub Screaming Cadillacs

Nightstage Kristin Hersh & Randy Black

Regattabar The Terence Blanchard Quintet

Ryles Bartlett-Jones Blues Band

Scullers Capt. Jack McDuff Quintet

Silhouette Lounge New Moon

Sticky Mike's Motorvators

t.t. the bear's Miracle Legion\ Tackle Box\ Joy Bang

The Harp D'Alter Boys

The Middle East Malachite\ Meltdown\ 6L6\ Slump

The Tam Slide

Venus de Milo Disco Inferno with "Sweet Pussy Pauline"

Western Front Souljahs

Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 18TH

Bill's Bar Reggae Night- R.D. Rythym

Club 3 Little Joe Cook Jam

Edible Rex Deadly Exposure\ Revana\ The Nothins'

Grog Blues at The Grog

Harper's Ferry R&B JAM

Johnny D's Two Bones & A Pick\ Dark Young

Regattabar Lester Bowie's Brass Fantasy

Ryles Palenke Latin Jazz Band

The Harp 5 Gone Mad

The Middle East Helious Creed\ Ointment\ Ambulance Driver

The Tam The Olivz\ Mr. Stone's Country

M 19TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night

Harper's Ferry Foglifters

The Tam Open Jam

Venus de Milo Burn in Hell with DJ Redboy

T 20TH

Bill's Bar Powerman 5000\ Modern Farmer\ Godspeed\ Chain Suck

Bunratty's Stranger Things\ Keith Bowniece

Diamond Jim's Love's Illusions

Harper's Ferry Steven Paul Perry & th Believers

Johnny D's Laurie Lewis & Tom Rozum

Nightstage Ultra-Vivid Scene & Medicine

Regattabar The Rebirth Brass Band

Scullers Jazz Vocal Showcase

Middle East World Beat

The Tam Bone

Western Front City Trees

Zachary's Purple Toucan Trio

W 21ST

Bill's Bar Bill's Unplugged: King Friday\ Blair's Carriage

Bunratty's King Friday\ Chinese Soul Christ\ Swindle

Club 3 Little Joe Cook Jam

Diamond Jim's Al Vega Showcase

Edible Rex Rumblesaurus Rex

Harper's Ferry Apollo Talent Night

Johnny D's Arida Conta Band

Nightstage Peter Himmelman

Regattabar The Jimmy Smith Trio

Ryles Igor Butman-Louis Scherr

Scullers Lisa Thorson

Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band

t.t. the bear's Fried Do\ Outback\ Flathead VI\ Gus'

The Harp Irish Folk Music

The Middle East Mighty Jo Young\ Frankly Scarlet\ Cleopatra Jones\ Fontanelles

The Tam Pooka Stew\ The Returnables

Zachary's Fred Hersch Trio

T 22ND

Club 3 Welcome Down\ Fracture

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Edible Rex May's Child\ Fez Henry\ Diversions

Great Scott The Candles

Grog The Search Party

Harper's Ferry Boston Baked Blues\ Steven Paul Perry & the Believers

Johnny D's Hypnotic Clambake\ Hyena Club

Regattabar The Jimmy Smith Trio

Ryles Igor Butman-Louis Scherr

Scullers Astrud Gilberto

Silhouette Lounge Blues Made Flesh

Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & Sidewalk Blues

t.t. the bear's Sweetest Day\ The Watchmen\ Vindicators\ Lolita

The Harp Marcels

The Middle East Cheesecake\ Slughog\ Chango Macho

The Tam AIDS Benefit: Willie Loco Alexander's Persistence of Memory Orchestra\ Macey's Parade\ Sheri Lewis

Venus de Milo GROOV-E

Western Front Rumbafrica

Zachary's Fred Hersch Trio

Zanzibar Motion

F 23RD

Club 3 Farren\ The Gift\ Double Barrell

Commonwealth Brewing Company Calypso Hurricane

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Edible Rex Batchelors of Art\ Y-Knot

Great Scott City This

Grog The NorEasters

Hard Rock Cafe Talking to Animals\ Modern Farmers

Harper's Ferry Heavy Metal Horns\ Madhouse

Johnny D's The Del Fuegos

Nightstage The Tribulations\ 32 Tribes\ The Blackwells

Province St. Pub Magic

Regattabar The Jimmy Smith Trio

Ryles Alain Mallet Group

Scullers Astrud Gilberto

Sticky Mike's Roll With It

t.t. the bear's O+\ Dante's Grin\ Chain Suck\ Sextiles

The Harp Fat City

The Middle East Magnolias

The Tam Search Party

Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz

Western Front I-Tones

Wharfield's The Jon Finn Group\ Smooth Bamboo\ The Allen Estes Band

Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 24TH

Bunratty's The Lyres\ Harmony Rockets\ Friction Wheel

Cambridge Brewing Co. Roadhouse Shieks

Club 3 Drapes of Rain\ Raymaker\ Committee for Public Safety

Colonial Inn Phil Rosenthal & The Stockwell Bros

Commonwealth Brewing Company One People

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott City This

Grog The Blue Hornets

Harper's Ferry Heavy Metal Horns

Johnny D's Rick Russell

Regattabar The Jimmy Smith Trio

Ryles Alain Mallet Group

Scullers Astrud Gilberto

Silhouette Lounge Bar Flys

Sit'n Bull Pub James Montgomery

Sticky Mike's Motorvators

t.t. the bear's Stub Junkmen\ Tokyo Vibrators

The Harp Party with DJ Danny

The Middle East Band of Susans\ Mindgrinder\ Gold Mouth\ My Cousin Kenny

The Tam Universal Language

Venus de Milo Disco Inferno

Western Front I-Tones

Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 25TH

Bill's Bar Reggae Night: Jah Spirit

Club 3 Little Joe Cook Jam

Edible Rex Nervewomb\ Brown\ Pollen Path

Grog Blues at The Grog

Harper's Ferry R&B JAM

Johnny D's Richard Sinclair

Nightstage David Lindley Duo

Ryles John Payne Battle of the Student Bands/ Palenke Latin Jazz Group

The Middle East Foko\ Lost In Translation\ Buring Circle\ Freez Green

The Tam Will\ Johnny One Note

M 26TH

Bill's Bar Movie Night

Harper's Ferry Two Bones & A Pick

The Tam Tam Jam

Venus de Milo Burn in Hell with DJ Redboy

T 27TH

Bill's Bar Live Local Bands

Bunratty's Kidd Brother\ Sculptured Misery\ Mr. Hyde

Diamond Jim's Sing-Off competition

Harper's Ferry Chance & Wild Cards

Johnny D's Adrian Legg

Regattabar Either/ Orchestra

Scullers Jazz Vocal Showcase

t.t. the bear's Honest Bob\ Turkoiz Kookie\ Psychic Hotline\ The Grovemen

The Middle East Worldbeat

The Tam Welcome Down \ Section 8

Western Front George Levas Group

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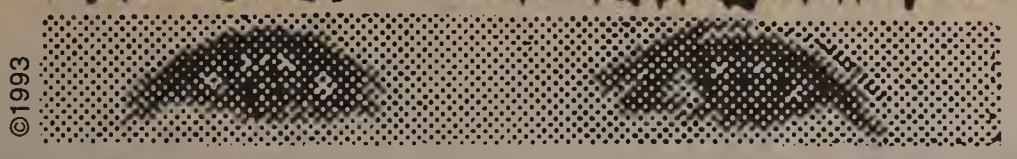
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ROCKIE HOROSCOPE



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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — APRIL 14 - 27, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
Is it "all clear," are we safe? Maybe even "all-knowing," once-aggressive Mars convinces secretive Pluto to spill the beans this Friday. Covert military plans could be as plain as that line in the sand. (Remember Saddam Hussein?) After the hectic Easter weekend any supportive aspect between those explosive planetary forces is welcome, and an ever-so-friendly Mercury Venus conjunction on Sunday might seal the deal with a kiss. Exuding charm and wit, writing love letters (in the sand?) can make the last days of Aries borderline memorable. Taurus begins Monday at 9:49 p.m. On Tuesday media-minded Mercury opposing Jupiter brings more great ideas from great minds beamed to an ever-widening audience. The Taurus new moon is exact on Wednesday at 7:49 p.m.: take a secretary for dinner and toast a symbiotic relationship that works. Loving Venus turns direct (after six weeks of retrograde reflection) on Thursday, fanatical Neptune turns retrograde for the next five months that afternoon and erratic Uranus follows suit on the 26. The immediate worst is over, the rest is yet to come, the earthquake is scheduled for May 9. Make new-moon magic and meditate, or medicate if that's what it takes.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
Unrest at home is squelched by using resources you can share a stash in the cookie jar? There's tremendous satisfaction, justification if you will, in probing an issue that'll complete a cycle of your own sexual revolution. As Pluto trines your horny Mars ruler, you might uncover his/her/your hidden agenda and the symbolic value of this relationship. But if sex magic isn't your thing, then you may discover something about taxes, profit sharing or investments that'll get you off instead.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Earth angels such as you speak your piece, make peace this weekend when Mercury and your Venus ruler meet to greet friends and associates. Is it simply a party or the political party line you're throwing? Eloquent and incisive, persuasive and positive at the Taurus new moon, but your inner glow doesn't shine through until Venus turns direct on the 22. Then relationship issues that have lingered (or languished or just lain there like a lox) for the last six weeks come back to life, as do you. Happy re-birthday.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
You're on the glory trail while your Mercury ruler, at the top of your solar chart, puts you at the top of your form. If you're a maven of the media, (and what Gemini isn't?), you can have a tremendous effect because charming Venus sitting on Mercury gives you greater appeal whether you want it or not. You're also smarter, subtler and more optimistic, and what you say about home life, real estate and family issues will be heard. The Taurus new moon inaugurates a new friendship or political alliance.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Romantic reconciliation and sexual satisfaction this weekend simply by following basic instincts. Sounds like a well-worn recipe for disaster, but because Mars makes one last stab at deep, meaningful passion before it leaves your sign on the 27, you can create, maybe even recreate a hot relationship. The motivation may not be apparent, yet you manage to find the words to quell the doubts and the good sense to make a reservation at someplace special. New career moves after the Taurus new moon.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Stability when you least expect it from a problematic partner, respect from a critical elder and may be a ticket out of here. The Taurus new moon focuses on greener pastures, foreign shores the running of the bulls in Pamplona? This calm spell following the recent chaos shifts your attention to long range goals and lifelong dreams, something solid and, if possible, permanent. Until 'you attain it however, there's this financial matter which seems to be growing before your very eyes.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Like Gemini, you're practically irresistible this week, whether you're pitching one good-looking partner or wooing the public at large. The tendency to exaggerate, the urge to promise more than you can deliver, however, can be a blot on your pristine conscience should anyone be cruel enough to call you on it. The Taurus new moon makes earthly realities much more palatable, (potable, too) particularly when someone else is picking up the tab for creative projects and recreational purposes.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
Get the info on a health matter, talk a coworker back on track and charm the pants off a trainer at the gym. As Mercury joins up with your Venus ruler, well-chosen words can convince anyone to do anything as long as it's socially redeeming. Unfortunately, it's the down and dirty stuff that'll bring in bucks and enhance your reputation as one mean mother. Speaking of mean mothers, if a parent or boss offers a reward of sorts, take it. It's true value becomes apparent later.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
Finally, a rewarding trine between the two planets that rule your sign macho Mars and manipulative Pluto so no matter what state you're in, you'll make out fine this week. You might actually see one of your fondest wishes come true, something that has nothing to do with anybody else's money or power of influence but your own. The Taurus new moon means that a relationship is about to develop, but if you feel like stating your case this weekend, while you've got the gift of romantic gab, go ahead.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
A positive, pleasant event happens at home or to the family this weekend. Call the folks, check around. As Mercury opposes your Jupiter ruler, you could learn something of real value that'll lead to another aspect of your career. Are we clearing the bookshelves, making room for a desktop publishing project? The Taurus new moon in your house of romance and risk promises you'll have fun (and because it's Taurus, make money), but isn't someone always making promises, exaggerating your potential for success?

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Not quite exultation and excitement, just the sort of quiet satisfaction Goats appreciate. As the sun sextiles your Saturn ruler, you might get concrete confirmation that something good is coming from the good earth. You could save money on real estate, get money from/for Mother Nature or simply grow a garden of earthly delights. Pleasure is primarily wordplay, but there can be true physical satisfaction if you explore the taboos society and a sexy friend lay down on Friday.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
A stagnant situation at work may clear up; psychic plumbing can do wonders for your boss or dad's health when pushy Mars trines Pluto, the roto rooter of the solar system, on Friday. The sun supporting Saturn in your sign strengthens your stamina and sense of self worth. Mercury and Venus in your money house combine to get you the best deal, and the new moon in Taurus suggests soon there'll good times with old school ties. The 26 could be upsetting your Uranus ruler turns retrograde, be careful.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
Hold on to whatever clear glimpse of the future you get this week because once your Neptune ruler turns retrograde on the 22, you'll spend the next five months sorting through projects, feelings and people from the past. While charming Venus and mercurial Mercury meet in your first house, your magnetic appeal is newsworthy, especially if you have a publicist or lawyer on your case, promoting your cause. The Taurus new moon means the annual infusion of bucks is about to begin; whether you buy or sell seems irrelevant as long as goods are being traded.

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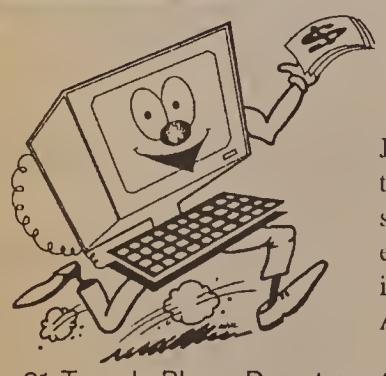
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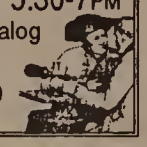
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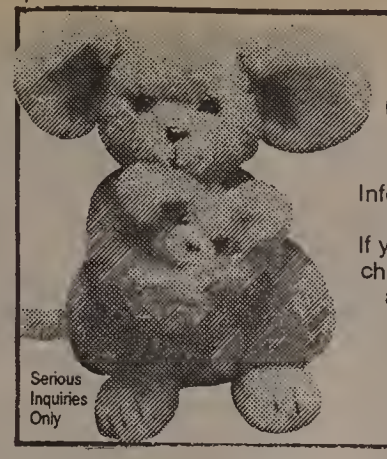
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Robbie,
I looked up the word "loser" in the Dictionary. It said that it would have had a picture of you, but that you weren't even worth the effort of illustration. Too bad, it would have been nice to have something to put on my dart board. Well, maybe if I ever have them when we meet face to face I can just aim for the zits. Have a nice day.
Debra

Jamie D.,
You're the best thing that's ever happened to me, without your love I'd be lost. Thanks for all the times you listened when I needed someone to talk to. You're my love and my life forever and always, babe! I LOVE YOU!!
Jen

ABE,
My love for you has gone deeper and deeper. If I don't get with you soon and let you freak me I think I will burst.
Love, B.

Uncle John,
Jesus is NOT here. Your band puts me to SLEEP!
P-King Wanna B (NOT)

The Anti-Mike Bandwagon is recruiting new members. If you believe that "Even a little Mike is too much," please call 232-3507 and ask for Laurie.

Ray,
Do us a favor. Go stand next to a large brick wall, concrete would be all right too. Face the structure; place your two hands on the wall, palms down, about six inches over your head; tilt your head towards the wall at a 54 degree angle, slowly pull your head back to a 132 degree, and then rapidly thrust you noggin against the wall. Repeat process until you lose consciousness. When you awake do the whole thing over again until there's more of your blood on the wall and sidewalk than coursing through you veins. By that time you should be dead, and we'll owe you a favor.
Love,
Karen & Tabby

To the AMB's, I realize that it is so appealing to jump on the anti-Mike bandwagon, but you have to know that I will triumph in the end. You may think that I'm conceited, but that's just because none of you will ever have me. You may think that I have no taste, but that's because none of you will ever have me. And finally, you may think that I'm not as cute as some of the other men in the office, but that's because none of you will ever have me. To the men of the bandwagon, I know the only reason you are doing it is because you don't want to upset the women. One last thing: I think you are all the best people anyone could ever hope to work with. See ya H-man.
Mike

Goliath
The marines stormed Normandy Beach almost fifty years ago, and do you know what happened, most of them were killed. Maybe I'm one of the lucky survivors, but not for long. Sorry to leave you without someone to dump on, but on the other hand, it's better to be dumped than to be dumped on. Take it from somebody who knows.
The Dumpor

Larry L.
You cold-blooded beast! You tried to eat Kari, and expect me to just forgive and forget? Why, you scratched him, and now he's probably going to oxidize or something!
Carol

Melissa,
I can read your mind like I can smell a fart in the car. I will see you at the Rat soon.
Your pal,
Paul from Revere

To the manager of the Café,
Where did you learn your business skills, from Rebecca on Cheers? You're the worst organizer of any show I've ever seen. Seven minutes? What the hell can anyone accomplish in seven minutes? It would take seven minutes to get a fucking beer opened in the pothole you call an establishment. What the hell were you thinking, that no one would mind paying $20 for an evening to find out that the people they went to see wouldn't be allowed to go on stage. Thank you very much for the least entertaining entertainment I've ever been forced to endure. You're terrible, your place is terrible, and you probably smell bad, too.
A concerned consumer.

Harv-
NO!!! Don't go, don't go, don't go. Well, I guess that it's too late for that. You're going, and we're going to miss you. Just don't forget about us when you're big and famous. Maybe you can include us in some sort of acceptance speech or something. Take care of yourself. Sorry the writing wasn't better on this, but I couldn't keep from smudging the pages with my tears. Farewell, sweet prince.
R.G.
P.S. Was that heartfelt enough for you?

Dave
You're a taskmaster. See if I ever let you play with my toys again anytime soon. Making me work so hard like that. I just can't handle it, I tell ya. I'm too young, I'm too delicate, I'm too beautiful, I'm too tired. You know, we can't all be as perfect as you. But, please, master, not the guilt. Anything but the guilt. You know, some people like to sleep once in a while, you slave driver.
Sincerely,
Your ever so humble servant.

This Mike/anti-Mike thing is lame and pathetic. Please desist, already. You all look foolish.

I really don't think either of the two major parties (Mike/Anit -Mike) suit my needs. Therefore I'm going to support Ross, the independent candidate.
-An Improper Voter

Cool Shades,
Best of luck with your future plans.. We'll miss ya!

Dream,
Thanks for coming with me to find our brother. Sauerkraut makes bad football cleats. I still think I'm a good driver.
Little Sis

To the Lady with the Mysterious Past
Okay I tried to help you dig up the info, now I need your help. I'm stuck in this crazy town and I can't get out. Help!
'Chelle

Kathleen,
Your name is a great work of art that deserves to be in print. Kathleen, Kathleen, Kathleen, Kathleen, Kathleen. I just can't seem to get enough of it. Kathleen, Kathleen, Kathleen. There, now you're an honest to God celebrity type person.
Ross
P. S. Kathleen, Kathleen.

M.S.
This is the aforepromised retraction of earlier literary usage which could possibly be misconstrued as a "slur" against your character. The word "asshole" was in no way meant to reflect upon your actual character, but was indeed intended to illustrate the manner in which the AMB had earlier described you (although not in so many words.) I also wish to not, through this retraction, to be seen as a Pro-Miker. The point of my efforts was to formally declare neutrality. I am the Switzerland of the office. I will not join either of your organizations and will not take any stance on the personality of any member of our little family other than to state and restate that I am one hell of a great individual.
The Cartel Leader

J—yes, you snore. Loudly. And yes, I kept the flower you made for me.. And okay , I'm the...etc..—xoxo A

Bonehead
Come back! Come back! We need your sense of humor to keep us sane! Remeber the bag lady? Remember the sheep? Remember the tuna fish? Uh...on second though stay where you are.-DOOM

V.
For your next mission you must make sure that you understand that you should not do anything that we tell you to do.
The 23 Who Were One

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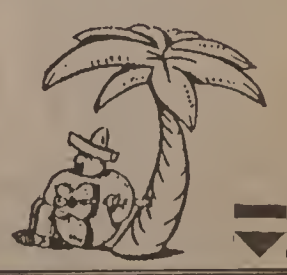
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Wrapped Up In Her Work

Investigating Reporter Hank Phillippi Ryan

Inside:

La Rue Newbury

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

It's A (Magnificent) Dump!

Move over, Fresh Pond, land of hikes and bikes – there's another enormous open territory in Cambridge built on the site of a former landfill that feels to be as big as the moon. This is the single largest piece of open space in the city and you feel it, not only in the gigantic green sweep of its 50 acres, but also in the fact that parts of the town that otherwise seem very far-flung and disconnected can be seen hanging out at various edges of it, making Danehy Park seem like the universal perspective-maker. It rises enticingly from the edge of Sherman Street to a sort of turtlenecked hill, which leads gracefully, and eventually, down to the area near the Fresh Pond Cinema.



Aerial view of Danehy Park. Inset: landfill prior to closure (c. 1980).

The park, green and lovingly-landscaped with trees and some bushes whose winter plumage boasts lipstick-red stalks, is loaded with ballfields, soccer fields, basketball courts (all of which need to be reserved), a tot lot, and an interesting outdoor exercise court. Unlike Nautilus, these boards are horizontal and tilted, and these rings, monkey bars, and metal grabbers are a sort of "Nautiless" which offer the chance to exercise and stretch outdoors without needing the moving parts of gym equipment; pictures explain how to use them and many can be done from a wheelchair. Around what seems like the very edge of the world are bike paths and jogging paths; this little Colorado-within-Cambridge has picnic tables, parking, and bathrooms. Danehy Park has increased the city's open space by 20 percent, and it's all free.

Danehy Park
Cambridge, Mass.

Say What You Feel, Listen To What You're Hearing

Couples who go into couples therapy are looking for help with specific problems that are seen as negative and painful. Paiirs, a long, juicy immersion in a highly-structured group course for couples, comes in from another angle. It assumes that those same "problems" can be considered in marital or relationship "health" as easily as in times of "sickness" and developed as skills of intimacy. Paiirs teaches couples to slow down their interactions, and to use structured means of communication in order to bypass the usual hurt and panicked reactive route ("Oh my God, you're wounding me, and besides you're just like my mean father...").

One such method is the Dialogue Wheel which neutralizes fights by setting up an interview process, with sentence completion exercises: "I resent..I'm hurt by...I'm puzzled by...I regret..." to be used by one partner while the other one, trained in the patient, receptive/curious attitude of "Active Listening" assumes the responding role; then they switch roles. This organized stroll of exploration culminates in a "Request for Change," which, by the time it arrives, has been transformed from (in a let-er-rip argument) a blaming shriek into a measured expression, neatly arrived at in a shared way. It's an asking-for rather than a railing-against.

Exercises that are designed to foster a vital, daily *now* (and not the musty laundry of accumulated, unresolved yesterdays) are taught and practiced. In other parts of the course, consideration is given the separate self and history of each partner. Fair fighting is taught and elaborate contracts that attend very specifically to the vulnerabilities of each person are developed.

Some of the Paiirs experience involve men and women talking among themselves. The next course, which costs $1200 per person (cheaper by the hour than therapy, at an hourly rate of $10) covers 120 hours, on various weekends. Next course, different in time distribution, begins in September.

Paiirs at the Boston Family Institute
244-9426

Little House On the Big Ingenuity

Before there was the disc, the dial, or the plug, there was the curious imagination of children, and that's what this book, *365 Activities You Can Do With Your Child* by Steve and Ruth Bennett, calls upon. In a teacherly/parental way, you can unleash your kids on the world around them, making a sort of scavenger hunt out of the ordinary. The game they call "Mostest and Leastest" has kids finding the longest driveway, the smallest shrubs, the most steps on their street – installing "new eyes" in their daily meanderings.

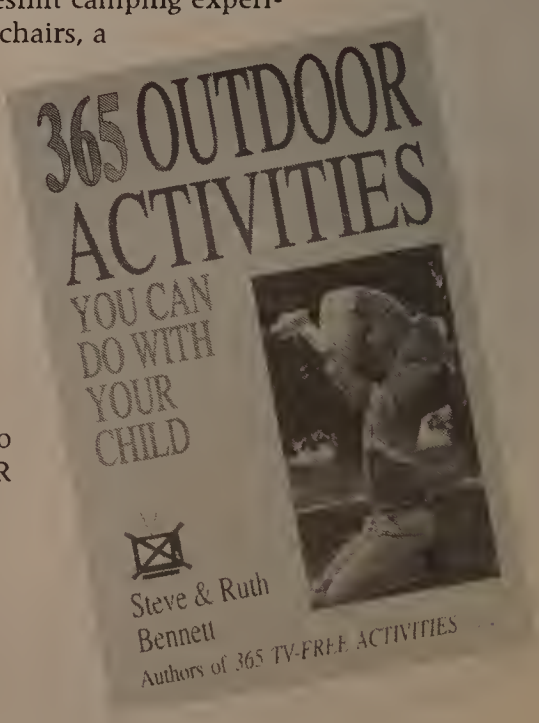
Sports that are stripped of the usual equipment or strictures of location include bowling with soda bottles, tennis without the net (or the racquet for that matter), or a water slide created on the lawn with a wet shower curtain. In imitation of those man-made measurements called "Smoots," seen on the Mass. Ave. Bridge (which were named for a man of the same name who was used as a human measuring stick) kids can inchworm-out the driveway, the distance between parking meters, anything – and name that measuring stick a "Rachel" or a "Becky."

In "People Watching," the fine art of nosy speculation are honed by getting kids to observe people while imagining things about their situation, their relationship, their work – the sort of everyday projective tests that rule life, friendship and romance forever. "Resident Expert" inspires kids to make note of details in the immediate neighborhood – architectural details, local flora and fauna, nature – and figure out facts like the amount of rainfall or the day of the turning leaves.

They propose games that cause children "too tired to walk" to painlessly develop mini-goals ("I see something blue; why don't you run to it?"). The backyard lends itself to a make-believe, makeshift camping experiences (with a would-be tent made from chairs, a stick, and a draping sheet) and humdrum signs and license plates are crying out to become scrambling and anagram games. And science experiments (like "cooking" a white strip of paper and a black strip of paper on a hot day to discover which cooks the hottest) make vivid and workable the otherwise-academic.

Kids can name buildings after their uncle, or spell out their names in grass seed. One day at a time, kids can come to see the real truth in the idea that "Toys R Us."

365 Outdoor Activities
You Can Do With Your Child
Bob Adams, Inc., Publisher



Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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Investigative reporting ain't pretty work. It involves in-your-face tactics, antagonistic interviews, hours of endless research. In short, this is a job you have to love. None of this is news to WHDH's Hank Phillippi Ryan. Find out the inside scoop on what makes this reporter tick.

BY CHAD L. SANBORN

10 On the Avenue



Grab your best Louis-heeled pumps or your most comforable Gucci loafers and get ready to walk the Newbury Street way. If you're a superior insider, let us reaffirm your belief that this pavement is the path to all. Nervous novice? Fear not. The attitude isn't as lethal as it looks. Either way, get ready to strut.

BY NICOLE L. MILLS

14 Long Tall Tommy



Fresh from his run-away success in Broadway's "Bye Bye Birdie," twinkle-toed song bird Tommy Tune returns to the stage with his own musical revue, "Tommy Tune Tonight!" Listen in as Tune, relaxing in Hawaii between gigs, fills us in on what makes him keep hoofing.

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN



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John Soares

Model:
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Improperly Yours



Mim Michelove

I first met Hank Phillippi Ryan a few years ago, when I was a reporter for a monthly magazine in Worcester. Typically enough, Ryan had just blown the lid off of a local story, involving a woman driving on a license suspended for drunk driving. My story was supposed to report on the case; it turned into a piece on how the media covers and sometimes creates the news.

At the time, I remember being impressed with Ryan. Here was a woman, a journalist, who was faced with the most unpleasant scenarios. The accused in the case I was covering, for example, expressed herself only in four-letter words and shrieks, sometimes lunging physically at Ryan and her cameraman.

How Ryan handled the situation really made me re-think my position on women and power. It may sound obvious, but until then, I had never seen a business woman exhibit power without taking on masculine qualities. That Ryan managed to do this was impressive; even more so, considering that investigative journalism is one of the last male-dominated segments of generally non-sexist journalism.

She handled herself with strength, determination and quick wits, all the while remaining feminine – what more could you ask from a role model? Thanks, Hank.

Improperly yours,
Susanne E. Schantz
Editor In Chief

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JIM INFANTINO: SERIOUS GUY

Acoustic Moves Overground

BY MATTHEW A. COHEN

Folk singer Jim Infantino is a serious guy. How serious is he? He's so serious, he wrote a song called "Serious Guy," in which he sings "You wonder why I wasn't at your party/I was busy deconstructing Hegel." It takes a truly serious artist to sing such lyrics, accompanied only by a thumb piano (the silliest instrument known to man), and still maintain a brooding expression.

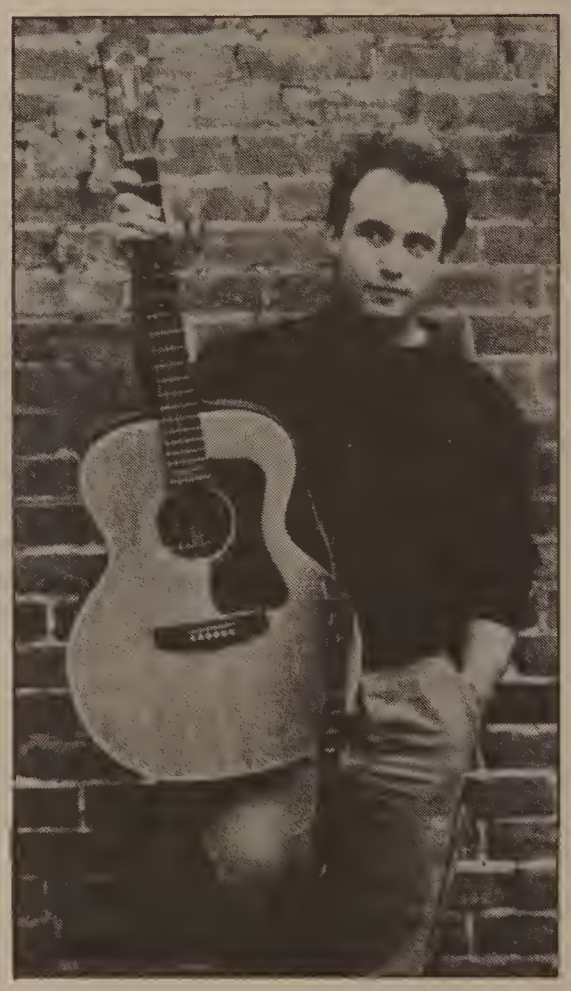
Being the serious guy he is, Jim sings heartfelt songs about loneliness, the government, and death. He sings about Ernie and Elvis, his overweight cats. He also wrote lyrics to the Peanuts theme.

Jim isn't just another depressing folk singer. He's a damn funny depressing folk singer. He looks like that kid who's been nodding off in class when he first realizes that he's being called on – not so much scared as just slightly surprised.

Even Jim's more serious songs still use humorous passages. Likewise, his funny songs sometimes have dark twists to them. In the basically humorous "How Do I Look?" he chants, "Do I look okay?" over and over, like a teenager's mantra. It's funny, but it is also so relentless that it's a little unnerving, too. It's the sort of song that Kafka would enjoy.

Although primarily a singer/songwriter (whatever that means), Jim still works wonders with a cover song. Plus, he's one of the few folk artists singing grunge tunes. "I guess it's kind of breaking the rule but I think it's great to be able to play that kind of music and change people's perspectives. They're just songs," Jim says. The more serious he is when singing songs like "Smells Like Teen Spirit," the funnier he is. "The words are hilarious...if you can figure out what [they] are. 'A mulatto/an albino/a mosquito/my libido.' That's great!"

Jim, a winner at this year's Acoustic Underground competition, started a band called "Jim's Big Ego" that lasted for only one performance. "The [logo] was me with this enormous, swelled forehead. I thought we sounded pretty good." Jim is currently recording his new disc, "Strawman," with



One man, one guitar, many bricks: Infantino.

some "Big Ego" members. Fans of Jim's spontaneous, solo concerts may be surprised to hear some old tunes with new backing instruments on the record. "It's still me and the guitar, but in the past I've been afraid of obvious drum parts...I've been afraid of the snare. I've had snare-a-phobia."

Although he formerly spent much of his time touring, Jim Infantino is now sticking mainly to the Boston area, where he is building an impressive following, as word of mouth about his captivating performances spreads. Although originally from New York, Jim got his start in Boston's largest performance hall – the T. "I failed miserably on the streets," he says. " [To make it] you really have to play 'American Pie.' I was kind of subtle...Maybe I was asking people to think a little more than they wanted to between subway stops." Relax, Jim, you've made it out of the underground. ❑

Jim Infantino will be performing at Songstreet Productions' Funny Songwriters Festival at 7 p.m. on Sat., May 1 at the Somerville Theater in Davis Square. Tickets are $11.75. Call Songstreet Productions at 628-3390 or Ticketmaster at 931-2000.

JOKE OF THE EVERY OTHER WEEK

A bear and a rabbit were taking a crap in the woods. The bear said to the rabbit, "Say, rabbit, does shit ever stick to your fur?"
"Why, no," the rabbit answered. "It doesn't."
So the bear wiped his ass with the rabbit.

Congratulations to Joshua E. Blumenthal of Sharon, Mass. for his rather rude Joke of the Every Other Week. In celebration of his somewhat twisted humor, Josh will be given two tickets to the Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall.

Do you wish to bring joy to multitudes of people? Have you ever said to yourself, "Gee, I love to see people read. And I love to see people laugh. If only I could see them read and laugh at the same time, well, then would I feel content in this imperfect world." Then, don't just sit there, take some initiative. Send in your joke (with name and address included) to the:

JOKE OF THE EVERY OTHER WEEK
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
17 STATION STREET, SUITE 7A
BROOKLINE, MA 02146

• COMEDY LISTINGS •

Catch a Rising Star at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. This legendary comedy club has a new location, but has not changed in bringing top rate performers to Boston. Located in the Charles Playhouse, Boston's oldest remaining home of standup comedy.Call for times and prices.

Fri. 4/30-Sun. 5/2- Rich Hall. Thu. 5/6-Sun. 5/9- David Feldman.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by *USA Today*, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outsIde in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Wed. 4/28- Steve Hurley. Thu. 4/29- Ed Regine, Bob Marley. Fri. 4/30- Carrot Top. Sat. 5/1- Ed Regine, Tom Gilmore, Steve Hurley. Sun. 5/2 7p.m.- Steve Hurley. Sun. 5/2 9p.m.- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 5/3- D.J. Hazard. Tue. 5/4- D.J. Hazard, Paul Nardizzi. Wed. 5/5 & Thu. 5.6- Paul Nardizzi. Fri. 5/7- Paul Nardizzi, George Wallace. Sat. 5/8- Jonathan Katz, Paul Nardizzi. Sun. 5/9 7p.m.- D.J. Hazard. Sun. 5/9 9p.m.- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 5/10- Jackie Flynn. Tue. 5/11- Finis Henderson.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Cover $10. Always packed and second hand smoky.

Fri. 4/10 & Sat. 5/1- Tom Cotter, Al & The Monkeys, The Bad Boys. Fri. 5/7 & Sat. 5/8- Dick Doherty.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See D.D.'s above. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 10p.m. Cover $9.

Fri. 4/30- Tom Agna. Sat. 5/1- Greg Fitzsimmons. Fri. 5/7 & Sat. 5/8- Boston Comedy Showcase.

Nick's Comedy Stop, 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in *Boston Globe* Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the town's more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

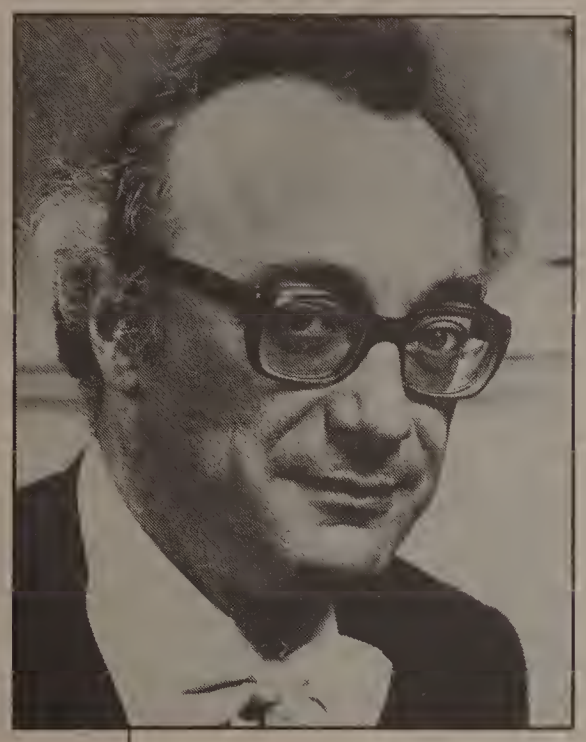
Fri. 4/30 & Sat. 5/1- Don Gavin, Steve Sweeny. Fri. 5/7 & Sat. 5/8- Roger Kabler.

Stitches, 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu.: The Dating Game, Hosted by Billy Martin. Every Sun.: Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.

Wed. 4/28- Stitches Headliner Showcase. Fri. 4/30 8:30p.m.- Ed Regine, Warren MacDonald, Tedd Bergeron, James Lemur. Sat. 5/1- Bob Seibel, James Lemur, Teddy Bergeron. Wed. 5/5- Boston's Women of Comedy. Fri. 5/8 8:30p.m. & Sat. 5/9- Mike Bent, Frand Santorelli, Teddy Bergeron.



AROUND TOWN



The Boston Marathon has come and gone, but **pianist Alfred Brendel's** current U.S. tour is something of a marathon itself: he is performing all 32 of the Beethoven sonatas. For the final performance in the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series, Brendel will play five sonatas in Symphony Hall on Friday, May 7 at 8 p.m. On the program are Sonata in A-flat, Op. 26; Sonata in E-flat, Op. 27, No. l; Sonata in C-sharp minor, Op. 27, No. 2 (Moonlight); Sonata in C, Op. 54 and Sonata in C, Op. 53 (Waldstein). Tickets are priced at $30, $27, $24 and $15 and are available at the Symphony Hall box office, or by calling SymphonyCharge at 266-1200.

The Fabulous Thunderbirds and Boston's own Heavy Metal Horns will perform at Avalon from 7-11 p.m. on Friday, May 7 at the Second Annual **"TomorrowNite" gala**, benefiting St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. The goal of "TomorrowNite" is to give children hope for tomorrow and give guests a night to remember. The benefit is expected to draw 1000 guests who can dance and dine on delicacies from Boston's hottest restaurants. A $50 ticket admits guests and helps raise money for critical cancer research, which helps children in New England and around the world fight cancer and other catastrophic diseases. For tickets and more information, call 1-800-341-5800.



They performed for over half a million people at Max Yasger's farm during a 1969 concert in Woodstock, New York. They've had one gold album and two platinum albums. After 25 years together, they've been seen on stage and screen by oodles of people worldwide, and now is your chance to add your name to that list. We're not talking about Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young, or The Who – we're talking about **Sha Na Na.** Since that Woodstock performance (and their subsequent appearance in the Woodstock album and movie) Sha Na Na has also appeared in the movie version of "Grease" and on their own prime-time variety television show. Since their show went off the air, these crazies have been on a constant worldwide tour, which is coming our way. Sha Na Na, with its six remaining original members (unfortunately Bowzer is not one of them), and three new ones, including the new "greaserette," will be appearing at Ovations in Peabody on May 1 at 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. For tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000 or Ovations at (508) 535-4600.





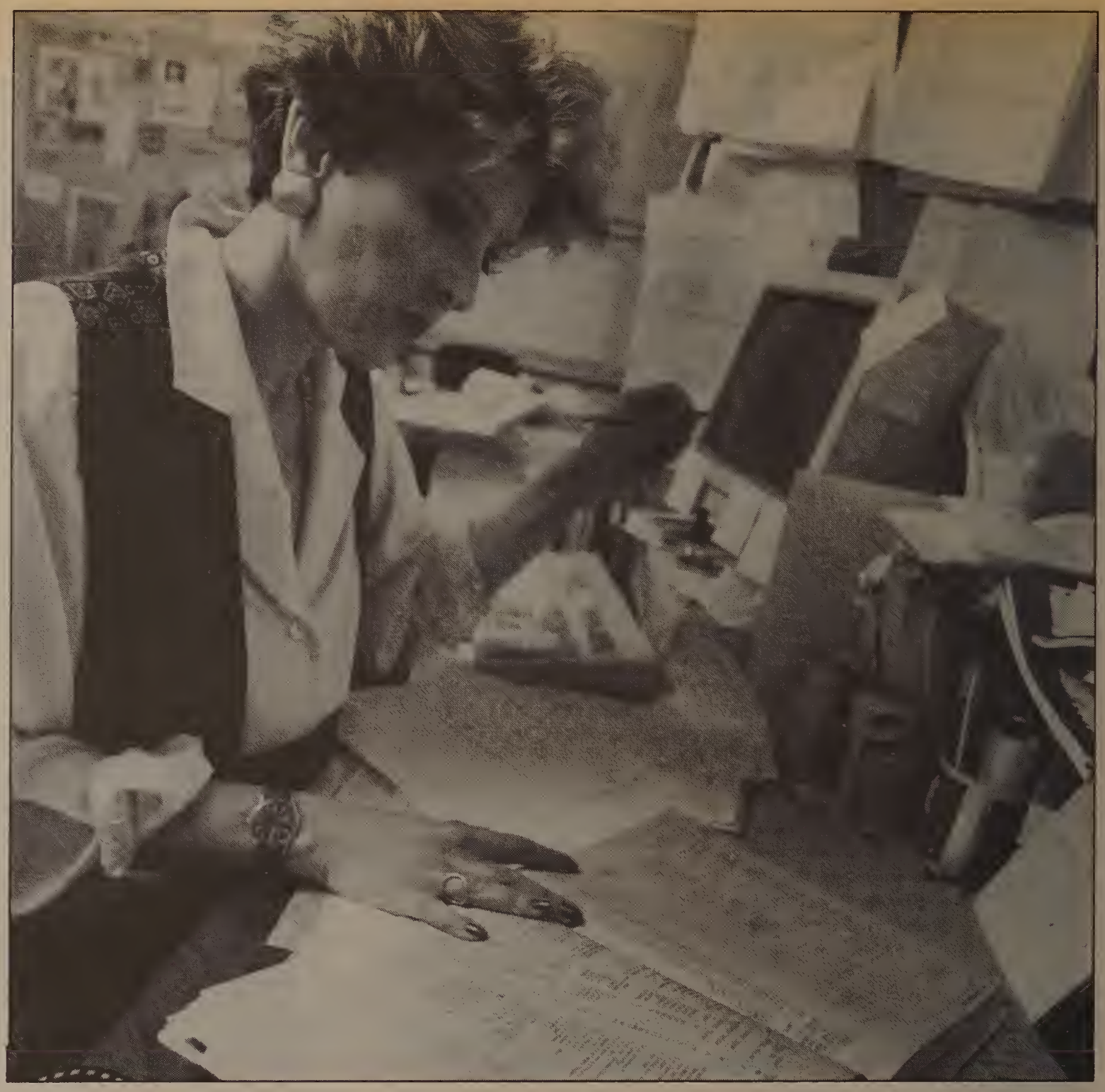
A sure sign that summer is here...BUGS. Beginning May 1, the Museum of Science opens their home to **"Backyard Monsters: The World of Insects,"** an exhibition running through Sept. 12. This monster-size, high-tech exhibit is an exciting and educational look into the world of insects and spiders. "Backyard Monsters" features 14 hands-on "bug's eye view" stations, displays of more than 1000 actual exotic bugs from around the world, and fantasy-inspired exhibits to fascinate viewers of all ages. What fantasy inspired exhibits, you may ask? Five robotic insects, each 12 to 16 feet tall, a towering ant and a 300-pound black widow spider, for starters. The museum is open daily, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays until 9 p.m.. Admission is only $7 for adults, $5 for children ages 3-14 and free for children under 3. Call 723-2500 for more information.



Have you been having trouble finding "That Girl" in syndication? Well, take heart, because you can still find Marlo Thomas at the Shubert Theatre, where she settles in for a two-week engagement (from May 4-16) of **"Six Degrees of Separation."** This winner of the New York Drama Critic's Circle award for Best Play, has become one of the most talked about plays in years, dealing with issues of trust, race-relations and role playing in society. Inspired by a real life story, Thomas stars as the socialite wife of a Manhattan art gallery owner who has been conned into taking into their home a charismatic young man posing as Sidney Poitier's son. Tickets are priced form $30-$45 and are available through Telecharge. Call 1-800-233-3123 for more information.

Wrapped Up In Her Work

Investigating Reporter Hank Phillippi Ryan



By Chad L. Sanborn
All photos by John Soares

No one wants to be on the business end of Hank Phillippi Ryan's slicing curiosity, for obvious reasons. Consider the sexually deviant psychologists, the ones with circumspect notions of doctor/patient relations. Dissected and exposed in one of Ryan's recent investigative reports for WHDH-TV Channel 7, most of these head-shrinkers are now out of work and slinking back under the rock from whence they emerged.

But the personal end of Ryan's curiosity is as sharp as the business end, with just a slight amount of tact thrown in to buffer it. At parties, Ryan admits she sometimes unthinkingly turns a casual conversation into an impromptu interview, often forcing her husband, Bill, to come to the rescue of the poor soul whose only mistake was to articulate an interesting occupation.

It's also hard not to feel a little for Ryan's friend, who recently rejoiced aloud about her son's just-earned scholarship, leading Ryan to ponder the breakdown of scholarship allotments. On the outside Ryan is congratulatory, but inside she's thinking about who gets what; "Boys?" she wonders. "White boys? I wonder how many black boys get scholarships? I wonder how many black girls get scholarships?"

Such is the boon, and sometimes the burden, of a good investigative reporter, and Ryan is one Boston's best and most prolific. "Everything in the world," she explains, "has a big question mark hanging over it, to me."

Hank Phillippi Ryan, sitting in her cluttered office at the Channel 7's Bulfinch Place building (located within shooting distance of Government Center), is explaining what motivates her as the station's principal investigative reporter. Through the window behind her, it's a quiet, cloudy Saturday. But here, inside the office she shares with her producer, Judy Greenspan, Ryan's boundless energy sparks the nearly-deserted office building.

Of those hanging question marks, Ryan comments further: "They're questions I try to answer. I've always been curious. I ask, 'What if? what if? what if?' all the time. And also 'why?' So much so," she says, "that it's a joke in my family."

Taped to the wall above her desk, among various quotes and photographs, hang two items. In accordance with the laws of memorabilia (in relation to the person in whose work space it's posted), these two items lend insight into Ryan's personality. The first item is a quote from ex-President Calvin Coolidge: "Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan 'press on' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race." When she's blocked on a story, Ryan says this quote compels her to ask one more question, make one more telephone call, press the issue just a little further.

The other item is the telephone number for the "Center For Short-Lived Phenomena." Later, Ryan mentions that her stepfather once told her that "in real life, one's talent is measured by how few phone calls it takes to find out something." It's possible that she calls the center periodically, half-expecting to confirm with a single call that her name has been added to the list of media figures that, like supernovas, recently burned out, and are no longer. Ryan's other half, of course, knows she works too damn hard to ever be a candidate for this scary list of has-beens.

The question mark most often seen by others hanging over Harriet Ann Phillippi Ryan's head revolves around the name "Hank." Maybe people are so curious because, even today, almost all of Ryan's investigative reporter contemporaries are male; was this nickname choice a sarcastic slap at that statistic?

Actually, the name was just a gift from her friends at Western College for Women in Oxford, Ohio, where she studied English, intent on eventually teaching Shakespeare to high-school seniors. Any feminist agendas are merely imagined.

How Ryan, who grew-up in semi-rural Indianapolis, deviated from this master plan to arrive in Boston is a story shared by many in her era; one of being the right person, at the right time, in the right place. An eight-time Emmy winner, including one for "Best Investigative Reporting," Ryan currently lives with her husband in Brookline, the birthplace of broadcast investigative



"It's hours of incredible boredom and anticipation mixed, followed by five minutes of complete terror."

journalism pioneer Mike Wallace. Like the spontaneous genesis of her name, Ryan's journey to assume the mantle of investigative journalist was similarly fraught with luck and happenstance. In fact, when speaking to journalism students, Ryan frequently divulges her infinitely naive, and ultimately successful, foray into journalism only after making the students promise not to attempt any duplication of her luck.

In the early 1970s, at a time when the country was enthralled with two brash young Washington Post reporters and their investigative stories surrounding the Watergate Hotel break-in, Ryan was serving as assistant press secretary to a candidate in the Indiana gubernatorial race. When Ryan's horse lost, she picked herself up, looked around and made career choice number two. Effectively, she elbowed her way onto the airwaves at an Indianapolis radio station.

"I went to the biggest radio station in Indiana," she says, "and I said 'I know everything about politics, I know everybody in Indianapolis, you don't have any women working here, and your (FCC) license is up for renewal.' And then the big smile. Now, you can get a job that way, but you can't keep it that way."

And after all that, a few months later, Ryan left the radio station for Washington, D.C., where she "walked around Capitol Hill, handing out resumes door-to-door, because I thought I wanted to do something in politics." Eventually, she landed a job as press secretary for a congressman from Texas. Again, Ryan didn't stay put. Soon, Ryan says, she was on the move again, this time to the Administrative Practice and Procedures Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Ironically, one of her accomplishments in her two years there was to help write amendments to the Freedom of Information Act, a necessary investigative tool for any reporter.

By the mid-1970s, Ryan had shifted still further: She was working in Rolling Stone magazine's Washington bureau, where she helped counter-culture icon/drugs and guns fiend Hunter S. Thompson (father of the hell-bent, participatory journalism style known as gonzo journalism) organize his coverage of the 1976 presidential election. Ryan also wrote a column of her own, "Capitol Chatter," where she covered everything from the Senate Special Committee on Assassinations hearings to the prom of then-President Ford's daughter. Two years after she went to work there, Rolling Stone closed its Washington bureau, leaving Ryan once again looking for work.

Pondering an offer from Washington Post editor-in-chief Ben Bradlee to write, of all things, a gossip column, Ryan returned home to Indianapolis to regroup. While considering her options, Ryan, though she lacked television reporting experience, boldly solicited the local TV stations to see if there were any vacant reporter positions. After a solid audition – "I didn't know enough to know that I should be afraid," Ryan says – she was hired to cover Indiana politics. Her first few weeks were nerve-racking, with almost every evening ending in tears.

"I didn't know what everyone was talking about," Ryan says. "There's all kinds of TV jargon that I did not understand. I did know enough to know I didn't understand it. I'd go home and say, 'I'll never be able to do this. I'll never be able to be a reporter. I just don't get it.'"

But, with a veteran photographer as her mentor, Ryan did finally get it. So well, in fact, that she eventually moved over tomovie reviewing and medical reporting, about which she also knew nothing (thus making her the perfect jargon-free reporter).

While continuing to hone her craft in Indianapolis, Ryan caught the eye of a viewer passing through Indianapolis on his way to Atlanta, and his job as news director for a station there. At the time, Ryan says, she assumed she was hired for her skills as a hot-shot reporter. It was about five years later that she learned the real reason she was offered the job: she reminded the traveling news director of his high school sweetheart. But by the time this confession surfaced, it was irrelevant to Ryan. She was keenly aware of her burgeoning talents.

Along with sports reporting, investigative journalism has traditionally been a field dominated by men, with only a few notable exceptions. Did Ryan ever bump up against sexism, or doubts of her own about pursuing this aggressive type of journalism? "[I don't think of it] as a man/woman thing," she explains, "just a hard-worker kind of thing." Ryan says she can't recall when her gender, focused in the eyes of others, has interfered with her job. In fact, she thinks that many times, it helps.

"People sometimes think women don't know as much," Ryan says, her eyes narrowing. "I've had interviews that have turned out to be quite successful because the man I'm interviewing clearly doesn't think that I could possibly know enough, or understand enough, to know as much or more than he does. They go into the interview very arrogant and come out very sorry.

"My Holy Grail is fairness and clarity," she continues. "If someone is unpleasant to me, I'll be extra pleasant back. I don't like to use my focus as a weapon in an external way – this sounds so over-analytical – I try to be open first. Then if someone is trying to fight me, I'll try not to fight back first, because they'll say more if you're not fighting back, if you're just letting them talk. By being a willow in the wind, you can find out a lot more than being Mike Wallace. But at some point you have to ask your questions and that's what I'll do. I'm not afraid to ask the questions, the key is to know when to ask."

But Ryan readily admits that sometimes a tougher approach is needed, and Ryan is prepared for the consequences of such confrontations.

"I've always told my photographers, if someone hits me, make sure you get it on tape, make sure you're rolling," she says. "Don't put down the camera to help me. Just make sure you get it."

"Everything in the world has a big question-mark hanging over it, to me."



"I've lived for hours on pizza and red Gummi bears, thinking: 'This is the wackiest job in the world.'"

When rushing into such precarious situations, Ryan adds, it's important to remember the underlying reason for doing so: to obtain answers. "I'm not just going to get video," she explains. "I'm seriously going in to get answers. I'm curious about what that will be. I truly want to know."

In such tense situations, the true professionals rise above, controlling the direction and substance of the interview, Ryan says. If not, the opportunity may slip away on a smoke screen of unchallenged denials and red-herring answers, wasting all the hours of research and preparation that lead up to that moment when you know enough to confront someone.

"If you get off the track, you're going to come away realizing that you never actually said, 'Why did you take the money?' When I'm going to do a critical interview, I do the interview with myself in my head before I go. 'If I say this, and the person says that, then I'll say this. Or if he says this, then I'll respond with this.' Often your mind just takes over when you do that, and the interview plays itself out in your head without you having to think about it. Then, when I actually do the interview, it isn't new anymore. I'm less likely to be surprised."

Although such ambush interviews are usually over in a matter of minutes, Ryan admits that it isn't all glamour and excitement beforehand. "You're sitting in a car with a photographer," she says, "and probably your producer, waiting for potentially hours and hours for somebody to come out. You can't do anything, you can't read, you have to just watch the door. I've lived for hours on pizza and red Gummi bears, thinking, 'This is the wackiest job in the world.' Here we are, three grown-ups sitting in a car waiting for someone to walk out of a building, someone who may not come out.

"It's hours of incredible boredom and anticipation mixed," she adds, "followed by five minutes of complete terror."

Although Ryan speaks with the voice of a seasoned veteran – and by the high turnover standards of television news, she is – Ryan's only been a full-time investigative reporter for five years. Ryan arrived in Boston in 1982, going to work for Channel 7 as a general assignment reporter, covering whatever happened during the course of the day. Remarkably, when compared with her current no-nonsense on-air persona, Ryan says that originally she was being assigned the "whimsy, ironic, poetic" stories, and was quickly gaining a reputation as "the funny one."

Only problem was, she says self-mockingly now, "I wanted to be the serious one."

Finally, with the 1988 presidential election approaching and the governor of the Commonwealth emerging as a national candidate, Ryan was assigned to develop "think pieces," long background stories involving time, research and creativity. Ryan says she loved the job and performed so spectacularly that, when the election was over, the station allowed her to try her hand as a full-time investigative reporter. It meant less air time for Ryan, which she says was of little concern, but offered her the freedom to develop stories over time. The experience, she says, was an epiphany.

"It was a life-changing experience, work-wise," she explains, "because I learned how much I really like taking something that's a mystery, and plowing through an incredible amount of documents and facts and materials and computer print outs and microfilm and coming up with something at the end of it. I know it sounds completely dopey, but suddenly [I knew] this is what I wanted to do. This was fulfilling."

From her initial piece, a sweeping look at the environmental history of Boston (during which she met her husband) to such award-winning stories as blowing the whistle on Massachusetts residents who register their cars in New Hampshire to avoid taxes, Ryan proved herself again and again. One of her biggest stories, the uncovering of unregulated home improvement contractors ripping off home owners in Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan, resulted in three new state laws protecting against such scams, reparations of almost three-quarters of a million dollars to victims and the elimination of at least nine companies engaging in such nefarious activity.

Given that credibility is the currency in the news business, it's no surprise Ryan is concerned with the constant blurring of the line between news and entertainment in the media.

"You know, I really hate it when commercials have people in them that look like reporters or anchor people," she grumps. "It's supposed to imply that [the commercials] are news, which is supposed to imply that they're true. I don't like it when the look of news gets used to give something the aura of truth. But I don't think that people are stupid. I think that people know the difference between reality, news and some entertainment show."

Still, Ryan can't deny the pressure put on reporters to come up with the next big story, and she understands how that pressure can drive some people to bend the rules, "to make dumb mistakes." But not for one second does she condone such strains on the truth.

"My mom always used to say, 'If it makes your stomach hurt, don't do it.' I have used that a million times. Would I feel comfortable telling a jury how I did it? Or even viewers, would I feel comfortable telling the people at home how I got this? If I wouldn't, then I don't."

So Hank Phillippi Ryan is honest and persistent. And to this job, which alternates at times between boring, challenging and courageous, Ryan also brings a self-depreciating sense of humor. Often, while discussing aspects and tactics of the job, Ryan will stop in mid-sentence to laugh at the seriousness it provokes in her. Yet, she doesn't deny she's a perfectionist who takes her job very seriously.

"Every story that I look at," she says, "when I look at it now, I think, 'Oh I should have said it this way, I should have written it differently, I should have organized it differently.' Every story that I've ever done, I could do better now."

Despite her type-A personality, Ryan is learning to relax. Her husband is a professor of tai chi and Ryan – self-described as a most "un-tai-chi-like person" – practices the Chinese exercise system that mixes calisthenics, meditation, self-defense and relaxation. In addition, she and a friend, Boston lawyer Jane Sender, are collaborating on novel, "a murder mystery for which we have eight chapters, and an extensive outline, and no agent," Ryan laughs.

"The way things are right now, I have what I consider to be a spectacular job," she says. "Who knows what could change? You know typical TV – Center For Short-Lived Phenomena. At any moment, things could change, but right now I have a big say in what stories I'm going to do; I have a big say in the timing. It's still fun. As long as that continues, Boston is the place for me."

And, unlike many local notables, Ryan doesn't mind the recognition she receives on the streets of Boston and Brookline. Characteristically, it becomes an additional source of motivation.

"If somebody recognizes me, that means somebody's watching," she says. "The reaction I get is quite heartwarming to me, it's a little embarrassing and it's very gratifying. What people usually say is 'Go get 'em Hank, you're so tough.' People I don't know have called to thank me for doing stories. I do try to remember that the stories I'm doing can help an individual person, someone that I don't even know. And then I hang up the phone and think 'I have to work harder. I have to work harder.'"

Of course, there are no question marks hovering around that last statement.

Wheel of Fortune Black-Tie Gala Wang Center Friday, April 9



Todd Saunders, Vice President of Development of the Saunders Hotel Group, and his wife, Beth Tauro Saunders, lounge about the Wheel set.



Wang Center President Joe Spaulding (far left) and WHDH-TV Vice President and General Manager Bruce Marson (far right) cut the cake with Vanna White (second from left) and Pat Sajak (second from right).

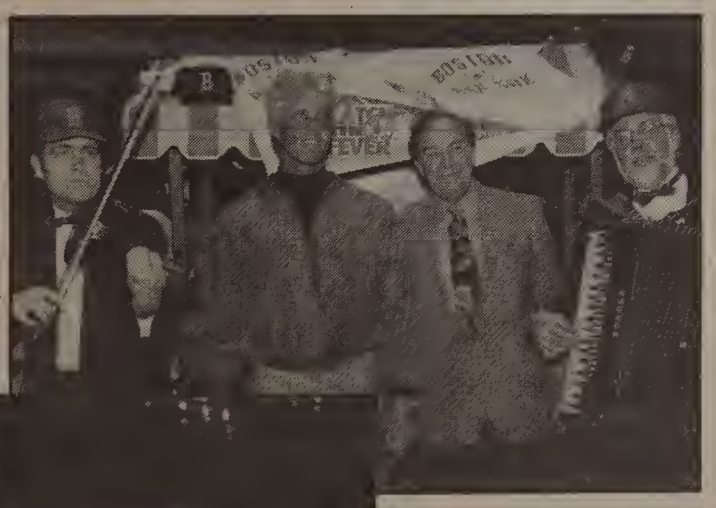


Looking sharp: George, Vice President of Community Affairs at State Street Bank and his wife, Denise Bowman.

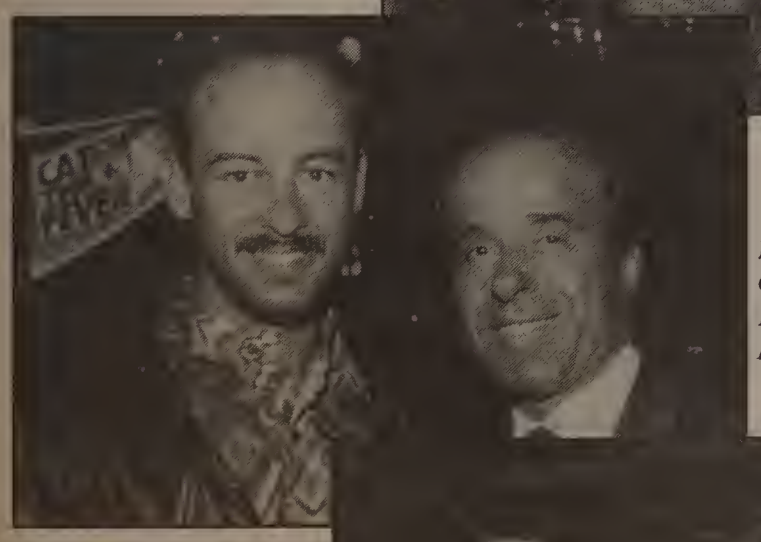
Proper Bostonians

Photos by Roger Farrington

National Kidney Foundation Butch Hobson Benefit Sheraton Boston Wednesday, April 14



Red Sox Coach Butch Hobson (second from left) and Bob Raiche, Executive Director of the Kidney Foundation (second from right) get serenaded.



Red Sox Ace Mike Greenwall with Warren Beatty look-alike/"big" fan, Matteo Gallo.



Next time, try and look happy: Red Sox First Base Coach Gary Allenson, Jeannie Privitera (Deputy Counsel, MA Treasury Dept.), model Cam Flanders and Red Sox 3rd Base Coach Rick Burleson.

Social Calendar

Attention Party Planners: Got a gig, an opening, a fundraiser or a gala going that deserves a little pre-press? Want to alert our 80,000 Improper readers? Well, go ahead, send your info. to the Editor, at least three weeks in advance, and be sure to include all relevant details noted above. All listings subject to timing and space issues.

Wednesday, April 28

Opening Reception, **Esther Solondz Exhibit**, Ashuah-Irving Gallery, 286 Congress Street, 5-8 p.m., 482-3343.

Brew House Pairing Dinners, first in a series, John Harvard's Brew House, 33 Dunster Street, Cambridge, 7 p.m. onward, $25 per person, 868-3585.

Thursday, April 29 & Friday, April 30

Massage-A-Thon, Benefitting the B.U. Sports Medicine Dept., Case Athletic Center, B.U., 285 Babcock Street, 2-6 p.m. Thurs.;10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fri., $5 for 15 minutes, 353-2746.

Friday, April 30

Chunky Productions present **The Dark Room Spring Party**, The Dome, Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, tickets $12 before 10 p.m./$15 after 8 p.m.- 2 a.m., 782-4505.

New England Patriots Annual Spring Spin-Off, Benefitting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, Harbor Club, 145 Northern Avenue, 9p.m.-2a.m., tickets $10 in advance/$15 at door, 973-5408.

The Fashion Group International's 1993 Style and Design Awards, Cocktail reception honoring Lydia Shire, Phyllis Bianchi, etc., One Design Center Place, Summer Street 6:30-8:30 p.m., $50 nonmembers, $35 members, 522-7217.

Cause for Celebration, Benefit for Bridge Over Troubled Waters, The Harvard Club, 374 Commonwealth Avenue, 8 p.m.-1 a.m., $30 in advance/$35 at the door, 423-9575.

Cocktails and Fashion with Michael Hoban, North Beach Leather, Copley Place, 100 Huntington Avenue, 1-7 p.m., 267-7449.

Bachelor Auction, To benefit The Starlight Foundation, Park Plaza Hotel, 7:30 p.m., admission is $25, 332-7755 or 739-0020.

Saturday, May 1

"Hats Off" to StageSource Party, The Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, 9 p.m.-2 a.m., tickets are $15, 720-6066.

Churchill Downs/Kentucky Derby Day, Bank of Boston Celebrity Series to benefit Project Discovery, Collings Estate, Stow, 1:30-7 p.m., Tickets are $75, 482-2595.

Monday, May 3

Nosh Night 93, Benefitting the Jewish Big Brother & Big Sisters of Greater Boston, The Roxy, 279 Tremont Street, 6-11 p.m.,tickets are $36, 965-7055.

Tuesday, May 4-Thursday, May 6

Jail and Bail to benefit American Cancer Society, arrest someone for a good cause, South Station "Jail", 9 a.m.-5 p.m., $25 "arrest" fee, 451-2266.

Wednesday, May 5

American Lung Association Benefit, The Golf Club, 3 Lansdowne Street, 6-9 p.m., no charge, 269-9720.

Thursday, May 6

Wildlife Productions presents **The R&B Summit With Duke Levine**, featuring the Rumble Pebbles and Michael Colton, Somerville Theater, Davis Square, Somerville, 8-11:30 p.m., $6 before/$8 day of, 236-4923.

Friday, May 7

TomorrowNite Gala, featuring the Fabulous Thunderbirds and the Heavy Metal Horns, benefitting St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Avalon, 15 Lansdowne Street, 7-11 p.m., $50 per person, 762-2443.

Opening Reception, featuring the works of Shelly Reed and David Palmer, on display through June 5, Gallery Naga, 67 Newbury Street, 6-8 p.m., no charge, 267-9060.

Sunday, May 9

Northern Lights Alternatives's Pride Bowl '93, to benefit AIDS Mastery Workshop, Kenmore Square Bowl-A-Drome, 64 Brookline Avenue, 2 p.m. onward, organized 5-member teams must raise $50 in donations, 536-6365.

ATTENTION IMPROPER PARTY PLANNERS

If you are organizing an soiree, party or gala and would like pre-event coverage in the upcoming *Improper Bostonian* Social Calendar, send all pertinent information, three weeks in advance (or more), to:

Editor In Chief
The Improper Bostonian
17 Station Street, Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146

Please be sure to include date, time, place, ticket price, and dress code. Coverage is subject to space and time constraints.



La Rue Newbury



Spring has finally sprung, the weather is warming up, people are starting to shed layers of clothing (although this is not necessarily a beneficial development), and slowly, our hearts turn to thoughts of outdoor cafes, people watching, and calling in sick to work for weeks at a time. This is the time of year when Newbury Street really starts to come into its own.

Newbury Street, that beacon floating up at you from the surface of any tourist map of Boston, waving its little "come hither" flag, somehow standing out from amongst the masses of plebeian attractions Boston has to offer. From whence does this appeal spring, exactly? There are, of course, other Boston locations where one may eat, stroll, or sit at an outdoor cafe, and there are unquestionably better places to park. But none have quite the cache of Newbury Street. Nowhere else do you get quite the same blend of unabashed pretentiousness, Boston traditionalism, international chic, and just plain weirdness.

One of the truly distinctive qualities of Newbury Street is the fact that you can encounter the entire gamut of Boston culture parading around in all its finery. If you want to see tourists, go to Quincy Market. If you want to see incredible preppy yuppies, go to Beacon Hill. If you want to see everybody, go to Newbury Street.

What do we mean? Glad you asked. Boston society ladies scurrying into their luncheons at the Ritz, perfectly-coifed hairdressers mincing hand-in-hand down the street, over-dressed platinum-card carrying housewives out shopping at Louis or Charles Sumner. Euro-kids deepening their tans and self-importance complexes at the sidewalk cafes, homeless people opening all the convenience store doors on the street, hoping to catch a few cents worth of the Newbury Street dream, Boston University students looking longingly in the windows of the Gap or Banana Republic.

More, you say? How about Back Bay businessmen out to lunch, artists lugging all manner of paraphernalia, models posing, would-be musicians playing air guitar outside Newbury Comics, tourists holding up traffic on the sidewalk or hanging out the windows of those god-awful Old Town Trolleys while they snap endless photographs. Real estate agents shuffling bewildered clients in and out of beautiful and over-priced square-footage, people walking anything you can think of at the end of a leash, from dogs to pigs to lizards to children. Platform-heeled fashion victims air-bussing each other on the street corners, meter maids handing out a veritable forest of parking tickets. Welcome to Newbury Street.

The place to start off any Newbury Street adventure, naturellement, is the Ritz Carlton, located on the first block of Newbury. The Ritz is the Grande Dame of Boston hotels, and while it does not have the best food in the city, and they're never going to redecorate, and it seems like everyone who goes there is either old or from out of town, long after the rest of Boston has succumbed to the encroachment of the next latest thing, the Ritz will still be serving high tea and employing elevator operators.

Start off your tour of Newbury Street with some fresh scones and coffee poured out of a silver urn by an immaculately uniformed and incredibly repressed waiter and you'll be ready to face the trials that await you out on the street. Next, better hop on over to the Baybank machine to pad your wallet against the upcoming onslaught against that bank account. Whatever else it may be, no one has ever said Newbury Street was cheap.

This first block between Arlington and Berkeley Streets is host to a number of upscale-and-beyond boutiques,

BY NICOLE L. MILLS
ALL PHOTOS BY PETER SHANKMAN

La Rue Newbury



where many a sugar daddy's limits have been severely tested. In fact, had you the wherewithal, it would be possible to equip your entire life from the stores on this block, as long as all you wanted to do in life was recline in expensive clothes on expensive furniture, and eat out for every single meal. Not a bad job if you can get it. Ann Taylor, Charles Sumner, Domaine and new-kid Verona will all be happy to accommodate you, should your heart's desires lie in this direction.

The next four blocks really constitute the heart and soul of Newbury Street. You have moved away from the staid influence of the Ritz and are entering the real see-and-be-seen arena. From Dartmouth through Gloucester Streets, Newbury Street takes on a circus-like atmosphere. To brave this part of the street, you should be properly attired and properly attituded. Whatever it is you wear, wear it with panache. Everybody is viciously scrutinizing everybody else, all the while trying very hard not to look like they are. So whether it's Doc Martens or Charles Jourdan, Hermés or a red bandanna, you must exhibit the utmost self-confidence and hauteur, because the claws can be sharp on this part of the street, and if you're not armored like Teflon, they can rip you to shreds.

Now would be a good time to stop and take a breather at Joe's American Cafe. If it's even a semi-nice day, the hungry hordes will be out en masse on Joe's patio, slipping the harried hostess big bills to slide them into the first available table where they can then scope the action from their privileged perches. The most impressive of the patio patrons are constantly engaged in a barrage of greetings, kissy-kissyings, and obnoxious recountings of their weekend activities, to the obvious annoyance of other clients who were foolish enough to think that one actually comes to Joe's patio to enjoy the food. Small chance. The real goal of getting out on the patio is to be a part of, if not actually the center of, the circus.

Back out on the sidewalk, you will find it increasingly necessary to step over small, dust-mop-typecanines (being walked by owners whose attitudes seem to suggest that their dogs have bigger trust funds than you do,) or a pot-bellied pig or two, purchased by some hapless sap who saw it when it was a baby and didn't realize that in a few months he/she would have a two-ton porker at the end of their leash.

But we digress. The corner of Exeter and Newbury vies with the Dartmouth corner for that center of the universe distinction, and depending on with whom you speak, may actually be winning. On the one side, you have an outlet of that national chain of mediocrity, TGIFriday's, and on the other, Euro-kid Heaven, the Harvard Bookstore Cafe. Tourists pile thankfully into Friday's, recognizing a familiar landmark that's guaranteed to be the same here as it is anywhere in the U.S.A. Meanwhile, Euros bask in the sun at little tables at the Harvard Bookstore Cafe, talking to their friends at the next table over on their ever-present cellular phones. In between all this insanity, perfectly normal people are trying to get to or from work, or do their shopping, or whatever it is that perfectly normal people do. Nobody really notices them.

Crossing over Exeter Street, there is another golden consumer opportunity at the old Prince School, which houses the Gap, Banana Republic and the Nature Company. Emporio Armani, right across the street, tops off this Euro shoppers wet dream.

Moving up Newbury to the corner of Fairfield, you encounter the odd marriage of Daisy Buchanan's and Ciao Bella, which are placed one on top of the other. Ciao Bella accommodates all the disgruntled Euro kids who couldn't get a table at Harvard Bookstore Cafe, and Daisy's accommodates all the lost Northeastern and B.U. students who stayed out too late last night and can't remember where their classes were supposed to be. It's kind of a culture clash, and both sides eye each other suspiciously, denying that the other could possibly be having more fun, while at the same time secretly afraid that they are.

Along the rest of this block is some of the best shopping on Newbury Street, in terms of both affordability and variety. Little boutiques, where you can buy anything from exotic spice racks, to pork-pie hats, to surfer gear, to a dress that makes your cleavage look like something constructed by a post-modern architect (Seletto, Topper's, Blue Planet and Starving Artist) make up for the uniformity of the upscale places at the beginning of the street.

Accordingly with the terrain, the natives start to get a little more diverse as well. More platforms heels and Doc Martins scuffle the sidewalk (if you happen to be the kind of person who checks out people's feet first), the fashion sense is closer to grunge (even though no one will admit it anymore because grunge is passé) than glamour.

All but the toughest of tourists have been weeded out by the time you get to the corner of Gloucester and Newbury. Up at this end of Newbury Street, for some reason or other, there seems to be a proliferation of realtor's offices and travel outlets; they're either trying to get you to move in or go away.

If you've actually made it this far, the last funky block of Newbury Street awaits you. You now have the opportunity to hop into Upper Newbury Pet Store and purchase that Vietnamese pot-bellied pig of your dreams. Also on this block you'll have the opportunity to improve your wardrobe to fashionably up-to-the-minute standards at John Fluevog or Urban Outfitters, where you can buy the latest platforms and bell-bottoms.

And, finally, there is Tower Records. Tower anchors this end of Newbury Street like the Ritz does the opposite end, but, you can obviously see how far we've come from the hauteur of Boston tradition with this mega-record-super market that caters to the masses of music consumers.

And there you have it: Street of Dreams or Street of Screams, Newbury in all its splendor or paucity goes way beyond being just another shopping playground for tacky tourists, or historically significant stop on the Trolley tour. The more you get to know Newbury Street, the more you can decide if you desire or despise it. Either way, it's hard to turn your back on it.

Newbury Street seduces us with its promise of glamour; it's sexy and exciting, frustrating, familiar and bizarre all at once, and maybe the only way to really look at it is as a microcosm of the world as a whole. Or maybe it's just a fun place to get dressed up and pretend to be somebody, because if there's any place in Boston that will let you get away with that, it's here. Newbury Street understands and accommodates and takes advantage of and markets the hell out of our desires and insecurities, but it's not really doing anything to you that you wouldn't do back to it in a heartbeat. Give and take, look and be looked at, pose and make fun of poseurs, all's fair out on La Rue Newbury. ◆



FLICKS IN A FLASH

Falling Down

Michael Douglas, sporting a crew-cut, glasses, white button-down shirt, and a pocket protector, abandons his car in a Los Angeles traffic jam and sets out on foot for home. After exchanging his briefcase for weapons, the man known only by his license plate D-FENS explodes when confronted with the familiar stresses of urban life. Is he an average white guy who has been pushed to the edge? Or is he an over-the-edge, vigilante sociopath? This movie is sure to strike a chord with anyone who has ever had a bad day.

Groundhog Day

Bill Murray plays Phil Connors, a callous weatherman, trapped in time in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania on Groundhog Day and forced to relive the same day over and over. (Imagine waking up to "I Got You Babe" playing on the clock radio every morning). In spite of himself, he changes into a decent human being. The lovely and clever Andie MacDowell shines; we believe that MacDowell could inspire anybody to change for the better.

Il Ladro Di Bambini (Stolen Children)

After a mother is arrested for prostituting her eleven-year-old daughter, a young military officer must escort the girl and her ten-year-old brother from Milan to a home for children. Drawing heavily on the Italian Neo-realist tradition, director Gianni Amelio quietly chronicles their journey during which the three bond and the officer realizes the extent to which the girl has been victimized. Inevitably, he too, becomes a victim. The characters are affecting the pace is slow but steady, and the bright, bleak urban landscape is haunting.

Indecent Proposal

Diana (Demi Moore) and David Murphy (Woody Harrelson) are deeply in love (they have sex and say "I love you," a lot). But they are desperate for money, so when a handsome billionaire (Robert Redford) offers them a million dollars for a night with Diana, they take him up on it. There's no denying director Adrian Lyne's considerable talent; he keeps this insubstantial soufflé rising until the very end when it collapses into a sticky puddle. Like *Pretty Woman, Indecent Proposal* is a cynical paean to our consumer society disguised as a romance. So why weren't Demi's clothes as nice as Julia's?

Just Another Girl on the I.R.T.

Chantel (Ariyan Johnson) is an African-American Brooklyn girl who's got smarts, looks confidence, ambition (she wants to be a doctor) and a very big mouth. When she's not studying, working, or taking care of her siblings, she hangs out with girlfriends, parties, and has a good time. How this smart kid handles getting pregnant (in spite of using birth control) is what concerns director Leslie Harris; her Chantel is a complex character whose behavior, while not always rational or admirable, is realistic. There are some awkward scenes and tone changes, but it's an impressive debut film, and Chantel is a character from whom we'd like to hear more.

INDEPENDENT'S DAY

Gerald Peary Picks & Pans the Independents

BY GERALD PEARY

The Last Days of Chez Nous

Directed by Gillian Armstrong. Written by Helen Garner. At the Brattle Theatre, April 30-May 13.

A decade-and-a-half of evolving women's liberation consciousness informs the best films of Australian director, Gillian Armstrong. This includes her newest, *The Last Days of Chez Nous*, a touching elegy to an irreparably broken modern marriage.

My Brilliant Career (1979), Armstrong's classic feature debut, championed a tenacious, ferociously independent young woman (Judy Davis) who rejected the most beguiling gentleman suitor, so as to be faithful to her calling as a writer. *Mrs. Soffel* (1981), made in Hollywood, told the sad story of a woman (Diane Keaton) so imprisoned in her stultifying marriage that she ran away with a murderer. *High Tide* (1987), Armstrong's masterpiece, cast Judy Davis again, this time as a worn-out backup rock singer who discovers a psychic need for the daughter she abandoned.

Think of all the women's films since the 1970s. Few reach the great emotion of these unforgettable moments in Armstrong's oeuvre: the heroine of *My Brilliant Career* walking triumphantly across the rural terrain with her completed book manuscript, placing it in the mailbox for publication; the protagonist of *High Tide* sighing from her soul because her lost daughter (who doesn't know she's her daughter) stands before her: Oh, a mother's heart!

The Last Days of Chez Nous offers Armstrong's older-and-wiser dialogue with her earlier films. The heroine, Beth (Lisa Harrow, in a wonderful performance), is unhappily married as is Mrs. Soffel, has a daughter, as in *High Tide*, and has chosen the "brilliant career" of writing. Beth, in her forties – here resembling Armstrong herself – is an established, Sidney-based artistic talent.

Beth works at home, sharing a lived-in flat comfortably with her teenage daughter, Annie (Miranda Otto), and shakily with her French husband, J.P. (Bruno Ganz). Are a successful occupation and a daughter's love – the things Armstrong advocated in *My Brilliant Career* and *High Tide* – sufficient for a satisfying life?

Maybe. Yet, Beth feels, at times, guilty and unfulfilled the way Armstrong insinuates, of many adult women who have grown up with feminism. Beth wonders: Is she selfish, unlovable — the judgment of her husband? Is she too competent — the vantage of her intimidated younger sister, Vicki (Kerry Fox)?



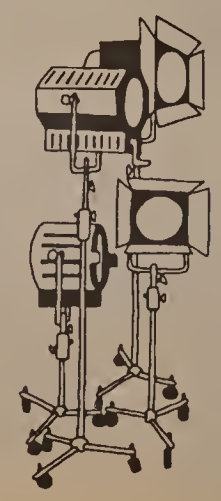
Annie (Miranda Otto), Vicki (Kerry Fox), Beth (Lisa Harrow) and J.P. (Bruno Ganz) in *The Last Days of Chez Nous*.

Should she want another baby? In a 1990s switch, it is J.P., the husband, who looks longingly, enviously, at a neighbor's newborn, who caresses it in his arms. Beth, in contrast, is through with children. Moreover, when sister Vicki gets pregnant, Beth is the one who marches her – too rationally – to the neighborhood abortionist.

Bad Beth? "The screenwriter, Helen Garner, was very tough on the main character, a woman with freedoms," admits Armstrong, speaking of her movie at the Berlin Film Festival. But hold tight before declaring *Chez Nous* a backlash, pro-family values tract.

"I would consider myself a feminist filmmaker," she adds. "I think my philosophy as a woman comes out, and I would not make a sexist work." Credit Armstrong's fair-minded humanism: all characters make sense, and all have their say. *Chez Nous* also can be interpreted as Feminism Defended. Just maybe Beth is fine in everything she does. Perhaps her spouse is actually the cold, bull-headed one, unable to notice Beth's emotional needs even when she crawls all over him in bed. Certainly, he's the immature, philandering one.

Maybe Beth's stress and alienation is just the 1990s human condition? Are breakups inevitable these days? "I've been with someone 23 years," Armstrong said, among the lucky ones. ❑



IMPROPER BOSTONIAN FLICK PICK

It's spring and a young person's fancy turns to...wabbits...cwazy wabbits. On Sunday, May 2, the Harvard Film Archive is hosting an all-day tribute to Chuck Jones. The Bugs Bunny creator and master Warner Bros. animation artist will be on hand at 8 p.m. to tell behind-the-scenes tales about the creation of Bugs Bunny, Road Runner, Daffy Duck, Wile E. Coyote, Porky Pig and Elmer Fudd. ***Bugs, Daffy & Friends****, a matinee of classic cartoons for kids, young and old, screens earlier in the day at 2 p.m., followed by George Daugherty's documentary* ***The Magical World of Chuck Jones*** *at 6 p.m.. Tickets are $10 for all three shows. Call 495-4700 for more information.*

THE ODD COUPLES

In the Soup and *Benny & Joon*

BY KAJ WILSON

IN THE SOUP

Directed by Alexandre Rockwell. Written by Alexandre Rockwell and Tim Kissel. At the Coolidge Corner Theatre, opening April 30.

In the Soup, which took the 1992 Sundance Film Festival's Grand Jury Prize for Best Dramatic Feature, pairs young, naive and flat-broke filmmaker, Aldolpho Rollo (Steve Buscemi) with shady, big-hearted, exuberant Joe (Seymour Cassel). Aldolpho is an artist: "My father died the day I was born. I was raised by Fyodor Dostoyevsky and Friedrich Nietzsche. I am a filmmaker."

Joe is his unlikely patron ("I've decided I want art to be an important part of my life"), and he'd be ideal were it not for his outrageous and illegal fundraising techniques, which include stealing a Porsche from a cop's driveway. What's more, he expects Aldolpho to go along for the ride. Aldolpho does and encounters an assortment of loonies along the way. More important, he grows to love Joe, and realizes that his patron's life is a work of art and that life and art are a balanced equation, each giving the other meaning.

Director Alexandre Rockwell took Joe's good advice to Aldolpho and made a love story, a multi-layered one about movie making that combines Joe's heart with Aldolpho's artistic sense – or nonsense – ibility. In *In the Soup*, Rockwell pays tribute to his own "fathers" who include John Cassavetes, Godard, Truffaut, and Jim Jarmusch (who cameos as an amusing turn as a producer of a game show played in the nude). Naturally, the movie is in black and white. Jennifer Beals, who is Mr. Rockwell's wife, is convincing as Angelica, Aldolpho's fiery and snarly Latina neighbor, who is unmoved by his adoration and plans to make her star.



Steve Buscemi(front) and Seymour Cassel star in "In the Soup."

BENNY & JOON

Directed by Jeremiah Chechik. Screenplay by Barry Berman based on a story by Barry Berman and Leslie McNeil. At the Circle, Cheri.

Down-to-earth Benny (Aidan Quinn) describes his younger sister Joon (Mary Stuart Masterson) best: "She paints, she reads, she sets things on fire." Joon, you see, is mentally ill, and Benny has cared for her since their parents died twelve years earlier. They're a couple and their life together has a quirky rhythm, even if Joon drives away the help.

Enter new housekeeper Sam (Johnny Depp), the learning-disabled cousin of a poker buddy. Sam has dark flowing hair and a sweet, elegant face; his unusual garb evokes his idol Buster Keaton. Joon is intrigued from the moment she observes, "You're out of your tree," and Sam replies, "It's not my tree." These two misfits and budding artists – Sam has a gift for physical comedy – are made for each other.

But change, even for the better, means new stresses and strains. Joon breaks down and has to be hospitalized. Her breakdown is scary and convincing; for the first time, you believe she really does need medication and care, and you realize what the movie could have been: a gritty portrayal of mental illness.

Instead, director Jeremiah Chechik romanticizes Joon and Sam. When Joon is painting or when she's with Sam after they've fallen in love, her ordinary working-class home turns into a magical retreat: rooms give off an aqua-blue glow and the stream behind the house shimmers like the ocean in the moonlight.

Still, *Benny & Joon* is consistently entertaining, although the conclusion does feel rushed and overly optimistic. Aidan Quinn, quietly compelling as a mechanic with grease under his nails, keeps the movie from flying off to never-never land. ❑

FLICKS IN A FLASH

LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE

In Mexico, the expression "like water for chocolate" means to be agitated or sexually aroused. True to it's title, director Alfonso Arau's *Like Water For Chocolate*, tells a tale of love, lust, food, and foment in the tradition of Latin American magic realism, but with a feminist spin. Tita (Lumi Cavazos) is a wonderful cook. Forbidden by family tradition to marry the love of her life (who marries her oldest sister instead, just to be near Tita), she expresses her sorrow, anger and passion through food. The wedding cake Tita is forced to prepare for her sister's wedding makes all the guests cry and throw up. The movie is a delightful, lively romance complete with a wicked-witch of a mother, handsome revolutionaries and leather, lace, and candles.

MAD DOG AND GLORY

Wayne Dobie (Robert De Niro), a shy evidence technician for the Chicago police, saves the life of loan shark Frank Milo (Bill Murray) who thanks Dobie with a temporary gift of the beautiful Glory (Uma Thurman). The romance that blossoms between the two of them is one of the few predictable developments in Richard Price's otherwise clever script, which fortunately focuses more on the relationship between the men. De Niro is convincing as an ordinary guy who longs to be an artist. Murray stands out as the charming, sinister, and unhappy Milo, who longs to be a stand-up comedian. mediocre material.

KEY

A Winner

A Toss Up

For the Birds

CRITIC'S CHOICE

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	◎	★	◎	◎	▽	–	–	–	–
Born Yesterday	▽	★	◎	▽	▽	▽	–	▽	–
Point of No Return	◎	◎	◎	◎	▽	▽	◎	▽	◎
The Crying Game	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Groundhog Day	★	★	◎	★	★	★	–	★	★
Hear No Evil	▽	▽	▽	–	◎	–	–	◎	–
Fire in the Sky	▽	▽	◎	▽	▽	▽	–	–	–
Falling Down	★	★	▽	★	▽	◎	▽	◎	◎
CB4	◎	◎	★	◎	◎	◎	◎	◎	–
A Far Off Place	◎	★	▽	▽	★	–	–	▽	◎

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-Kaj Wilson

-also-

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CLASSIC STYLE WITH AN ECCENTRIC TWIST

An Interview with Tommy Tune

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

What's 6'6," swims in the air, and just landed in Boston's Colonial Theater? Only one of the most celebrated choreographers /directors / dancers on Broadway today. Showman Tommy Tune glided into town on April 27, ready to open "Tommy Tune Tonite!" an hour-and-a-half revue featuring singing dancers Robert Fowler and Frantz Hall, a 26-piece orchestra, a repertoire of George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin standards and, of course, the elegant and innovative dancing of Tune.

We caught up with Tune in Hawaii several weeks back, where he was recuperating from a working trip to Japan. He was staying in a grass shack, nestled in lava rocks at the base of Diamond Head in Honolulu, which he rented from a hula professor. Wearing nothing more than a splendid tan and a flowery lei (or so he says), Tune began the interview with his impression of the new act.

"This is a form of show that you just cannot see anymore," he says, "Nobody else is doing this...it's unique."

The show marks Tune's return as a stage performer for the first time in almost 10 years. For most of the past decade, Tune has been doing the majority of his work behind the scenes, as director and choreographer. Being back on the front line "feels great," Tune says. "Just the audience being there...the audience and the stage embrace each other."

"Tommy Tune Tonite!" is the culmination of 10 years of song and dance routines that started evolving when Tune was asked to perform at an AIDS benefit years ago. Tune started with the song-and-dance number "The Continental," and his repertoire grew from there. "I chose songs that were written before I was born," Tune says. "The great American classical popular songs from the Golden Age...it's those songs that I love."

Tune is taking those old American standards and reinventing them for our times. "I think you have to acknowledge the classics," Tune says with relaxed candor, "and then add your own peculiar twist to them. I think the whole idea is to give back, to take [from the classics], but then to give back."

Which is exactly what Tune and his big band of performers are doing. They are spinning, hoofing, and twisting old standards like "Puttin' on the Ritz," "S'Wonderful," and "You're the Top," and propelling them into state-of-the-art theater. Tune stresses that this show is theater. "It's not just a song and a dance, and a song and a dance...it's sort of all laced together."

Tune says that he does most of his creative work right before he falls asleep at night and right before he fully wakes up in the morning. "It's between the states," he says in his calm cadence, with just a hint of a Texas drawl, "that I find ideas or solutions to questions like 'How am I going to do that?" Other than his cosmic creative dreaming, Tune says he rarely finds himself anxious or stressed out. "I don't like to work that way, it's too much pressure," he explains.

Andy Warhol once said that Tommy Tune "exudes a cultivated serenity and a genuine love of life." This description suits Tune perfectly. You would think this nine-time Tony Award-Winner would be smug and overbearing. Indeed, you may find yourself wondering if his boyish exuberance and genuine nature are a disguise. They are not.



Tommy Tune, still flying high.

Tune says he is "very pleased and proud" of his accomplishments and awards. "I'm very grateful for everything that I have; the success that I have acquired through hard work," he says, adding that he takes nothing for granted.

Tune concludes the interview by describing his personal performance-night ritual. He starts off by leading his cast and crew in their version of prayer. "The cast and I join hands," he says, "and we ask, 'May we please be the best that we can be.' And then, we have this thing where we bend our knees, and we jump very high...and then we shout 'Gam-Ba-Tei!' That's Japanese for 'Do Your Best!'" And upon landing, that's exactly what they will do...their best. ❑

"Tommy Tune Tonight!" is playing at the Colonial Theater (106 Boylston Street) through May 2. Call 426-6444 for ticket information and reservations. Tickets range from $20-$47.50.

STAGE NOTES

"Annie Get Your Gun," Irving Berlin's 1946 musical, plays at the Colonial Theatre in a two week engagement, May 4-16. Cathy Rigby, the gymnast turned actress who was last here in "Peter Pan," plays the sharp-shooting Annie Oakley. Brent Barrett also stars. The show's director, choreographer, and scenic designer all worked on "The Secret Garden." Catherine Zuber from the American Repertory Theatre designed the costumes.

The American Repertory Theatre is bringing back its acclaimed production of Harold Pinter's **"The Caretaker"** for a limited run, beginning May 21, at the Hasty Pudding Theater. This will be preceded by, and then play in repertory with, David Rabe's new play, **"Those the River Keeps,"** which begins performances May 6.

The ART has also announced that Elaine Stritch, who has had numerous roles on Broadway and in London, will lead the cast of the world premiere of **"Cakewalk"** – Peter Feibleman's semi-autobiographical account of his turbulent 40-year relationship with playwright Lillian Hellman. This will be the last production of the main stage season. For information about all events, call 547-8300.

"Go On, Punch Me In The Stomach," a bittersweet comedy by Deb Filler, a native New Zealander, returns to the local area May 1-2, at the Leventhal Sidman Jewish Community Center in Newton. The actress portrays more than 30 characters from her far-flung extended family; but under the hilarity and affectionate parodying in this solo outing, there is the shadow of being a Holocaust survivor's child. Ms. Filler's piece received good notices last year, and an extra performance has been added for Sunday night. For information call 965-5226.

Radio personality Jess Cain, the former morning man on WHDH, will appear in Arthur Miller's **"The Price"** at the Lyric Stage, for five weeks, through May 23. The play examines the relationship of two long estranged brothers who meet after many years to dispose of their late father's belongings which have been stored in an attic. For information, call 437-7172.

The Publick Theatre has announced its 1993 summer season which will begin June 2. The three-play season will include Gilbert & Sullivan's **"The Pirates of Penzance,"** June 2-27; William Shakespeare's **"A Midsummer Night's Dream,"** July 7-August 1; and the Burt Shevelove/Larry Gelbart/Stephen Sondheim musical, **"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,"** August 11-September 5. Performances are Wednesday through Sunday, weather permitting, at the outdoor theater in Christian A. Herter Park on Soldiers Field Road in Brighton, directly across from WBZ-TV.

"Spike Heels," a comedy by former Boston playwright Theresa Rebeck, is being presented by the New Theatre (formerly the New Ehrlich), April 22-May 15, at the 1st and 2nd Church Theatre, 66 Marlborough Street, in the Back Bay. The work, which reverses traditional stereotypes and addresses matters of seduction and sexual harassment in the modern workplace, received rave reviews in an off-Broadway production, which just closed after a long run. For tickets and information, call 247-7388.

SILENCE, CUNNING EXILE

Woman in Search of Herself

BY NANCY LEONARD

"Silence, Cunning, Exile," which is the opening production at the American Repertory Theatre's New Stages Series, is billed as an exploration of the creative impulse, focusing on how one artist's search for expression degenerates into obsession. But on the stage of the Hasty Pudding Theatre, Stuart Greenman's cinematically scripted work seems to be as much about the origins of feminism as about art.

The work was inspired by the life of Diane Arbus, a fashion photographer who turned to capturing the dark underside of society in the prosperous, consumer-oriented 1950s. Abandoning her well-to-do family life for the camera's lure, she was quickly caught up in the world she photographed, with sordid self-destruction a ready exchange for her highly-praised art.

Sordidness aside, the journey from domesticity to self-expression was a common cause at the time – first dimly perceived, then given voice by Betty Friedan's pivotal work, *The Feminist Mystique*. Those activist sentiments are commonplace now, but the first half of Greenman's play, beginning in 1950, summons these images from the formative years.

Suzie, his central character, is a creative woman, living a resolutely normal life with a devoted husband and child, frolicking with close friends at the Vineyard. In New York, she and her husband are "the people to meet" in the fashion business. Shadows, though, dot the landscape, serious contemplation undercutting the gloss. Suzie remarks she's "not depressed, just moribund."

The spark of excitement, flickering in some off-beat fashion sessions, is fanned by an adulterous encounter into a full-scale flame. Suzie's inwardly raging appetite leads her to the city's freak shows, trash-filled streets, and subways – her camera begging for entrance to a world of one-night stands, where exhilaration dances tightly with empty rejection. The playwright may have intended to write about art, not feminism, but it is striking that in her degeneration, Suzie is unwilling to break with her family, and in the depths of despair, summons Vineyard memories and begs for connections long severed by her obsession. No good, though, can come of this life; only oblivion and reputation.

The play is constructed as a series of short scenes, each wrapped around a single thematic point. There are probably more scenes than necessary, but director Ron Daniels keeps them all taut and forward moving. Still, the quick cuts and somewhat stylized tone make this a less than compelling exploration. The interruptions and distancing outweigh any mood, and little seems provocative.

The tawdry elements are partly dramatized (a lesbian relationship with a model, a self-loathing transvestite, a rotund whore eating birthday cake and cackling about her celebrity) and partly narrated (a sexual encounter with a midget, a 4 a.m. foray into the subways) but they generally have the same spareness as everything else. It is only when the author allows himself a bit of extended voice – largely a narrative one – that the depictions take on a certain life.

We can see Suzie's quiet compulsion, her passion to be seduced by her subjects, her endless weary trek to the next "appointment," but her journey to annihilation does not inherently suggest artistic genius or contain any explanation for its course. Greenman's work – whose title comes from James Joyce's rallying cry for artists - is long on portrayal, short on insight.

The evening is endowed with some wonderful performances by ART heavyweights. Stephanie Roth (first with flowing tresses, then with close-cropped hair) makes Suzie a chilly figure from the outset, with forced protestations of happiness early on, and genuine excitement only in a few photographic moments at the withered close. Royal Miller, an immensely appealing actor, is supreme as her devoted husband, Donald, who continues his support long after they split.

Jonathan Fried brings nice boyish appeal to Frank, the love-struck friend who rouses Suzie from her moribund domesticity, and carries the torch through their respective troubles. There's a stunning contribution by Candy Buckley as Frank's wife, Beryl, who despite early affliction turns out to be a hardy, if bruised, survivor. Her final scene with Roth, resonating with hurt and desire, is the strongest in the work. Alvin Epstein plays the mentoring Isaac Miller with a precise combination of control, envy, and admiration – "a well-meaning SOB." Leslie Beatty could be a bit stronger as Kiki, the model with a dark agenda. Remo Airaldi's prostitute and John Payne's transvestite are sharply drawn.

Christine Jones' spare set relies on a blank wall and doorway for most of its impact. John Abrosone's widely varied lighting adds a strong dramatic element while Karen Eister's costumes, particularly Suzie's darkening attire, are skillfully evocative.

Though intended as a study of artistic obsession, this rudimentarily crafted play summons images of feminist yearnings – maybe that's why "Desperately Seeking Susan" seems such an apt subtitle. ❑



Photo by Janet Van Ham

Tommy Tune, August Wilson, Jason Robards, Elliot Norton and David Wheeler receiving accolades at the 1992 Elliot Norton Awards Ceremony.

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THE CALENDAR

DANCE

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for "Cinderella," that timeless fairy tale of enchantment and romance. Performances runs through-May 2. Call 931-2000 for times and ticket information.

Dance/Movement Therapy Day
Downtown Boston
As part of National Dance Week, you can go to the State House on Apr. 28 from 10a.m.-3p.m. and pick up videotapes, books, photographs and other materials having to do with dance/movement therapy. Then, on May 1, from 12-5:30p.m., come see the Spring Dance Festival (raindate: May 2). It's a concert of dance performances featuring local choreographers, including Peter DiMuro.

Robsham Dance Company
at Boston College, Chestnut Hill
Robsham presents an evening of ballet, jazz, mime and modern dance on May 7 & 8 at 8p.m.; tickets are $10 or $5 for students and seniors. Call 552-4800.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Frame Gallery
300 (rear) Harvard St., Brookline
Murton Sudalter presents "A Photographic Journey" through May 22.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Multiple-paneled color photographs taken by Robert Richfield in Provence and the Cote d'Azur will be on view through Apr. 30.

Gallery Per Tutti
558 Tremont St., Boston
To open its new location, this gallery hosts a group photography show through Apr. 30. This gallery also features an espresso bar where patrons will be able to combine the pleasures of art and coffee.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Close-Up/Still Life" through May 23. Drawn mainly from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features images by photographers such as Steiglitz, Abbott, Moholy, Steichen, Ray and Brandt. Parallel themes are brought up to date by contemporary photogs such as Coplans, Spano and Nixon.

New England School of Photography
537 Comm. Ave., Boston
NESOP presents "An Intimate Vastness," silver prints by J.D. Marston, through May 7. Marston's work portray nature in black & white in the tradition of Ansel Adams.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball" and a group show called "Striking Images." Both contain fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. The former runs through July 30; the latter through May 30.

CLASSICAL

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8p.m., the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May. Call 424-7000 for reservations.

Jordan Hall
Gainsborough St., Boston
The Cleveland Quartet performs a program of Haydn, Larsen and Dvorak on Apr. 30 at 8p.m. Call 536-2412.

Longy School of Music
at Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.



IMPROPER PICK

Sail Away: If lapping water, snapping sails and beautiful Boston vistas sound like your way to spend time, call in sick and head over to the Boston Sailing Center, 54 Lewis Wharf. They offer lessons and rentals to would-be sailors. Call 227-4194.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The Handel & Haydn Society's chorus and period orchestra performs Handel's Ode for St. Cecilia's Day, as reorchestrated by Mozart, on Apr. 30 at 8p.m. and May 1 at 3p.m. Other works on the program include those by C.P.E. Bach and J.S. Bach. Call 266-3605. The New Orleans' Preservation Hall Jazz Band performs May 1 at 8p.m. Call 266-1492.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11a.m.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave. Take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Commonwealth Brewing Co.
138 Portland St., Boston
The makers of Commonwealth Export and Burton Ale hold free tours on Saturdays at 3:30p.m. and Sundays at noon.

Garden in the Woods
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508)877-6574.

Gore Place
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is locate on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours, inside and out, run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798 for hours.

Mass. Brewing Company, Inc.
306 Northern Ave., Boston
On Fri. and Sat., the brewers of Harpoon beers offer free tours beginning at 1p.m. For more information call 455-1935.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Samuel Adams Brewery
30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain
On Thursdays at 2p.m. and Saturdays at noon and 2p.m., the brewery hosts tours and tastings. Only a $1 contribution is requested.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
To complement the current exhibit on cross-dressing, Fishnet presents two film programs on Apr. 30—*The House of Love: New Family Values* at 7p.m. and *Split: Performances of Gender* at 9p.m. Tickets are $7 for each program, $12 for both. Call 266-5152.

Museum of Fine Arts
365 Huntington Ave., Boston
Apr. 29 features two films in the "Re-emergence of Jewish Life in Eastern Europe" series: Sunset at 6p.m. and The Mission of Raoul Wallenberg at 8p.m.. The "Latin American Cinema" series continues Apr. 30 with several short subjects at 5:30p.m. and Maria Antonia at 7:15p.m. All films have English subtitles; tickets are $6. Call 267-9300 for details.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Also showing is *New England Time Capsule*, which gives a breathtaking glimpse at the beauty of New England. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9pm. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Danforth Museum of Art
123 Union Ave., Framingham
The Danforth shows work by American women artists of the 1920s-30s through June 20. Call (508)620-0050.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Although some of the outdoor exhibits will not be open until the weather warms up, there is still plenty to see indoors, such as the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508)853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture until May 30. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9p.m.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and fea-

(continued on following page)

ARTS

WOMAN ON THE STREET

"Who was your first crush?"

BY DAWN DEMPSIE



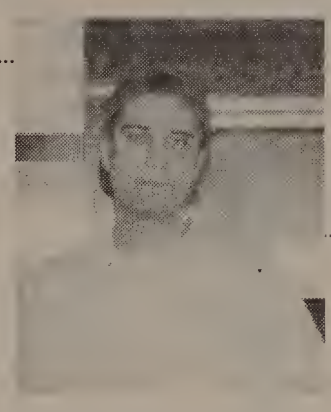
Janet, 23, Mansfield
"My gym teacher in high school. His name was John and he was to die for!"



Thompson, 26, Charlestown
"Margaret Plastrige in my kindergarten class. She was my first elementary school love."



Eileen, 29, Charlestown
"A boy named Tim. We used to cheat together on math tests. Our conspiracy was exciting, since we never got caught."



Shawn, 27, Dorchester
"My kindergarten teacher Mrs. Grasso. She wore those funky floral miniskirts and go-boots ."



Dave, 34, Needham
"My third grade teacher Miss Howell appeared in Playboy magazine. When I saw her picture, I immediately fell in love."



Andrea, 37, Brookline
"I haven't had one yet!"

tures a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information, call 929-4523.

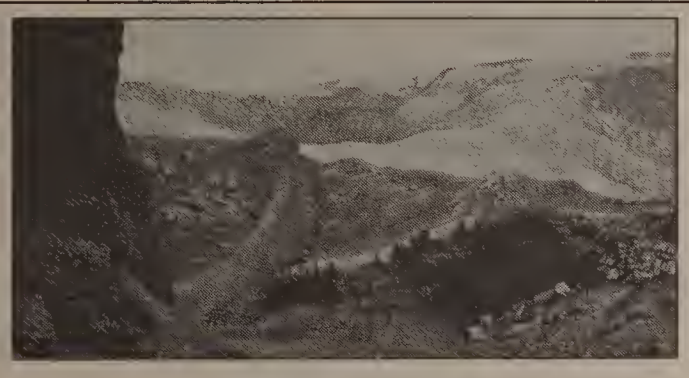
MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Approximately 127 of the museum's finest watercolors will be presented through Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 3 and part two until September. See the Harold Samuel Collection of 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings through May 9; artists featured include Hals, Brueghel, van der Neer and others.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
May 1 is Astronomy Day. Also opening May 1 is "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Discover "What's in the Attic?", the new exhibit through May 2. Probe the unusual and the odd: a Mastadon tooth, a seven-legged frog, Daniel Webster's oyster catchers, and many other treasures! Through May 16, take a whimsical look at some of the attitudes people hold toward wildlife, domesticated animals and the environment in the exhibit "The Good, the Bad and the Cuddly." Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.



IMPROPER PICK

Looks lunar: The Levinson Kane Gallery (14 Newbury Street) is presenting the works of Vaino Kola, including the Icæland Series (pictured). The show runs May 1-29, with an opening reception May 1, 4-7 p.m. Call 247-0545.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

PEABODY & ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square, Salem
The nation's oldest maritime museum is presenting "The Great Age of Sail: Treasures from the National Maritime Museum of Greenwich, England" until June 2. It features over 100 of the world's most famous and highly-prized treasures of maritime art. Call 508-745-1876.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
at the Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Cambridge
The ART presents the world premiere of Han Ong's **"The L.A. Plays,"** an illuminating look at the dark time of Hollywood streetlife. Performances run through May 2 in repertory with **"Silence, Cunning, Exile,"** through Apr. 29. Inspired by the life of photographer Diane Arbus, "Silence" charts 20 years in the life of a fashion photographer-turned-chronicler of America's shadowy subculture. Beginning May 8, see **"Those the River Keeps."** Call 547-8300.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. **"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline"** is now performing an open-ended run. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, **"Shear Madness"** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, ***Shear Madness*** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
Come see **"Tommy Tune Tonite"** through May 2. From May 4-May 16, see ex-gymnast Cathy Rigby perform in **"Annie Get Your Gun."** Call 931-2787 for times and tickets.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
Through May 23, the Lyric presents **"The Price"** by Arthur Miller. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket prices.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MERRIMACK REP. THEATRE
Lowell Memorial Aud.
E. Merrimack St., Lowell
The MRT presents Peter Shaffer's world-renowned play **"Amadeus,"** about the life of Mozart and the mediocre composer who claimed he murdered him. Runs Apr. 23-May 15. Call 508-454-6324 for times and tickets.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents **"Murder at Rick's Cafe"** and **"Let's Kill the Boss."** Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW THEATRE
at the 1st & 2nd Church Theatre
66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents **"Spike Heels,"** a comedy that reverses traditional stereotypes and hilariously exposes issues of seduction and sexual harassment in the workplace. Runs Apr. 22-May 15, Thurs-Sun at 8pm. Call 247-7388 for reservations and information.

(continued on following page)



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New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the world premiere of **"The Company of Angels,"** set in Poland in 1946. Based on a true story, a troupe of young Jewish actors joins together to bring hope to a desperate world. Runs through May 23. Call 332-1646 for more information.

Poets' Theatre
at Sanders Theatre
Harvard Square
On May 2, renowned author Philip Roth will present a dramatic reading of his award-winning book, *Patrimony*, a deeply-moving memoir of his father, at 7:30pm.

Robsham Theater
at Boston College, Chestnut Hill
Imagine being married to your mother-in-law! This is exactly what happens in **"AAll My Husbands"** (Le Marriage de Barillon). Performances are Apr. 29-May 1 at 8p.m. and May 2 at 2p.m. Call 552-4800 for ticket information.

Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St., Boston
Marlo Thomas stars in the provocative comedy **"Six Degrees of Separation,"** winner of two 1991 drama awards. May 4-May 16. Call 1-800-233-3123 for times and tickets.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
"Forever Plaid," a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theater Offensive
at the ICA
955 Boylston St., Boston
To complement the ICA's exhibit on crossdressing, TO presents "Fear and Clothing," which explores the cultural and social stereotypes that have both informed and oppressed the expression of identity across gender and social lines. On May 8 at 7 & 9:30p.m. Call 266-5152.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from **"Nunsense"** have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

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LECTURES/READINGS

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Cambridge
Join us for a look at Newport, R.I.—"Port and Resort"—on May 6 at 10:30a.m. Admission is $2. Also, the CCAE sponsores a panel of authors, scientists, educators and others who will be "Celebrating the Earth" on May 5 at 7:30p.m. at 5 Longfellow Park in Harvard Square. Tickets Are $4. Call 547-6789.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Come learn about Film Noir on Apr. 29 at 7:30p.m. Look at major motifs, femmes fatales and this genre's influence on the films of today. Call 267-9300 x300 to register.

National Writers Union
at the Kennedy School, Harvard
79 JFK St., Cambridge
"Writing for Love and Money: A Conference for New England Writers," sponsored by the NWU, takes place May 8 from 9am-5pm. There will be 12 panels featuring writers, editors and agents. To register, call 437-9013 or show up that same day.

Rational Recovery
various locations
For those who have problems with drugs, alcohol or overeating, RR offers an alternative to the "Alcoholics Anonymous" approach. Call 547-1497 to find out more.

GALLERIES

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston
In conjunction with the Society of Arts & Crafts gallery at 101 Arch St., Boston, Alianza presents the work of New England women jewelers through June 4.

Kane Gallery
115 Newbury St., Boston
Kane presents "A Celebration of Boston," recent watercolors of Beantown as seen by Thomas Rebek, through May 16.

Open Gallery
114 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge
"From Traditional to Modern: Six Russian Artists in New England," an exhibition of the work of five painters and one sculptor, will be on view through May 15.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston
French post-Impressionist Bernard Lamotte's estate will be on display throgh July 15. Featured are more than 100 oils, watercolors and works on paper that depict the cafes, parks and boulevards of the artist's homeland.

SPECIAL EVENTS

African-American Institute
at Northeastern Univ.
360 Huntington Ave., Boston
NU celebrates the silver anniversary of the AAI from Apr. 30- May 2, and will sponsor a "Nubian Legacy Ball," a concert by Harold Melvin and the Bluenotes and a talk by noted historian John Henrik Clarke. Call 437-3143 for ticket information.

American Lung Association
at the Golf Club
3 Lansdowne St., Boston
The ALA sponsors a benefit May 5 at 6p.m. at Boston's premiere indoor miniature golf place. Oldies 103 will be at the event, along with golf pros and other celebrities. Call 269-9720 for details.

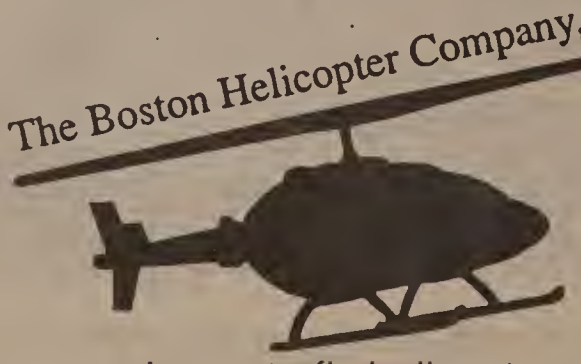
Cultural Survival
Memorial Hall, Harvard
Oxford Street, Cambridge
Cultural Survival's 13th bazaar features enticing food and indigenous arts and crafts from various countries including Russia, Guatemala, Nepal, Tibet, Morocco, etc. Takes place Apr. 30 from 10a.m.-7p.m. and May 1-2 until 6p.m.

Massage-a-thon
Case Athletic Center, BU
285 Babcock St., Boston
BU's sports medicine department holds its annual fundraising massage-a-thon on Apr. 29 from 2-6p.m. and Apr. 30 from 10a.m.-5p.m. Cost is $5 for 15 mins., $10 for 30 mins. Call 353-2746.

Dance and Concert, St. James Armenian Church, Cultural Hall
465 Mount Auburn St., Watertown
The Armenian Children's Milk Fund and the Armenian Health Alliance are hosting a party from 3-8 p.m. on Sunday, May 23. Featured will be the music of John Berberian, Camig Mikitenian and others. Tickets are $10 for students, $20 for others. Call 861-1287.

Tomorrow Nite
at Avalon, Lansdowne St., Boston
The Fabulous Thunderbirds and the Heavy Metal Horns headline the second annual fundraiser for St. Jude's Children's hospital, dedicated to finding a cure for childhood diseases. On May 7 at 7p.m.; tickets are $50. Hosted by Gov. William Weld and news anchor Margie Reedy. Call 1-800-341-5800.

Walk for Hunger
begins at Boston Common
Money raised from Project Bread's Walk for Hunger on May 2 will go to 424 food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and other emergency feeding programs throughout the state. Call 723-5000 or register the day of.

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CELEBERITY GUEST DINING REVIEW

Thai Times at Bangkok Bistro

BY ROBERTA DEHMAN HERSHON

The good news is, Bangkok Bistro is worth the trip. The bad news is, parking anywhere near this Cleveland Circle eatery can be a nightmare. However, once the car is safely tucked away (avoid those resident parking spots), you can prepare yourself for some of the most interesting and well-priced Thai food in Boston. For those wishing to avoid the parking anxiety, take the T to Cleveland Circle. The open kitchen and detailed menu add a bit of excitement to your whole dining experience.

This five-year-old establishment tries hard to please. Food arrives as soon as it's cooked. The waitstaff is helpful without being intrusive. Even when all 56 seats are taken, and there's a wait for a table, diners are never hurried.

Our party feasted on dishes ranging from mild to fiery. Contrary to popular belief, not all Thai food is spicy; some offerings are not hot at all. With the exception of one dish (Fisherman's Delight), we thought that the number of chili peppers displayed next to each item at Bangkok Bistro carried an accurate capsicum rating.

For starters, we found the beef and chicken Satay ($4.75 each) with a tasty side of peanut sauce nicely executed. Salad Khag ($2.95), which carries one chili pepper, was a crisp blend of greens, cucumbers and tomatoes offset with cubes of fried tofu and slices of hard boiled eggs, accompanied by a zippy peanut dressing.

For entrees, there were a number of winners. Bangkok Bistro's chefs are quite talented in the seafood department; however, as previously mentioned, their Fisherman's Delight ($11. 25) is a bit more palate-searing than the menu states. The healthy portion of shrimp, scallops, and cod, stir-fried with assorted vegetables and bathed in a hot chili sauce, needs a side of rice to cool the heat. Seashore sauté ($11.25) combines shrimp, scallops, and squid with flash-cooked onions and vegetables in a roasted chili sauce. Both these dishes carry a one chili pepper rating.

Their superb Pad Thai ($6.25) is a classic blend of soft noodles, tofu, and perfectly cooked shrimp, chicken, and eggs sprinkled with roasted peanuts. Bistro fried rice ($6.25) was another story. It arrived as a bland melange of under-seasoned, gluey rice laced with chicken, shrimp, pineapple, and onions.

One Night in Bangkok ($7.95 for either chicken or beef), billed as their hottest dish, lived up to its name. With burning lips and watery eyes, we all agreed it was hot, but not overpowering. Again, a side of white rice is needed.

We could not get enough of the peanut sauce, and so ordered the Rama Garden, a mildly spiced array of colorful vegetables coated with this robust mixture of peanut butter and coconut milk. The two-chili-pepper rated beef basil ($8.50) marries slices of beef with onions, bamboo shoots, green peppers, and fragrant basil leaves in a garlic chili sauce.

With influences from China and India, the coconut-based curries – red, green, Masaman, and yellow – are not to be missed. Diners can select vegetable ($6.95), chicken ($7.95), beef ($8.50), shrimp ($9.95) or duck ($9.50).

Desserts, other than fresh fruit, are rare in Asian countries. Fortunately, they have stayed clear of anything canned. A dish of soothing coconut or ginger ice cream ($2.35) is a creamy, but not very satisfying, finale (neither the coconut nor the ginger flavors are assertive enough). A tray of half a dozen American pastries ($3.35 each), ranging from chocolate cake to a lime tart, was brought to our table for inspection. We chose and ate all six. Each had its merits, but none were outstanding.

The restaurant offers a Saturday brunch (noon to 3:30 p.m.) with home-style cooking not found on the regular menu. Homesick Thai students and those in the know flock to Bangkok Bistro for these once a week specialties priced at $5 to $6. There's no steam table in sight. These dishes are cooked to order. Go early. They are usually sold out by 1:30 p.m. ❑

Our celebrity reviewer, Roberta Dehman Hershon, is a chef and president of Blue Plate Communications, a Boston public relations agency specializing in the food industry.

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DINING

APPETEASERS

BY PETER MCNAMARA AND RICHARD BRUNSON

STAY TUNED

Julia Child is in the kitchen again this fall with a new 16-part series called **"Cooking with Master Chefs."** From her home in Cambridge, the French chef will introduce a nationally-recognized master chef. The show will then feature the master chef teaching in his or her own home kitchen. Oriented towards the serious home cook, the program will spend more time on technique and ingredients. No time slot has yet been scheduled for the new show, but not to worry about gathering an audience. Whenever Julia appears, culinary aficionados are sure to beat a path to their televisions.

HEAVY ON THE SAUCE

Dierdre Davis has a new book that places the art of sauce-making within reach, even for the beginner. It is called ***A Fresh Look at Saucing Foods***. The book begins with an introduction to various types of sauces, accompanied by master recipes. The balance of the text matches sauces with specific foods to create wonderful dishes. Ms. Davis began her culinary career as a student of Madeleine Kamman and is currently vice president of the Women's Culinary Guild of New England.

FAX FREE

Wine critic **Jonathon Alsop** is offering free gift subscriptions to his bi-weekly newsletter **"In Vino Veritas,"** via fax machine. The newsletter is filled with information on area vineyards and wineries along with news about various wine tastings around town. Jonathon is director of the Boston chapter of *Les Amis du Vin* and can usually be found with his nose in a glass of wine. If you know a wine lover who would like to receive the newsletter, please fax their name and fax number to 266-3067.

MY PINOT AND ME

The restaurant **Icarus**, located at 3 Appleton Street in the South End, will present a festive evening dedicated to some of their favorite Pinot Noirs on May 11. Several American and French Pinots will be featured along with a five-course dinner, designed especially for these wines by chef **Chris Douglass**. Don Ackerman of Silenus Wines will be on hand to discuss the wines and answer any questions. Dinner will commence at 7 p.m. and is priced at $50 per person (excluding tax & gratuity). For reservations, call 426-1790.

CHOCOLATE, CHOCOLATE

Alexis, Belgian chocolatier, offers exceptional handmade chocolates, filled with nuts or subtly scented with a fine liquor. Owner Alex Biolley, a native Belgian, uses only imported Belgian chocolate and the freshest cream and butter to create the very best in chocolate. Prices range from $4.50 for four ounces, to $24.95 for one pound, and delivery is available (one pound minimum). These wonderful chocolates will also soon be available at retail outlets in Boston. Alexis/Belgian chocolatier, 484-1057.

JUICY DETAILS

One of Boston's leading hotel chefs is about to sign a deal on 115 Huntington Avenue. The opening of this restaurant could be the most important addition to the Boston culinary scene since the arrival of **Biba**. Look for a change at the **Black Rose** in Harvard Square. Word has it that chef **Danny Weisel** of the **Armadillo Cafe** will be consulting for the Glynn Company on their newest venture. The restaurant will feature country barbecue with ribs and picnic tables – Yee Hah! Congratulations to chef **Pierre Jenatton**, coming on board at **Veronique**. ❑



Spin Off: Christopher Spinazzola (head of the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation) presents a $5,000 check to Dean Thomas Wright of the College of Culinary Arts at Johnson & Wales University, for winning the 8th Annual Spinazzola Gala food competition.

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos., 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
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Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SERENDIPITY 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ
338 Newbury St., Bos., 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

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Through The Wine Glass

Tastings in the Dark

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

The first time I heard the phrase "blind wine-tasting," I imagine I pictured a bunch of overdressed geeks in a candle-lit room playing some variation of Pin the Tail on the Donkey while they fumbled around a goblet of Chateau Margaux. If it were only that easy! Tasting and trying to accurately describe wine without knowing its identity is often a humbling, confidence-shattering exercise even for the most experienced professional. To master the relevant skills requires patience, concentration and, above all, disciplined practice. Not exactly your average party fare.

The world of wine is full of fluff, pretense and mystique. Self-styled experts abound. Few among the many "authorities" presuming to guide popular tastes have ever learned to critically judge wine quality without knowing beforehand the reputation of the producer, the appellation, or the vintage. How much trust should we give writers and merchants who let themselves form opinions over elaborate winemaker-hosted dinners or during the course of expenses-paid junkets to the winery?

Knowing how to taste with accuracy has never been a job requirement for selling or writing about wine in this country. But an ability to make assessments "blind" is, in my opinion, the foundation of all useful wine knowledge. On what other basis should consumers accept judgments of quality? Most people, after all, really want concrete information. How does it taste? What are its qualities? How does it compare to others? Is it a value?

The moment of truth comes when we experience an anonymous wine in the glass without any clue as to what it is other than those provided by eyes, nose and palate. Tasting outside the familiar reference points, all the ultimately trivial and irrelevant gossip that passes as insider knowledge, will provide unprejudiced answers to most of the questions consumers have. Rather than allowing one to form conclusions beforehand, it forces a measure of concentration on the wine's actual characteristics.

The fact is that wines each have distinct origins and identities; they can speak to us in an eloquent voice if we still our thoughts enough to be able to hear. At first, the sounds might be as foreign and fleeting as vague whispers. However, focus and training may enable us to follow each twist of the story. A glass of wine can say how it was made and where; how long ago and with which grape varieties. The tale can be passionate and dramatic, or even quite moving in its beauty. Mostly, however, the facts speak simply and without fanfare.

The key is to let the story emerge from the glass, to face each new wine as a complete unknown. Clear but surprising preferences may result. Without thinking that we must revere a wine because it is rare or highly sought-after, we may find ourselves better satisfied by a humbler bottle. We may even begin to accept that there is no right or wrong, but that the less exalted wine simply appeals to us more.

The way we describe wine is inescapably personal. People each have a unique set of sensory equipment, with different palate thresholds for perceiving sugar, acidity, tannin and other wine components.

Because what I taste differs from what you taste, the words describing these sensations always fall somewhat short of precise communication. A professional taster needs to develop his own language to assess and remember his experience of wine components. What matters is not the terms some outside authority uses to describe Sauvignon Blanc, for instance, but how its essential aromas register to you, inside. Reading somebody's wine-tasting notes and trying to find these exact characteristics again yourself is most often an exercise in futility.

Wine is laden with mystery and magic and beauty. Technical tasting notes should rarely, in my opinion, be published because they communicate none of these dimensions, and only in the most general way do they give one a sense of how wines taste. Sometimes it appears that their real function is to show off all the exotic aromas and flavors one's imagination is capable of conjuring. In general, readers find them intimidating. For this reason, and because few things about wine have ever proved less pleasurable to me than pouring over other people's tasting notes, they will appear at a minimum in this column.

Although often spoon-fed misleading and superficial information, subjected to quasi-promotional hype masquerading as objective journalism, and assaulted by aggressive tasting notes, wine consumers are a resilient lot, hungry for genuine knowledge. They sense that the pure love of wine they experience at the dinner table, the life-enhancing enjoyment they derive, has nothing to do with these games. Honest journalists who share that love will respect it enough to report only on their authentic encounters with wines tasted in the dark, as it were, through the wine glass. ❑

Along with being a Master of Wine, Sandy Block has functioned as sommelier and wine director for the Mill Falls Restaurant, as the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood, as sommelier and wine purchaser for Le Bocage in Watertown, and as the former wine columnist for the Boston Tab.

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ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, clean cut and authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only one item priced over five dollars, their menu offers the best deals in this category. Choose between rotisseried chicken and kabobs. You'll be an addict of their lamb kebobs after trying them only once. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad and pita and hommos. Ararat also offers take-out service. Hours are 11a.m.-9p.m., Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St., Bos., 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
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BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard, 242-1911
MC,V $$
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142 Berkeley Street, Boston, 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

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939 Boylston St., Bos. 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
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M, V, A, $$
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138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$
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CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located on the waterfront. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted 1B's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos., 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00a.m.-3p.m.

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., 566-8590
Brighton $
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

FOSTER'S BAR & GRILL
5 Blossom Street, Boston, 742-7630
A,MC,V,DC,D
$$
Bountiful portions and innovative fare are the hallmarks of this new "Bistro with a Boston Accent." Located at the newly renovated Holiday Inn, Foster's specializes in seafood, pasta and grilled items. Favorite entrees are the linguine with wild mushrooms and sun-dried tomatoes, the pan-seared lamb chops, and the salmon filet with lemon-herbed oil. Snacks and spirits served in the adjacent bar. Open daily for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entree prices run $6 to $15. Reservations accepted.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V $$
Chef John Vyhnaneck personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
MC, V $$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
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INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
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JAMAICA JAMAICA
162 Prospect St., Cambridge, 864-9368 MC, V $
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, sample Caribbean inspired dishes at this friendly Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, it's hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza (about 25 beers to choose from). Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accesible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444
A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

MAMMA MARIA
3 North Sq. North End, Boston
D, V, MC, A $$ Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
523-0077
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL & OAR BAR
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 227-1272
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V,MC $$
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MOON VILLA
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos., 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
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DINING

munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $
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The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2a.m., 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant & Bar
20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722
(542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D
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Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

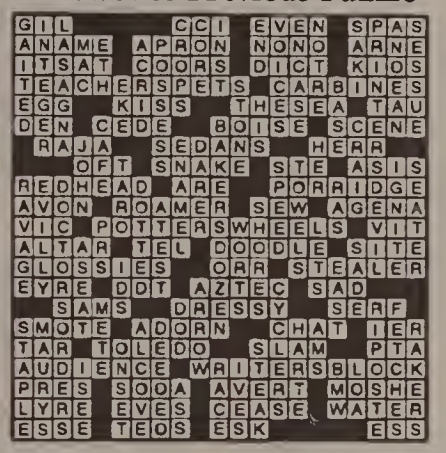
The Sabra Restaurant & The Sabra Grill
45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

Sorento's
86 Peterborough St., Bos., 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location, So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Warren Tavern,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history approximately 212 years. The Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country. The WarrenTavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Lunch 11:30-3:30. Dinner 5-10:30. 5-9 on Sun.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



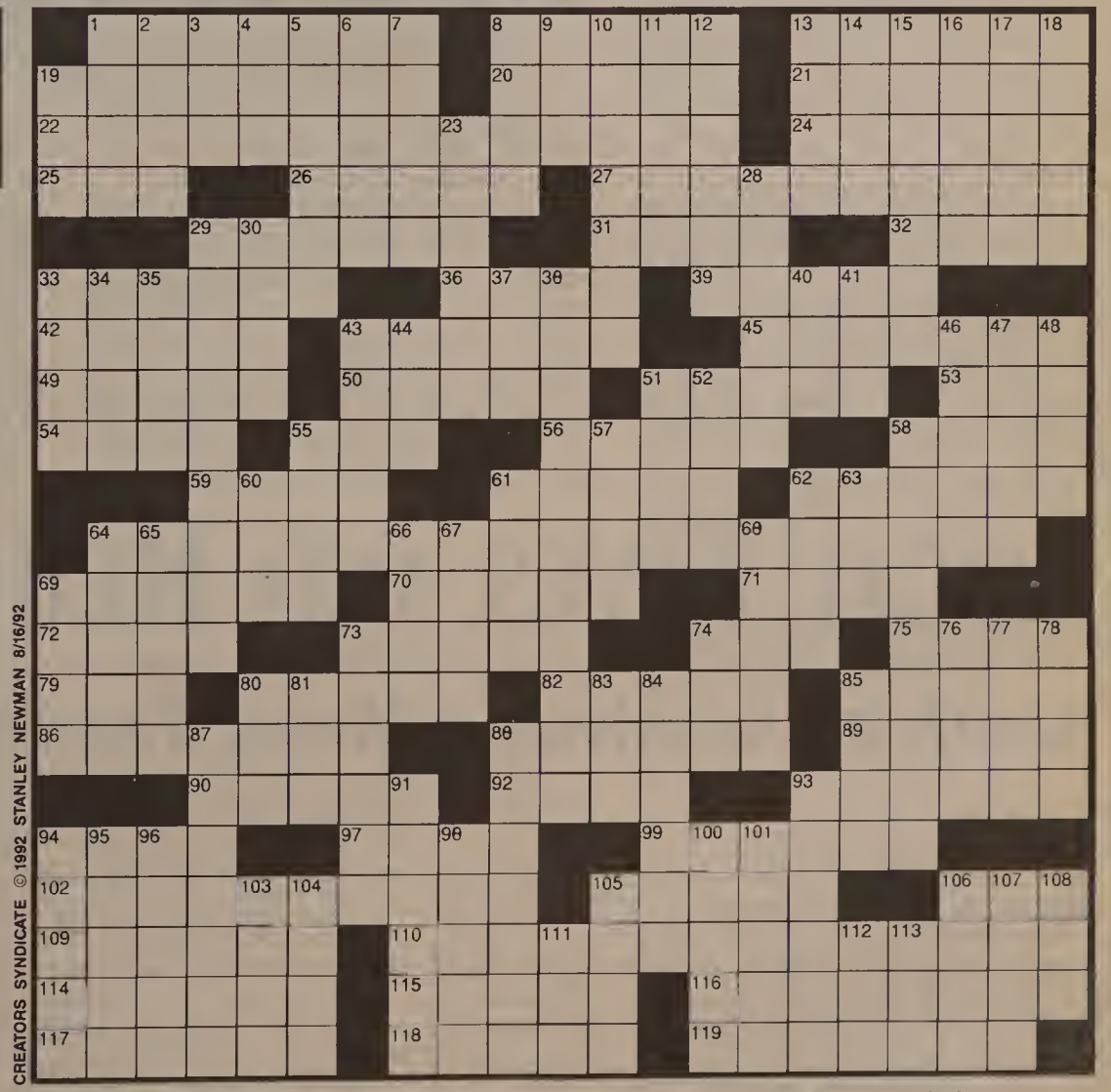
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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

WHETHER REPORT: Meteorological wordplay

by Bob Lubbers



ACROSS

1 Mobile home
8 Iron fishhooks
13 Entangling situation
19 Obstetrician's adjective
20 Central Florida city
21 Brunch selection
22 Gossip columnist's detail?
24 Antenna housing
25 Hamelin menace
26 Unbelievable buy
27 Bartles and Jaymes inheritor?
29 Biological anomaly
31 Cartoonist Peter
32 Lobbying grp.
33 Geneticist's concerns
36 Religious faction
39 Big name in fashion
42 Apollo 11 module
43 Rock star Richards et al.
45 Hotel employee
49 Oodles
50 Asian capital
51 '68 Winter Olympics hero
53 Actor Vigoda
54 Slivovitz maker
55 Bern's river
56 Like some shortening
58 Golden __ (senior citizen)
59 Social status
61 Lofty lodging
62 Like some closet doors
64 Pets who've taken over the world?
69 Reach
70 At the crack of dawn
71 "To __ and a bone . . ."
72 A long time
73 Chairman's prop
74 Robbins of *The Player*
75 Fed. agent
79 *The Golden Girls* name
80 Author on a $5 stamp
82 Goethe villain
85 Wait patiently
86 Public image
88 Pick on
89 Filmdom's Caruso
90 Storage area
92 Seeing things
93 "Wanna buy a duck?" comedian
94 Miniature mount
97 Not a one
99 Attacked
102 Japanese spy forecast?
105 Not as well-done
106 Popeye-Sailor link
109 Update the machinery
110 Weak climate?
114 Country singer West
115 Out in the cold
116 Slow leaks
117 Burger topping
118 Junction points
119 Went off course

DOWN

1 *"La donna è mobile"* is one
2 Penitential time
3 Mandela's org.
4 Cry of disgust
5 Alamogordo events
6 Independent nation since '64
7 Burns' partner
8 Lacrosse area
9 Speed up: Abbr.
10 Pooh-bahs
11 Right to speak
12 Samoan wrap
13 *Utopia* author
14 General Bradley
15 Ball feature
16 *A Lesson from* __
17 Tournament rounds
18 Hardhearted
19 TVA product
23 "The __ the fire!"
28 At the top of one's lungs
29 Not-so-sharp cheeses?
30 Arapahos' enemies
33 Hardy heroine
34 Rev the engine
35 Soup thickener
37 WWII arena
38 South American itinerary entry?
40 Sanders' title: Abbr.
41 Too cutesy
43 Color meaning "dusty" in Persian
44 Pitcher part
46 Gog and __
47 Genesis son's namesakes
48 Socially inept one
51 Barbra's *A Star Is Born* costar
52 Conception
55 Part of A.D.
57 Showy and pretentious
58 Where Passepartout cashed his checks?
60 Literary rep.
61 Farm parcel
62 Real-estate ad abbr.
63 Author Tarbell
64 Untrustworthy sort
65 Mideast ruler
66 Peachy keen
67 Bestowed
68 Hard stuff
69 Caspian Sea catch
73 Rye and rice
74 "My country" follower
76 Keillor's home st.
77 Axlike tool
78 Close by
80 Very, very popular
81 Tiny colonist
83 Homophone for air
84 Feudal tenant
85 Obi-Wan, in *Star Wars*
87 Turn down
88 Journalist Broun
91 Cole Porter musical
93 Ship's officer
94 TV announcer Don
95 Tie __ (get smashed)
96 Ness foe
98 Norman conqueror
100 Lock of hair
101 Clearing button
103 Sign up
104 Draught drinks
105 Road-map lines: Abbr.
106 Buster Brown's dog
107 Pay attention to
108 Feminine suffix
111 One, in Verdun
112 Workout center
113 Capital of Kentucky

No Trebel In Paradise

The Treble Chorus of New England

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

The Treble Chorus of New England is one of the real gems among the area's performing groups. Founded in 1975 by Marie Stultz, it is comprised of school-aged children who sing with an estimable degree of commitment and polish. At the time of the group's formation, Stultz's husband Richard was director of the North Reading Choral Society; he asked her to prepare a children's chorus for a performance of Vaughan Williams's "Hodie."

"I put a notice in the paper and 72 kids showed up. After the performance, about 36 of them wanted to continue singing together. And that's how the Treble Chorus got started," Stultz explains.

What started as a makeshift group has grown into an ensemble that has received international recognition. The Treble Chorus has performed professionally with Michael Tilson Thomas and the Pittsburgh Symphony, as well as the Boston Lyric Opera. This past summer, they participated in the Shrewsbury Festival in England, a country where the treble chorus is a tradition as entrenched as the monarchy. Beyond this, several alumni of the Treble Chorus of New England are currently pursuing musical studies at conservatories and universities.

If you'd like to see this group, and don't have the time to travel to Great Britain, fear not. Locally, the Treble Chorus of New England will present two fully staged performances of Henry Purcell's allegorical three-act opera *Dido and Aeneas* on Saturday, May 8, at 8 p.m. at the Trinitarian Church on Elm Street in North Andover and on Sunday, May 9, at 4 p.m. at the Methuen Memorial Music Hall.



The Treble Chorus of New England at the Methuen Memorial Hall.

Generally regarded as one of Purcell's greatest works and his only opera that is entirely sung, *Dido and Aeneas* was first performed by "the young gentlewomen" of Josias Priest's boarding school in 1689. Although rarely performed in such a manner today, *Dido and Aeneas* is an ideal vehicle for the artistry of these gifted and ambitious young singers. Marie Stultz's energies seem to know no bounds; in addition to directing *Dido and Aeneas*, she designed and made the baroque costumes that the cast will wear.

Stultz is a strong advocate of introducing opera to young people, both as performers and audience. "It offers more in terms of vocal development and is more challenging than musical comedy," she explains. As for *Dido and Aeneas*, Stultz maintains that the character of the lovelorn Dido is far more convincing when sung by a young girl rather than a middle-aged singer. "Even Mozart," she says, "would have chosen younger singers for an opera like *The Magic Flute.*"

Stultz believes that performing opera and choral music is an ideal way for kids to learn how to work as a team without being in competition. "They all root for one another in terms of solos," she says. "When we have solo roles, we hold auditions. I train the Treble Chorus specifically to sing independently. Some choral directors go after a homogenized sound...I work off of the individual strength of each voice. My job is to get them to sing as well as they can, not to produce a homogenized sound to make Marie Stultz look good," she finishes with emphasis.

Marie Stultz hopes to bring the Treble Chorus of New England to Boston more frequently and plans are already set for fall performance of Otto Nicolai's "The Merry Wives of Windsor" in John Hancock Hall. "The idea is to introduce kids to opera and to Shakespeare and to have kids do opera for kids," she says.

But to currently hear *Dido and Aeneas*, you will have to head either to North Andover or Metheun. Judging from the musical level of a concert the Treble Chorus gave this past winter at Boston's Church of the Advent, it should be well worth the trip.

Tickets for each performance are $8 and are available at the door. For further information about the Treble Chorus of New England, call (508) 664-4705. ❑

Local Faves and Regional Raves

South by Southwest Music Conference

BY SANDER WOLF

A seemingly short bit ago, while most of Boston was thigh-deep in snow, several local bands took the opportunity to escape to the sunnier plains of Austin, Texas, for the annual South By Southwest (SXSW) Music and Media Conference. The conference is a multi-faceted event that transforms the city of Austin into what Paul Kochanski of the Boston country band the Swinging Steaks calls a "Disneyland for musicians."

For at least five days a year, 400 bands are selected from 3500 applicants to play in synchronized showcases that take place in every club across the city. The shows are attended by music industry representatives and all sorts of other music lovers. For $30, a person can purchase a wristband that allows unlimited club-hopping for the duration of SXSW, and since most of Austin's clubs line a single street, seeing six bands a night is not an uncommon thing.

At the Austin Convention Center, panels were held and live performances were featured, including a discussion on groupies, featuring Pamela Des Barres (author of the ultimate groupie Bible, *I'm With The Band*), the traditional A&R panel featuring Tom Zutaut (responsible for getting Guns 'N' Roses a record deal), and a panel of artists that featured bizarre word-play between diverse characters.

Boston was lucky enough to be represented at SXSW by at least a dozen acts playing in showcases, including Melissa Ferrick, the Tribulations, Orangutang, the Swinging Steaks, Miles Deathmuffin, Modern Farmer and Naked Age. Alternative pop band Letters To Cleo moved up its spring tour to make the trip to Austin, but because of complications, weren't able to play. Even without a gig though, the band still got something out of SXSW.

Guitarist Greg McKenna notes, "Well, for one thing, it wasn't snowing down there. And because our show was messed up, people from Famous Music [our publishing company] and Budweiser [one of the band's sponsors] made up for it by wearing our band t-shirts and really pushing Letters To Cleo to lots of people who could really help us out." And it didn't end there. "We got free meals out of it too," he adds.

The hard rocking Naked Age, like the masochists they are, embarked on a 30-hour drive, with only minimal breaks, to make it to Austin in time for their show, and maintain that the journey was well worth it. "We discovered rural America on the way and we came up with a term for it – 'TurboAmericana.' As a band we've always lived in big cities, but on this trip we got a chance to meet real American people," explains lead singer Dax Callner.

So why doesn't Boston host an event like SXSW? Why shouldn't Boston be added to the list of cities that hold events like Austin, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco? As Kochanski concurs, "Boston already has the talent. It would take a little cooperation between clubs, bands, and the media, but eventually if we work on it we could create something just as cool as Austin's SXSW – the whole idea is really inspiring." ❑

ALBUM REVIEWS

KEY

★ SAVE YOUR MONEY
★★ PASSABLE
★★★ WORTH A LISTEN
★★★★ BUY IT NOW
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WARREN ZEVON
LEARNING TO FLINCH
GIANT RECORDS
★★★

Uncanny songs and dry humor have always been a part of the semi-underground legend that Warren Zevon has become, and on *Learning to Flinch*, the story is basically the same. The album, which was recorded live during a world-wide solo tour, features Zevon switching between piano, acoustic guitar, keyboards, and extra-slippery slide guitar. Only problem is that, although he accompanies himself well, the persona on *Learning to Flinch* is Warren Zevon the Songwriter, not Warren Zevon the Musician.

Subjected to the album's sparse, concentrated setting, some of the tunes fare far better than others. "Excitable Boy," (which is later reprised on acoustic guitar during "Poor Poor Pitiful Me") still retains its sense of humor and simple wickedness when performed live, while "Lawyers, Guns, and Money" loses its charm, as its words are monotonously chanted over repeating acoustic chords. "Werewolves of London," an obvi-



ous crowd favorite even in its lacking, unplugged format, ranks somewhere in-between the two.

What's worth remembering from *Learning to Flinch* are the ballads that steal the show. Zevon pours whatever amount of heart that he has left into "Splendid Isolation," "Searching for a Heart," and a few others, with satisfying results. Although there are plenty of other great moments on the album, nothing else quite matches up to this outpouring of emotion and energy.

SANDER WOLF

CHRIS ISAAK
SAN FRANCISCO DAYS
REPRISE RECORDS
★★★★

Chris Isaak might just be the perfect poster boy for apple-pie Americana: under an Elvisian helmet of slicked back hair, he's good-old-boy handsome and has more 'aw, shucks' per pound than any other performer around.



He's the type of guy your mother would have a crush on. But what truly makes Isaak bankable is that it's the daughters that really love him. Somehow, he manages to be marketable to more genres than would seem possible. Top 40 loves him for his dreamy balladry and hunky good looks, he's a C&W staple; he even gets played on alternative radio stations.

But whether that's a boon or a pitfall is questionable. He could wind up getting spread a little thin, and no alternative fan worth his/her nosering would be caught dead with a CD that's a big hit with the C&W crowd. If you're familiar with Isaak's previous works, then you generally know what this latest platter sounds like. He sticks to his formula of Roy Orbison-esque crooning with plenty of C&W and southern boogie thrown in.

The standout track (and first single) is "Can't Do a Thing (To Stop Me)," highlighting a poignant falsetto and a sorrowful disposition. He's definitely a soulful fella, but he's self-deprecating enough to delve into a bit of self-parody, and subtly hams it up with smatterings of cheesy Hammond organ. He may have the looks of a heartbreaker, but he's too sweet and goofy to ever hurt your feelings.

ROBERT E. HUGHES

L.A. STYLE
L.A. STYLE
ARISTA RECORDS
★★★

A good rave tune's gotta have at least one of two things: One, a beat more kickin' than Pelé, and/or two, a clever, catchy title (example: Obscure FM's "Michael Jackson is in Heaven Now"). The album's first two tracks fulfill the latter requirement ("James Brown is Dead" and "Balloony"), and most of the CD manages the former. While not as catchy or interesting as Utah Saints, they do turn out some thoroughly danceable numbers, like "James Brown is Dead" and "I'm Raving."

But L.A. Styles falls into the same trap that the Shamen often do: they stick rap sections into the middle of songs, and while it's understand that they're trying to make themselves more salable, it just gets in the way. It gets less interesting when the techno-noise abates to make room for someone talking. Face it, techno-heads don't want your words, they want your jams. If James Brown fans take exception to the signature track, then don't open the sleeve; there's a cartoon of a dog whizzing on the King of Soul's grave captioned "James Brown Is Wet!!"

Aside from providing a good laugh, it serves to demonstrate techno's overriding theme of rejecting nostalgia. Anything older than yesterday's paper gets tossed. Not a very accommodating stance, granted, but at least our generation's finally got something we can call our own. But watch out. If you don't like it, you get whizzed on.

ROBERT E. HUGHES

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
STRAUSS ALSO SPRACH ZARATHUSTRA; EIN HELDENLEBEN
FRITZ REINER, CONDUCTOR
RCA
★★★★

We are fortunate that Fritz Reiner's life extended into the stereo era, and that he recorded with an instrument as responsive as the Chicago Symphony. The Strauss tone poems coupled on this generously-filled release are works for which Reiner and Chicago had a strong affinity, and which they played with unquestionable authority. Recorded in 1954, these are among the earliest stereo recordings made by anyone. Though the sound may not be as crisply defined as today's digital recordings, it holds up quite well and RCA's CD transfers reveal a far fuller spectrum than was possible on vinyl. Issued on RCA's Living Stereo series, the low price of this Strauss program adds further appeal.

STEVEN D. BROWN

BROOKLYN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
PHILIP GLASS: "LOW" SYMPHONY
DENNIS RUSSELL DAVIES, CONDUCTOR
POINT MUSIC
★★★

As synthesizers became prominent in popular music during the 70s, composers and producers found a new vehicle which enabled them to create sounds approximating orchestral instruments. David Bowie and Brian Eno were among those who began exploring such possibilities. On "Low," their collaborative album, now available on Ryko, they went beyond the usual perimeter of rock, using the technology to create broad, almost static soundscapes. Philip Glass has taken three selections from "Low" and scored them for full orchestra, developing their themes through the shifting rhythmic motor for which he is noted. The barriers between classical and popular music continue to grow less distinct. Composers like Brian Eno and Philip Glass are among those who have been instrumental in that process for over 20 years.

STEVEN D. BROWN

ENUFF Z' NUFF
ANIMALS WITH HUMAN INTELLIGENCE
ARISTA RECORDS
★★

Whereas most glam-rock acts ape Aerosmith for image (everyone seems to dress like Guns -n- Roses circa "Appetite"), Enuff Z' Nuff seems to take their cues from the Beatles, right down to the little round glasses permanently perched halfway down the nose of band namesake Chip Znuff. But all the nasal harmonizing in the world can't disguise the fact that this is very standard fare. Granted,



its got the potential for mass appeal; their first album (this is their third) spawned a couple of minor MTV hits, and their latest sounds much the same. Indeed, "Master of Pain" or "Rock n World" would fit in very nicely at MTV. But that's not exactly high praise, is it?

Lyrically, they only escape rock & roll clichés once, on "Mary Anne Lost Her Baby," about a woman who gets an abortion but then regrets it when she's older and lonely. They get high marks for having the guts to tread on such thin ideological ice, but the sentiment seems misplaced among an entire album of glam-rock posing. Somehow, it doesn't seem like this particular bunch of male rock stars qualifies as authorities on the subject.

Enuff z' nuff? Agreed.

ROBERT HUGHES



THE CANDY SKINS
FUN
GEFFEN RECORDS
★★★

The Candy Skins second release is an enjoyable, catchy collection of a dozen alternative/pop tracks with above-average lyrics and some meaty guitar lines. The English band avoids the dance music so many of their peers have been submerged in lately, and instead focuses more on mildly distorted guitars and pop harmonies, a la Teenage Fanclub. The opening track and the first single, "Wembley," sounds like your standard college radio hit, but lead vocalist Nick Cope's voice has enough grit to make it interesting.

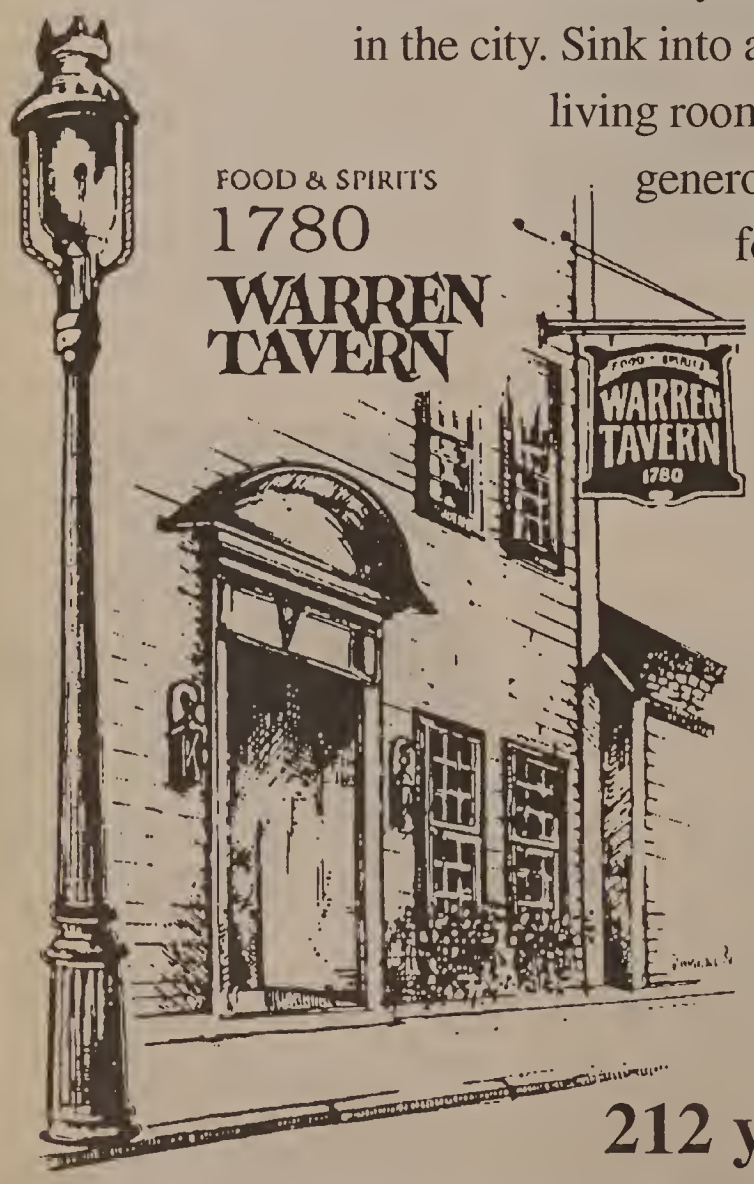
The album's high points come from its mid-tempo songs, such as "Everybody Loves You," a song about deranged fan worship, and "Grass," which is what Simon and Garfunkle would have done if they were from Oxford, England rather than New York City, and were obsessed with gardening.

DAVID FENIGSOHN

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About Last Night...

It's A Small Planet After All

BY LAUREN DARE AKA THE LAST CALL LADY

I remember going to Disney World when I was a kid, and going on the "It's a Small World After All" ride. At the time, I thought they meant it was a small world because all those frighteningly animated figures were so, well, short. But now, having become sophisticatedly aware of things like metaphors, I realize that the point the folks at Disney were trying to get across was that we are all part of one world community and that we're all much more closely related to each other than we might have thought.

This touchingly sappy sentiment was more like wishful thinking when I was a kid, but now, in the 90s, the world is coming much closer to realizing this "global village" vision, and everyone from AT&T to Nike is cashing in on it. You can now reach out and touch someone anywhere in the world, the rainforest is becoming the ultimate workout destination, Michael Jackson parades around at half-time shows with bewildered children abducted from their home countries in a garish display of international unity, and even Boston, stronghold of a determinedly homogeneous Yankee tradition, is becoming a polyglot melting pot.

Well, I ask, what better place to expand your horizons and jump into the global swing of things than at a bar? After all, inebriation is a world-wide phenomenon, and after a few drinks, the differences between people can become amazingly blurred. By far, the best place in Boston to espouse this new pan-global, "we are one people," philosophy is the new Small Planet Bar and Grill on Boylston Street, to be found in the space previously occupied by the Back Bay Bistro. Frank Bell, the owner of the old Back Bay Bistro, is successfully riding the crest of this new wave of eco-awareness, having created a combination of cool food and hip, multi-cultural atmosphere.

The decor of the new bar/restaurant is funky, semi-tropical and wildly international (though not in that traditional, we-are-too-cool-for-you Newbury Street international sense), replete with papier-mache wild animals and greenery. Walking in there makes you feel like you've suddenly stumbled into the middle of that Cool Mint Listerine commercial where the bottle swings through the jungle on a vine to an accompanying Tarzan soundtrack. After a few Absolut White Russians (new drink, they're supposed to be good for my ulcer - right!), I felt the urge to strip off my clothes, don animal skins (fake, of course!) and roll around with wild animals and the soon-to-be-extinct Yanomamo tribesmen.

THE SMALL PLANET
565 Boylston Street
Boston
536-4477

The basic idea behind this theme seems to be vaguely eco-aware, culturally plural and ultra-cool. As far as cultural plurality, etc. goes, you're as likely to find it at the Small Planet as anywhere in Boston. Both the staff and the clientele are trendily eclectic; you could have a pony-tailed, Birkenstock-wearing crunchy type on one side of you at the bar, and on the other, a be-blazored, "done it, seen it, had it" Euro type. The Small Planet serves one and all, with its funky world cuisine which features a little something for everyone.

This place is so politically correct, I think the only people who could possibly be offended by it must have spent the last 15 years in a detached-trailer park somewhere. The bar crowd is diverse and pretty heavy on almost every night of the week, and the Small Planet has a very popular lunch as well. Starting in May, you'll also be able to cool your heels and raise your global consciousness over a few cocktails on their outdoor sidewalk cafe. After spending enough time at the Small Planet, you'd have to be brain dead not to realize that it is just a small world after all. ❑



BARS & CLUBS

Bar & Club Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, in this section, call our advertising department at 232-3507.

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual, but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous.

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7pm weekdays.

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an "I love jazz attitude" on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose na.m.e is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code.

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**CACTUS CLUB** 236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos. Join us in the evening and experience our firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can try a Platinum margarita with Sauza Hornitos, triple sec, fresh lemonade and fresh lime juice. Full menu available at bar.

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky, but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies.depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m..

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province St., Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little., in fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30a.m.-12a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**MONDAY'S PIANO BAR** 277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline. . Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30p.m.. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S** 734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1a.m..

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only valid IDs accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

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W 28TH

Bunratty's Ball of Wax/ Furious George
Diamond Jim's Al Vega Showcase
Johnny D's Barry Crimmins
Kinvara Pub Screaming Cadillacs
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine
Scullers Boston Jazz Ensemble
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike's Blues Band
t.t. the bear's Bend/ Sons of John Glenn/ Twin Suns/ Eth
The Tam Alasdair Halliday

t 29TH

Bunratty's Flash Addict/ Joe Stump/ Kendra
Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield
Edible Rex The Collectics
Grog Boston Baked Blues
Harper's Ferry Walk That Walk/ Mike Duke & Soultwisters/ Johnny Hoy & The Bluefish
Isabella's Gene Kelly Piano
Johnny D's Mzwakhe Mbuli
Kinvara Pub Pour Boys
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine
Scullers Bruce Katz Band
Silhouette Lounge YOA
Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & Sidewalk Blues
t.t. the bear's Bop Harvey/ Thumper/ Hybrid Minds
The Tam Super 8
Union Street Fez Henry
Western Front Rumbafrica
Zachary's Peter Wettre Quintet

F 30TH

Bunratty's Miles Dethmoffen/ Trojan Ponies/ Miranda Warning/ Evol Twin
Commonwealth Brewing Company Search Party
Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield
Edible Rex Laurie Sargent/ House of Cards/ Resident Patients
Grog The Pencils
Ilard Rock Cafe Gracie/ Moodcrush
Harper's Ferry Taylor Made
Isabella's David Cusano Piano
Johnny D's Blood Oranges/ Low Road
Kinvara Pub Lookalikes
Nightstage Acoustic Junction
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine
Scullers The Persuasions
t.t. the bear's Six Finger Satellite/ Twig
The Tam Calypso Hurricane
Union Street Big Hot Sun
Western Front S.W.A.M.M.P.
Wharfield's The Great Escape & Gypsy Mechanics
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 1ST

Bunratty's Miles Dethmoffen/ MIranda Warning/ The Pods/ The Greenberry Woods/ Nevermore
Cambridge Brewing Co. Nasty J & The Grinders
Cecil's Martin Sexton
Colonial Inn Robert Earl Keen
Commonwealth Brewing Company One People
Grog Poco Loco
Isabella's Alan Klebanoff
Johnny D's The Band That Time Forgot
Nightstage Jeffrey Gaines
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine
Scullers The Persuasions
Silhouette Lounge E.Z. & The Jammers
Sticky Mike's Barbeque Bob & The Rhythm Aces
The Tam The Incredible Casuals
Western Front S.W.A.M.M.P.
Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 2ND

Edible Rex Fullmoon/ Mandragora/ Quitus
Isabella's Brian Walkey Band
Johhny D's Ginger-Butkis
Nightstage Lyle Mays

m 3RD

Johnny D's Cajun Dance Party
Venus de Milo Burn in Hell with DJ Redboy

t 4TH

Bunratty's Monobrau/ The Peasants are Revolting/
Cecil's Alan Gampel
Johnny D's Sugarbeat
Regattabar John Payne Quartet & Saxophone Choir
Scullers Columbia Jazz New Artist Series

W 5TH

Bunratty's Moodcrush/ Liquid Kaos/ Outloud
Harper's Ferry Apollo Talent Night
Johnny D's Tarika Sammy
Regattabar Quartet Nuevo
Scullers Donna Byrne & Dave McKenna
Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & Sidewalk Blues

t 6TH

Bunratty's Five Eight/ Bitch Temple/ Kruller
Edible Rex Dime Store Poets/ Whiskey Rebellion/ Sky Dogs
Great Scott's The Candles--featuring the legendary Chuck & Helen-9th Anniversary Bash!!!
Isabella's Robin Birks Vocalist
Johnny D's Swinging Steaks
Regattabar Tiger's Baku
Scullers Boston Jazz Orchestra
Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike & The Jam
Venus de Milo GROOV-E

F 7TH

Bunratty's Sam Blackchurch/ Headcleaner/ Pale Nephews/ Pusher
Colonial Inn Mike Seeger
Great Scott's Toadhouse
Isabella's Kim Bishop Piano
Johnny D's Courage Brothers
Regattabar Cedar Walton/ Ron Carter/ Billy Higgins Trio
Scullers John Hendricks & Co.
Sticky Mike's Rapt Rascals & The Sorority House Horns
Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz
Wharfield's The Posse & Y.O.M.A.M.A.

S 8TH

Bunratty's Fighting Cocks/ Gods Speed/ Churchpills/ Toybox
Cambridge Brewing Co. Lois Lane & The Daily Planet
Cecil's Doshie Powers
Colonial Inn Woody Mann
Great Scott's The Candles
Isabella's Phil Simmons Piano
Johnny D's Treat Her Right
Regattabar Cedar Walton/ Ron Carter/ Billy Higgins Trio
Scullers John Hendricks
Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue
Venus de Milo Disco Inferno

S 9TH

Bunratty's Idle
Isabella's Brian Walkey Band
Johnny D's Perfumed Scorpion/ UYA

m 10TH

Bunratty's Wild East
Johnny D's Cajun Dance Party
Venus de Milo Burn in Hell with DJ Redboy

t 11TH

Bunratty's Punch The Clown/ Feedbass
Cecil's Patrick McGinley
Johnny D's The Nields
Nightstage Col. Bruce Hampton
Regattabar Bill Lowe/ Philippe Crettian Quintet
Scullers Columbia jazz New Artist Series

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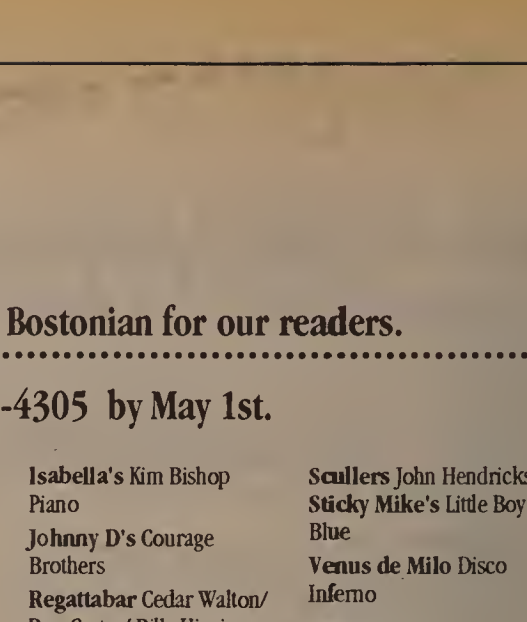
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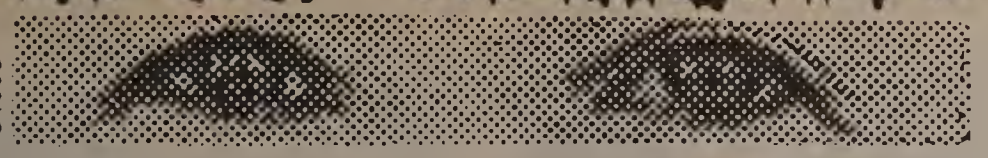


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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — APRIL 28 - MAY 11, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
While newsworthy Mercury squares rebellious Uranus and the fiery Leo moon joins Chiron, the wounded healer, and the media bombards us with the First Anniversary L.A. Riot retrospective, remember that Beltane, the Wicca festival of renewal, is upon us. In the old days, not unlike last year, the peasants built bonfires of purification before sowing the seeds for the next harvest. This May Day, let's build a May pole to dance around and rejoice that tanks are no longer parading down the main streets, the mean streets of Compton. (We're not sure about Moscow.) The perfectable Virgo moon this weekend supports environmental causes and earthly delights that spring from Taurean sensuality – personal pleasures can be better than ever. This mood extends through Monday when another expensive Venus Jupiter opposition brings in the bills. Mercury enters Taurus on Wednesday, so there'll be one less militaristic Aries influence operating, but we won't notice until the weekend. The Wesak full moon festival celebrating the annual return of the Buddha to Planet Earth and our alignment with the spiritual hierarchy is exact Wednesday at 11:34 p.m. at 15+ Taurus Scorpio. A paternalistic Capricorn moon on Mother's Day insists we honor our forebears or suffer the consquences, (like Nostradamus' earthquake prediction for May?).

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
Watch for a repeat or revised version of an offer tendered around Palm Sunday/Passover when Venus in your sign last opposed generous Jupiter. Perhaps there'll be more money, less love; maybe the other way around; nonetheless you'll feel the exchange has gone about as far as it can. Whether you accept or reject won't be decided now, even if you feel sufficiently provoked when Mercury squares your Mars ruler on Wednesday and the potent full moon energy illuminates (but will it resolve?) a pressing financial matter.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
As magnanimous Jupiter opposes your Venus ruler, too much may not be nearly enough. Better to buy luxury items you can return when your mood changes than to push loved ones into making a stronger commitment than they're ready for. Not everyone can take a risk, bet the farm on your whim. Try to patch up other differences during this highly negotiable period while you're feeling optimistic about your prospects. Spiritual insights and psychic revelations during the Buddha full moon festival. Happy birthday. Don't let Mom bug you.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Your receptors may be jammed while your Mercury ruler gets static from erratic Uranus this weekend. Don't jump to conclusions about a friend, a fool or his money. A parting of the ways (and means) could come on Wednesday when Mercury squares Mars in your money house. Between these two aggravating aspects there's an opportunity to stay stone cold sober and sensible about your next long range move. If you must adorn the house, buy flowers you can afford, not Van Gogh's; the familiar urge to splurge is irresistible.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Everything seems to be popping at once. Info about work sets your partner off; reactions are unexpected, even weird. Messages from the media or your own network tick you off on Wednesday when you're overly sensitized anyway. An adventurous woman comes back into your view finder, so there'll be an opportunity to travel, write or teach with her before long. Plus this potent full moon energy puts you in touch with higher spiritual honchos who might drop another clue to what you're doing here.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Stability when you least expect it from a problematic partner, respect from a critical elder and may be a ticket out of here. The Taurus new moon focuses on greener pastures, foreign shores the running of the bulls in Pamplona? This calm spell following the recent chaos shifts your attention to long range goals and lifelong dreams, something solid and, if possible, permanent. Until you attain it however, there's this financial matter which seems to be growing before your very eyes.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Art, science, politics and war. The main themes of the week parallel your reactions to what occurs when brilliant Uranus and bombastic Mars are squared by your Mercury ruler. Life is lived on at least two planes, one doesn't have to crash if another is having difficulties. There are rays of stability regarding issues of health and service, and those that affect your productivity or your pet's well being bring a sigh of relief. Other sighs, dollar signs, subtlety and sensuality during the full moon.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
Your partner has a lot to say about your family, none of which you find pleasant. Fight, sulk or take comfort in the finer things of life. As your Venus ruler lines up with expansive Jupiter in your sign, what you want closely resembles what you get. Which guardian angel is looking out for you? Spiritual teachers, masters of the universe are also available for consultation during the Taurus Scorpio full moon, particularly if you're seeking financial guidance. Ask and ye shall receive.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
A hot, heavy full moon replete with revelations about your personal life. The Buddha festival celebrates the wisdom inherent in the Taurus Scorpio connection, the cycles of life and transformation, reality and resurrection. (I'm writing this as the Branch Davidians burn.) It also brings your significant other into sharp focus and shows what you need from/what you're willing to give to an intimate relationship at this time. Chatter about work, a neighbor or sibling goes on; some of it may upset you.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
Fun and games in intricate combinations. As Venus comes on to your Jupiter ruler again, you'll feel like Lady Luck will be with you forever. She won't. Gambling on cards, sports or love can be expensive; so will the stuff you buy for the house. The full moon could turn a casual romantic interest into a clandestine affair, but a secret has to be kept or tempers will fly. Valuable knowledge is obtained along the way, yet the weight of the secret may be too heavy for a truth saying, soothsaying Sag with beans to spill.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Verbal barbs and bickering with a parent or landlord makes life on the road sound pretty good; well, bearable. When your mate or business partner joins in the fray next Wednesday, get in touch with a travel agent or anybody who can offer an alternative site for a while. For some not-so-strange reason, money is the solution to your current problems, petty though they may seem. Common sense solutions arise if you can talk Sunday night/Monday morning instead of argue. After the 9th you're in movie/music heaven again.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
Brilliant, bewildered or simply bothered? The latest info sparks a strong reaction and, if you're not careful, a large outlay of money. Playing markets, marketing plays? You can tip toe through the mind games if you keep your best interests in the forefront. This full moon may strike a resonant chord from the past (who's life is it anyway?) that recalls an abiding emotional attachment. Get out the dream diaries, draw from your unconscious, connect another piece of the puzzle. A healthy change is coming.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
Great fun if you succumb to a partner's vision of a rosy future. What, besides money, have you got to lose? Advice from a friend can be misleading at first. However, if you seek simple pleasures from the good earth, you'll find plenty of emotional sustenance as well. The full moon can fulfill you on many levels if you accept the sweet mysteries of life, particulary the one that reads, "the more you give, the more you get." Delivery is due on the 11th, when the sun trines (rewards) your Neptune ruler. Hooray!

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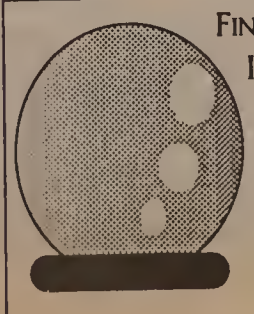
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BOSTON South End, 2 bdrm. summer sublet 6/1-8/31 on W. Brookline St. near Copley 5 min. walk to green/orange line. Hardwood flrs., dishwasher, exposed brick. 975/mo. Heat & hot water incl. ASAP 247-4170.

BRIGHTON-CLEVELAND CIRCLE Large bdrm in a 3 bdrm apartment. Looking for 1 M/F to sublet from 5/1-9/1 with options. Offstreet parking included. Fireplace, w/d, d/d, hdwd flrs, high ceilings. $350 + utils. 783-9087.

BROOKLINE 2 spacious bdrms. available in Brookline house near BU West campus. 1 block from T. Free parking, washer/dryer. Avail. mid May-Sept. $365/mo. call Sarah 734-1761.

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ME-MOOSEHEAD LAKE Fabulous sunset views from luxury log cabin. Conveniently located, privacy, wild life. Now booking for spring, summer, fall, weeks, & weekends. Starting at $250. Call 401-766-0182.

N H. Cottage on Thorndike Pond. Jaffrey Ctr. Fireplace, 3 bdrm., large deck, private beach/dock. 603-924-3321.

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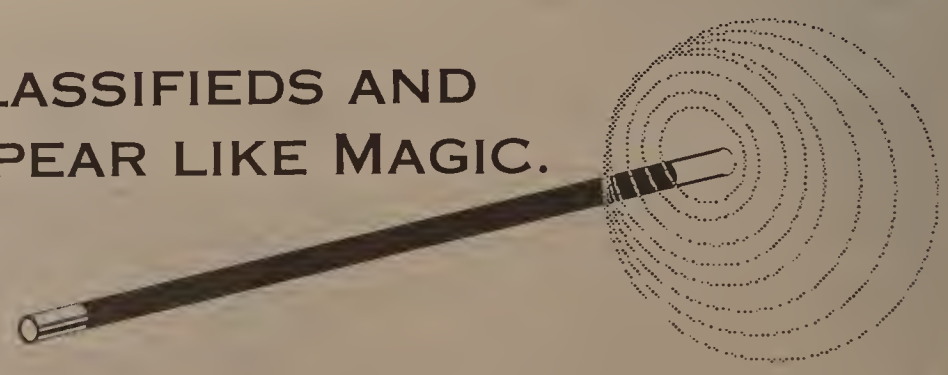
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M/F Roomate Wanted for lovely Coolidge Corner Apt. Call Liz 277-9298



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RATES

Open rates are $29.00 for line ads. They run until they work! Bold and underlining at no extra charge! All ad copy subject to approval before publication. Errors that do not affect the material value of the ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of circulation. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION

The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly publication in the Boston area. It is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment-oriented businesses, and by subscription.

5 SIMPLE STEPS TO WRITING A CLASSIFIED AD THAT SELLS

1) Decide on classification for your ad
2) Sate your item (or service) for sale.
3) Describe your item, listing all standard features.
4) State terms of the sale (or service) and the price (mention if negotiable).
5) Make sure to include your phone number and times to call.

CLASSIFIEDS

ALTERATIONS/ CUSTOM-WORK

ALTER EGO DESIGNS OF BOSTON Clothes don't fit? For ALTERATIONS & REPAIR of clothing-home items . Custom-made pillows-clothing for dogs-other creations. Great rates-free estimates! By appointment & pick-up/delivery. Discount for students & seniors. BOSTON 332-0160.

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TOY TRUCKS & MODEL PLANE KITS 1940's + early 50's. Doepke, Tonka, Buddy-L. (401)-722-5821.

WORLD WAR II SOUVENIRS Wanted:German/Japanese swords, daggers, etc. 617-598-3832.

ARTISTS' SERVICES

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Would like to do Caricatures of your local theatre group. I'm no Hirschfeld, but I'm good. Please call Frank Bernard Jr. at 617-884-9076.

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EUROPEAN FEMALE WANTED
or South American female au pair wanted for beautiful South Shore home. No kids. Care for happy, single, elderly lady. $1000./mo.+ room & board. Call 617-331-3599.

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1986 CHRYSLER NEW YORKER Excellent body in and out. Needs mechanical work. $2000 91,000 mi. (617)469-0847

BMW HOTLINE 1-800-696-BMW1 Deal with us and save! Foreign Engine Co. 67 Chelsea St. Everett, MA

CHEAP! FBI/U.S. SEIZED 89 MERCEDES-$200 86VW-$50 87MERCEDES-$100 65 MUSTANG-$50 Choose from thousands starting at $50. Free Information-24 Hour Hotline. 801-379-2920. Copyright # MA 021510.

PORSCHE Porsche 928S4 '88, met. blue, all options, many extras. Work 508-824-8961. Home 508-888-4370.

SUBARU '92 Legacy +L sedan, 16k mi., 5 spd, mint cond., pwr str/brks/wndw. $10,900. (617) 247-3868

TOYOTA COROLLA FX16V 1987 Liftback, 3-door, very rare twin cam model, one owner, 5 speed, flawless condition, must see and drive. $3595/best. 617-444-2384.

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O'SULLIVAN CARPENTRY
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SAVE CLEAN We are responsible, experienced with excellent references and reasonable rates. Call Lia at (617)566-1724.

SWEEP YOUR WINTER BLUES AWAY CALL MR. MOM! Housecleaning, windows, and yards. 617-524-8271

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IBM 386 33 MHZ, 8 MB, 120 HD, fax/modem, laser printer (30C). $1800/BO 617-298-8561

IBM CLONE 386DX40 MHZ* New 80 MB HD, 2 FD, 2MB RAM 64KCA CHE 512K VRAM SVGA Monitor $1050 (617)773-9616 *messages

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FLEA MARKETS/ YARD SALES

MOVING SALE Queen sofa bed, mahong furn., Queen Anne chairs/ottoman, Hemplwhite design hdbd/queen bed, nite stnds/chest, desk, chest, lamp tbl, Chinese gl top din. tbl w/4 chairs. Glass top coffee tbl brass trim. Orien. rugs. Glass & rose lacq curio cab 536-3688

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FOR SALE

$87 TO RUN A COMMERCIAL CLASSIFIED FOR 4 ISSUES! WHAT A DEAL!

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FURNITURE Maple chest, teak dressers, teak queen size bed, all good condition. Very reasonable prices. Bonnie, 734-7625.

K-2 SKIS K-2 612 series skis (185) with Salomon 737 bindings and Rossignol poles. Good condition $75 or b/o. Call 232-8455.

LEADING EDGE MODEL'D' 512k, 100% IBM compatible. Great for word processing and record keeping. A steal at $250. Call Andrew 623-3484.

LOT FOR SALE 25 ft. X 67 FT. Buildable, has former foundation. Call 268-0849.

REFRIGERATOR AND FREEZER Student size refrigerator 4 cubic feet (3 years old) $75 and 15 cubic feet frost free freezer chest $150. 254-1374

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Bose 901, Amps, EQs, surround processor, mikes, headphones, turntable, Karaoke player and pro Karaoke system. Call 389-3696.

GIGS

A CAPELLA M or F singers wanted to join the Harmonic Convergence, an 8-12 person group, to perform in Harvard Sq. festivals, etc. Good ear and reading ability a plus. Russ 864-5049 before 11PM.

HELP WANTED

$200-$500 WEEKLY Assemble products at home. Easy! No selling. You're paid direct. Fully Guaranteed. Free Information-24 Hour Hotline. 801-379-2900 Copyright#MA021550

EXPERIENCED Full Time Line Cook Wanted. Must Have Flexible Schedule. Call 232-8787. Corrib Pub and Restaurant

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INTERN NEEDED TO ASSIST INSIDE SALES MANAGER. GREAT OPPORTUNITY. CALL 232-3507.FOR MORE INFO.

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TOP DOLLAR PAID For coins, jewelry, sterling flatware, stamps. Will beat any offer. Will visit home or office. Ask for Jeff 617-431-9112

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FRENCH CLASSES Register now for all levels at the Alliance Française. Professors are native French speakers. Classes meet weekdays from 5:30-7:30 p.m. & 12:00-2:00 p.m., and childrens classes meet on Sat. 9:30-11:30. Please call (617) 523-4423 to register.

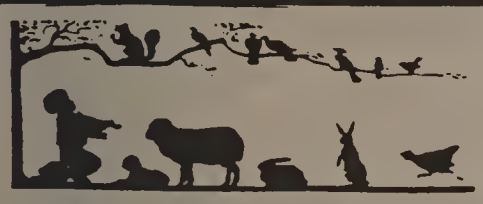
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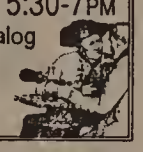
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Even *The Improper Bostonian* uses PRESSXPRESS (PXP), greater Boston's most comprehensive resource of event information. PXP researches and lists all events to which the public is invited up to ONE YEAR in advance -- everything from black-tie and cultural events to business seminars and conventions -- and transmits it weekly via fax. Just think of the possibilities for your business clients, organization or personal life! Stay in the know -- call PRESSXPRESS at (617) 742-2092 and ask for your free faxed sample today.

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Improper Bostonian Classifieds Menu

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Commercial	$29 one issue
Commercial	$87 four issues

All Line ads include bold font at no charge. Call our friendly wait staff– **Robyn, Wendy & Jill** at 232-3507

Display ads

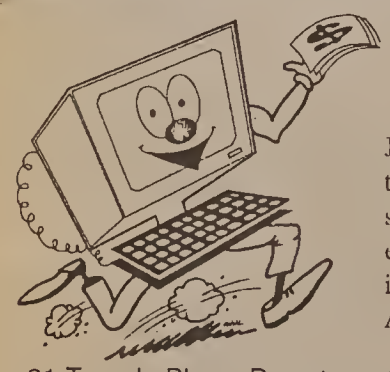
Two Column Inches	$40 one issue
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Six Column Inches	$120 one issue
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SWATCH & VINTAGE WATCHES New & used. All kinds including broken watches. Paying good cash! Please call 617-267-7162.

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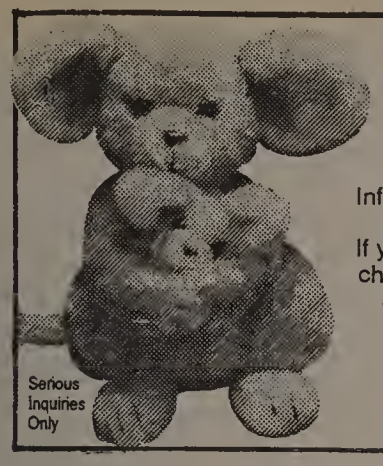
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CLASSIFIEDS



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A Chance!

Infertility affects 1 out of every 6 couples. For many, receiving a donated egg is their only hope.
If you are a healthy woman 21 to 34, you can give a childless couple the chance to have a child. Donors are carefully screened. Medication and a minor surgical procedure are required.
Compensation given for time and effort.
For more information, call: **Boston IVF**
617-735-9023

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Feel the urge to unleash your frustrations or vent your hostilities on an unsuspecting friend or enemy? Look no further than the Improper Impersonals, a forum designed for pranksters, irate neighbors, relatives, maniacs or any would-be target of your acid tongue. Best of all they're FREE! Send your Impersonals to us at Improper Impersonals, The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146. Or fax it to us at 232-4305.

Marathon Man/Almighty Q,
You did it, aaaaaaaah! You amaze me. Truly. Who else could make women swoon from Wellesley to Boston College, as he flashes that boyishly handsome grin and those cutie tight shorts? I hear the emegency rooms haven't seen that many fainting cases since the Beatles.Congrats, Champ.
Sis

ODE TO M.C.
To Martine Marie Monique,
my one and only pomme frite.
It was seven years ago that we met,
and for two years we've been tete-a-tete.
The color of your hair and skin so fair,
Eyes flecked with gold like a tiger.
A wonderful wife, an excellent mother,
With love you're not a miser.
From the shore of Cannes to La Tour Eiffel,
Washington, then San Francisco;
We met, we loved, not thinking of the future
but deep down we had to know.
Champagne, Chocolate, et cetera, a cigarette in bed;
Flowers, dinners, a walk in the woods,
our love was constantly fed.
Austria, Amsterdam, London and La Reunion,
the places we've been together.
A whisper, a hug, a kiss, a caress;
your touch as light as a feather.
French food, French wine, French life;
Is American culture the pits?
Hands on the table! No burping allowed!
(What I really need is Berlitz!)
And so it was, two years ago,
that we took each other as spouse.
From Paris to Boston you made the move
And succeeded making whole our house.
Je t'aime et je t'embrasse tres fort,
Happy Anniversary #2!!!
From the guy you've made the happiest (me, of course)(And your daughter, Margot, too!)
Your loving husband Phil

Temptress of the Airwaves,
You are my Wonder Woman. Please say you will be mine. I want to touch you where your bathing suit covers. I want to take you down to Waco, TX to meet my cousin, David. Write soon.
Love,
Your Secret Admirer

Dear Mr. Vanderiee,
Oh Art, you handsome bastard! I want to comb your a.m. cowlick, I want to wear your white socks, I want to unlock your drivers'-side door! Get attorney Stanley Williams on the line - pronto! That's right, Jerky. Riddle: what's tall, cute and burrows in the middle of the night? Kisses and hugs,
E.M. Press

Yo, Rottenbutt,
Clear the crust from your eyes and wake up and smell the suit, baby. Break down and hit the basement for some new duds as your faithful followers are sick of the tweed look. While you're at it shave that skull, the sixties were a long time ago, death breath. Sincerely,
The Boys

Dear Abe,
I'd like to grab my ankles for you.
Love,
Mindy

Dear Paul,
I'd very much like to grab my ankles for you.
Love,
Mindy

Dear Brian,
It would be a great pleasure to grab my ankles for you.
Love,
Mindy

Dear Ricardo,
It goes without saying.
Love,
Mindy

Dear Mindy,
I don't know who you are, but, well, what can I say? I like you.
A fond admirer

LIMRAG,
Look, for the last time, you're not Houdini. Stop playing with the fucking handcuffs before I put them on you one night and weld them together. I need them, and I really would not like to have to pry them off of your lifeless, severed limbs, but if I have to, then I guess that I have to. So stop it. They're not toys, well, not your toys at least.
Flash

Erin,
Happy belated Birthday. Do you know that I've never seen you standing up. How tall are you?
Unknown

Toby,Or not Toby. That's a good question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the smog and arteries of Los Angeles, California, or to take alms against a sea of unpaid bills. To fly, to leave. To leave, perchance to eat. Ay, there's the grub.We misseth thou

Look You,
When I'm on the T, I want to ride home, get to my car and do my best to forget that scum like you exists in this universe, never mind so close to my person. So kindly get on the stupid train and, most importantly, LEAVE ME ALONE! After all, a person can only take so much.
A disgruntled passenger

Sue,
Diet Coke in the morning, power lunches, stress all day. If I were you, I would have no hair, high-blood pressure, and be lying flat on the sidewalk 100 ft below still believing I could fly.
Meter feeder

I had a dream last night that I was watching the news and the sports guy came on saying that the Red Sox were in first place. I would have asked the naked woman next to me to pinch me (after all, I *was* dreaming), but I figured that I'd just let the fantasy last as long as I could.
Butch

Terry,
Look, when you go to the toilet, you should probably keep whatever you wipe, just in case you ever get a brain tumor and the doctors want something to transplant.
Love,Sally

M.K.
How many drugs can one person do? Jesus, your body is beginning to look like Keith Richards' little finger. I mean, if you don't slow down and eat something like a sandwich soon I'm afraid that you're going to implode. Take it easy.
C.Z.

Kevin,
The only regularity I want to hear about in your life is your breathing. Get real, polite society dictates that bodily functions and the discussion of them be kept to an absolute minimum. Not that you know anything about polite society, pig. Love you bunches- hope it falls off.
Jennifer

Bloodsucking Kiddies,
Your petty attempt to get me off the council was a joke. Now you will know what it's like to really cross paths with your elders. You won't know what hit you, I can assure you.
Parovich

Stacy,
Silverstein?
Eggy

Meter Feeder,
Well then, thank God you aren't me.
Your Queen

Lynn,
If you bite me one more time, I swear I will go ballistic. I have never in my life met or even heard of someone who bites for fun like you do. I can deal with a little nibbling, but jeez, I feel like I'm first prize at a vampire raffle. I love you, but I wish you wore dentures, so I could hide them when you feel frisky.
Victim #1

Pauline at the treasurers office
Getting my co-workers to think of me on their off-time is something I must do very well, considering the trouble they go to trying to keep up with me. Being a PRO-MIKER is hard work. I've been told your office wants to join my crusade. I'll warn you that Anti-Mikers are sneaky. They only come out when you're not looking and then run and hide at the first hint of trouble. They are truly a farce to contend with.
Mike

I love poodles, I love poodles, yes, I do, yes I do.

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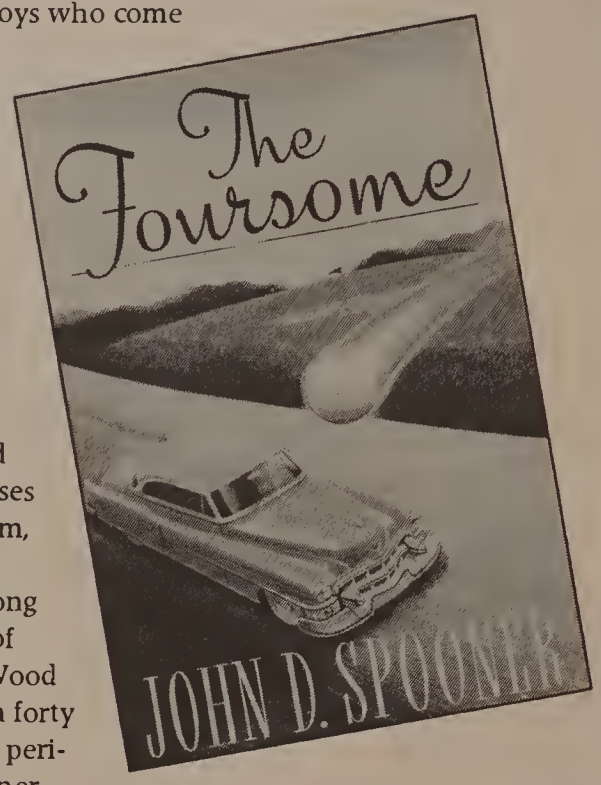
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THE WORLD BEHIND THE WHEEL

Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Local Boys Make Good

Boston's stockbroker/novelist John Spooner turns his wry eye on four boys who come from a fictional town in Massachusetts he calls Brookwood. The caddying, and later golf-playing 'Foursome' (the book's title) include one Irish kid, a WASP, and two Jews whose ethnic differences – though held in the web of their lifelong friendship – are deliciously wrought, and the jostlings of their variety, especially in youth and adolescence, are part of the joy of this book. All four of them become rich and wildly successful in various branches of business, and though the individual tones of their successes vary, there's a Group Tone that unifies them, a witty, wise-guy sparring that can only be sustained by people deeply connected by long history and great affection. The book, full of places and conventions that Brook- (er) -Wood residents will recognize, rolls along across a forty year time span, gathering the moss of each period's quirks and values. The boys that Spooner portrays vividly, at times poignantly, and invariably comically, develop into grownups that feel like old friends by the book's end. Some of the social longings of Fitzgerald, and a lot of the raffish banter of Robert Parker, sparkle through *The Foursome*.



The Foursome
by John D. Spooner
Published by Houghton Mifflin
$21.00

Women Who Run With The Spiritual Self

Ritual, in the balming sense of the word, refers to actions performed in the focused spirit of mystery, high purpose, soothing and energy. Done with other people, the occasion can take on a tone of harmonic glow. Two therapists, Tonia Vergou and Theresa Thompson, are offering a one-day workshop for women, in which a blend of music, dancing, writing, storytelling and a form of improvisational theater (which encourages participants to tap into archetypal identifications – the Wild Woman being the most current culturally visible one), will 'help women connect with different aspects of themselves,' including mythic and poetic elements which may be suppressed by the humdrum exigencies of ordinary life. But while both the real and the imaginary life will be called on, (one role-play will have people playing, alternately, the caregiver and the one caregiven-to – nothing so imaginary there), a participant may choose to act as an observer from a designated safe place. Women in the workshop will start to visualize what may have been neglected or unrecognized needs, and out of that, certain rituals have been devised to symbolically flower-and-fruit forth the message of those needs in aid of becoming real. They are gathering names for a workshop ($60, sliding scale available) on May 16, so call them soon for more information.

A Woman's Day Of Ritual
Carriage House
Jamaica Plain
522-0562

The Mud Below, The Parrot Above

Strollers in Inman Square are accustomed, if they time it right, to seeing a flurry of brightly-colored parrots stretching and squawking, when Mud Man, Interplanetary Potter Marc Johnson, brings them, mascots of sorts, out of his shop. Follow them inside and find a jungle of cloth palm trees and pottery, some of which is very traditional and some of which is very not. Trained in England, 'Mud Man' loves to make strawberry pots, a many-mouthed planter into which can be crammed a compressed garden of strawberries, or indeed ivy. And, because the chimney pots of London are so atmospheric, he's found they can also be replicated for a new use – housing tall skinny plants and flowers. He also has made some in plain earthenware, some with a Bart Simpson zigzag on top, some coiled with earthenware 'rope.' Because of his planetary leanings, many of Marc's plates and cups (even a custom-made bathroom sink) are imprinted with a planet motif, on a background sometimes earthy-colored and sometimes a glazed dreamy blue. Often, he is commissioned to make plates or pitchers to commemorate weddings and births, with weights and dates and names. Lines of poetry and an earthenware 'resume' of achievements have been variously ordered. An MIT department of earth sciences wanted award plates done, and knew his clay would sympathize. Unexpected pottery applications include a device for keeping butter cold, and a bird feeder, and it turns out that bread kept in an earthenware container doesn't get stale. Happily, some commissions involve extras, so if you see something you like, carpe diem.



Mud Man (Interplanetary Potter)
198 Hampshire Street
Cambridge
868-6222

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. She also worked for another local (though their name assumes a much more worldly significance) paper for 10 years, 5 months and 28 days.
Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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Not so long ago, the "Wheel of Fortune" TV show rolled into town, huddled at the Wang Center, taped some shows, and then flew hurriedly back to L.A. While they were here, we got a small glimpse underneath the razzle-dazzle surface. We fell in love with Vanna, got lost in the Wang's basement and learned a little about Hollyweird. Read all about it.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

8 Newport- ing



Fitzgerald loved it; so did the Vanderbilts. Now you, too, can delight in the summer playground that is Newport, Rhode Island. Whether you're summering there, or just popping down for a weekend away from the sticky summer city, make sure you make the utmost of your time in Wonderland.

BY NICOLE L. MILLS

13 Citizen Dave



It's a classic tale, with a new cinematic twist. Kevin Kline stars in this summer's first potential blockbuster movie, about an ordinary Joe who just happens to resemble the Prez. What happens when the real Chief gets sick and Dave steps in? Will we finally become a kinder, gentler nation?

BY KAJ WILSON

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A Man For All Nealons

Kevin Nealon Comes to Boston and Brings His Comedy with Him

BY ROSS GARMIL

Kevin Nealon is a Renaissance man. Well, he's not *really* a Renaissance man. If he were, then he would have lived in the fifteenth century and we would not have a photograph of him to print along with this article. There would be an oil painting we could use, but we print in ink, and therein lies the problem. No, Mr. Nealon is a Renaissance man in the *metaphorical* sense. That is not to say that he is a physicist, poet, pianist, *philosophe* and painter rolled into one. Rather, it should be said that Nealon is a Renaissance man in terms of performing.

Kevin Nealon is a cast member/writer with "Saturday Night Live". And from this classic humorist position, Nealon proves himself a true Renaissance performer. Not that he puts on Shakespeare every week, although every once in a while he does wear a funny hat. The point is that Nealon *–he plays subliminal man* – is a versatile entertainer. He has created numerous characters in SNL, including Franz, of Hanz and Franz, *–don't forget subliminal man* – Tarzan, the baritone from the singing trio of Tarzan, Tonto, and Frankenstein – *subliminal man is really funny.*

Nealon also portrays more verbose characters, including Ganon P.I.P.I. (Politically Incorrect Private Investigator), one of his personal favorites, on which he reflects "that was fun" – *why haven't you mentioned subliminal man, yet?* – as well as Nealon's great manipulator of audiences, Subliminal Man – *well, it's about time.*

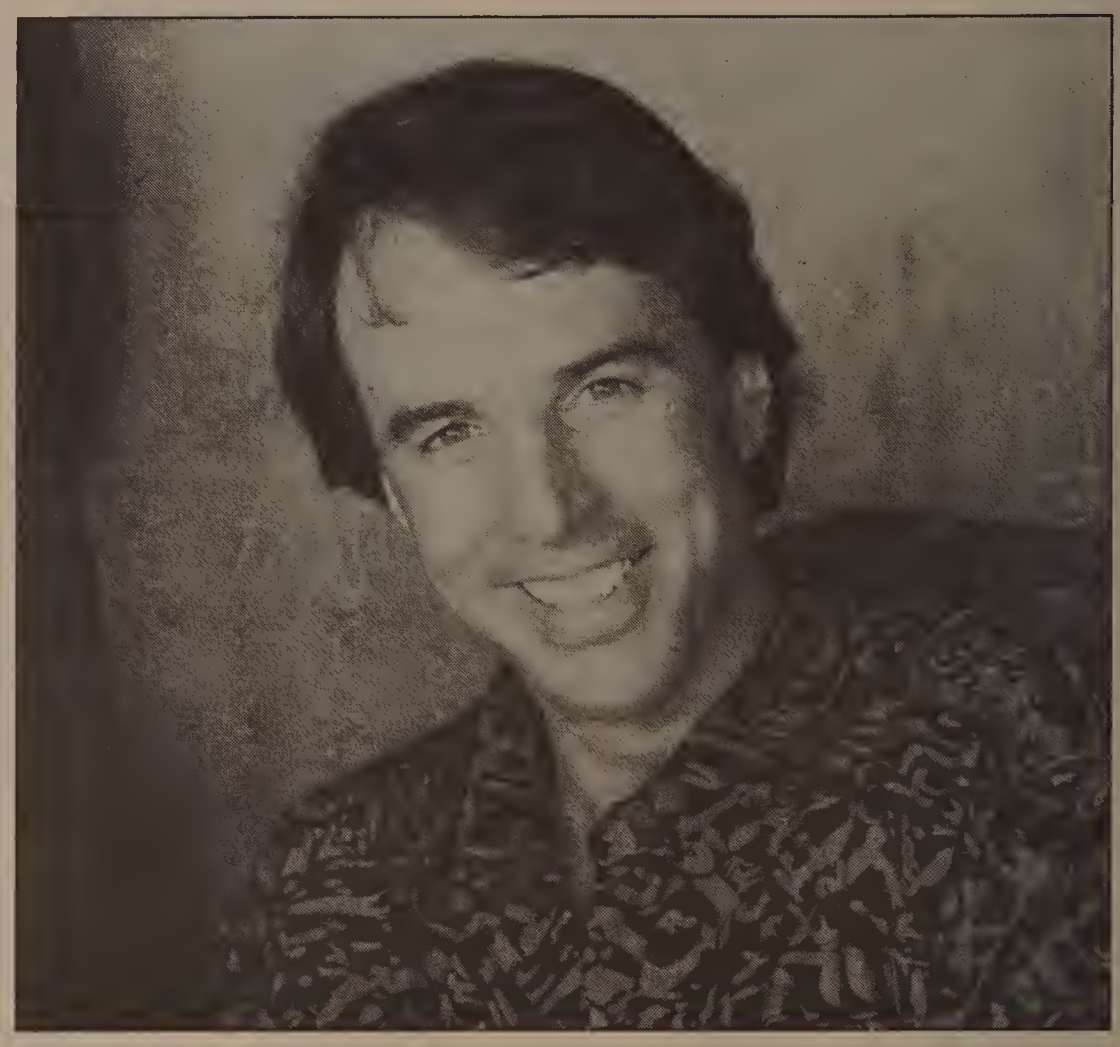
But beyond all this, Kevin Nealon has found his "Saturday Night Live" niche as the anchor for Weekend Update. Every week Nealon delivers the consistently best feature of the show in his own deadpan fashion.

As a Renaissance man, however, Nealon does much more than just the skit comedy on SNL. He likes to continually perform stand-up, as he did for nine years prior to joining the SNL cast. Why would a talented performer with a steady job feel the need to tour on the stand-up circuit? Well, for Nealon stand-up had been his "forte," and is a talent which he likes to keep in practice. "If you don't do it," Nealon relates, "you kind of lose it."

His act, while featuring some characters from SNL – *he includes subliminal man* – also contains humor less character dependent. "I went to the dentist last week," he jokes, "and I found out that my gums are starting to recede. But you can't really tell now, 'cause I comb them forward." Nealon also says that his comedy does contain some audience involvement, but he reassures that it is "nothing very threatening to the audience."

The Renaissance man also plans to venture into film. In the past he has played some smaller parts on the big screen. "In 'Roxanne' I played Drunk #2," he says. But on the horizon lay larger fish to fry. Nealon "just wrote a movie last summer called 'Hanz and Franz: The Girly Man Dilemma,'" a film initiated by Arnold Swarzenegger, who wishes to co-produce it and co-star along with Nealon and presumably Dana Carvey (Hanz). Nealon plans to stay with SNL for at least another year, but then may move on to "do films or maybe come up with a sitcom idea." It would seem that the Renaissance man is setting out to broaden his horizons.

Like all comedy writers, Nealon is afraid of forgetting his ideas, so how does he insure against this? "I write them down." Kevin Nealon, genius, Renaissance man. ❑



"It's not really a Hawaiian shirt," Nealon comments. "It's a casual shirt."

Joke of the Every Other Week

How do you pick up a Branch Dividian girl?
With a Dustbuster

Kudos to Joby Tapia of Arlington. Why does he earn a kudos? Because he sent in the winning joke, silly. By the way, the words kudos comes from the Greek meaning "praise." It is a singular noun, even though it ends in an "s," therefore never could it be written that a single kudo has been granted to someone. However, you should also not say "kudoses." Kudos is both singular and plural in one word, kind of like fish, except that fish swim in the ocean and kudos are granted to the lucky people who contribute the Jokes of the Every Other Week. So, it appears that kudos and fish don't have that much in common after all. For his effort of supplying this issue's joke, Mr. Tapia wins two tickets to the Comedy Connection in Faneuil Hall (fish not included).

Think that you deserve a kudos of your own? Well, then go ahead and mail, or FAX (what the hell, this is the 90's after all) your favorite joke to:

JOKE OF THE EVERY OTHER WEEK, *THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN*
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BROOKLINE, MA 02146

I learned about the word "kudos" in college. A professor took some class time to complain about how the media misuses the word. I just hope that he's happy now.

• Comedy Listings •

Catch a Rising Star at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737 This legendary comedy club has a new location, but has not changed in bringing top rate performers to Boston. Located in the Charles Playhouse, it's Boston's oldest remaining home of standup comedy. Every Mon.: Comedy School. Every Tue.: Boston's Brightest. Every Wed.: The Comedy Lab. Showtimes: Thu. & Su. at 8:30p.m. Admission &8. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30p.m. and 10:30p.m. Admission $12..

Thu. 5/13 thru Sun. 5/16- Louise Duart.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.

Wed. 5/12 thru Fri. 5/14- Finis Henderson, Jackie Flynn. Sat. 5/15- Finis Henderson. Sun. 5/16- Rich Ciesler, Jackie Flynn. Mon. 5/17- Steve Hurley. Tue. 5/18- D.J. Hazard, Steve Hurley. Wed. 5/19 & Thu. 5/20- Jim David, Steve Hurley. Fri. 5/21- Carol Leifer, Billy Martin. Sat. 5/22- Jim David, Billy Martin, Steve Hurley. Sun. 5/23 7p.m.- Rich Ciesler, Jackie Flynn. Sun. 5/23 9:15p.m.- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 5/24- Jim Dunn, Steve Hurley. Tue. 5/25- D.J. Hazard, Jim Dunn.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku, 149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $10. Always packed and second hand smoky.

Fri. 5/14 & Sat. 5/15- Larry Norton, Tony Moschetto, Peter Cummin. Fri. 5/21 & Sat. 5/22- Johnny Pizzi, Tom Liszankie.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See D.D.'s above. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 10p.m. Admission $9.

Fri. 5/14 & Sat. %/15- Boston Comedy Showcase. Fri. 5/21 & Sat. 5/22- Greg Fitzsimmons.

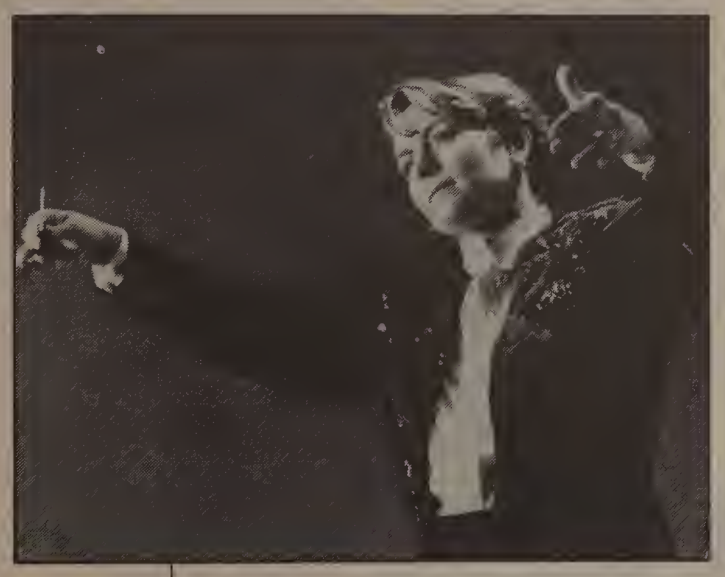
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Wed. 5/12- Vinnie Favorito, Kevin Flynn. Thu. 5/13- Paul DiAngelo, Vic DiBenedetto, Ed Clarke, Craig Shoemaker. Fri. 5/14 & Sat. 5/15- Don Gavin, Kevin Flynn, Craig Shoemaker. Sun. 5/16- Kevin Knox. Mon. 5/17- Billy Martin. Tue. 5/18- Jim Lauletta. Wed. 5/19- Vinnie Favorito. Thu. 5/20- Paul DiAngelo, Kevin James, Chris Cossia, Ed Regine. Fri. 5/21 & Sat. 5/22- Mike Donovan, Paul Nardizzi, Kevin Nealon. Sun. 5/23- Kevin Knox. Mon. 5/24- Billy Martin. Tue. 5/25- Jim Lauletta.

Stitches, 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu.: The Dating Game, Hosted by Billy Martin. Every Sun.: Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.

Wed. 5/12- Women in Comedy. Fri. 5/14- Jeff Lifschultz, Chris Zito. Sat. 5/15- Paul Wayne, Jeff Lifschultz, Vinnie Favorito. Wed. 5/19- Women in Comedy. Fri. 5/21- Frank Santos. Sat. 5/22- Rich Ceisler, Elon Gold.

AROUND TOWN



If your idea of a urban garden is your neighbor's blighted window box, and you feel like there's no green in your concrete jungle, listen up, because the Beacon Hill Garden Club is offering the public an opportunity to peak inside the **"Hidden Gardens of Beacon Hill."** From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, rain or shine, the Club will allow you a self-guided tour through twelve gardens, some small and inventive, others grand. Tickets are available by mail for $15 (send stamped, self-addressed envelope with check to 1993 Tour, Box 302, Charles Street Station, Boston, 02114) or for $18 at day-of boothes, located on corners of Charles and Mt. Vernon. Either way, call 227-4392 for more.

For their season finale, **The Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra** of Boston and Gisele Ben-Dor welcome **tenor Miguel Cortez and guitarist Ivan Rijos** for a concert celebrating Hispanic culture. Rijos will be heard in the perennial "Concierto de Aranjuez" by Joaquin Rodrigo and Cortez will offer a selection of zarzuela arias. Continuing their long-standing commitment to new music, the Pro Arte will give the world premiere of "El Sueno de Cristobal" by Argentine composer Ezequiel Vifiao. Rounding out the program is Aaron Copland's "Three Latin American Sketches." The concert is at the Sanders Theater at 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 16, but if you get there an hour early, you can hear some of Pro Arte's members in their "Aperitif" featuring works by Turina and more Copland. If that's not enough, the "Ask the Artist" series follows the concert with Ben-Dor, Rijos, Cortez and Vinao fielding questions from the audience in English and Spanish. Tickets are $25.50, $18.50, $12.50 and $8.50. For further information call 661-7067.



Press your tuxedo and put on your dancing shoes for one of Boston's most anticipated parties of the year, the **Museum of Fine Arts 12th Annual Spring Gala.** This year the MFA will showcase the exhibition "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent, and the Great American Watercolor." Helping the MFA celebrate will be emcee Sara Edwards of WHDH-TV and Boston's premiere party band, Fat City. So come and "Paint the Town" at this glamorous spark in Boston's cultural night life. The gala will occur at the MFA on Saturday, May 15 from 8 p.m. till midnight. Tickets are $50 in advance ($70 at the door), and proceeds from the event will support the Museum Council. For tickets or information, call 267-9300.





Brookline's Coolidge Corner Theatre swells to capacity as the hordes vie for good seats. The smells of popcorn and *cannabis sativa* mingle while audience members bat balloons at each other. Silence descends as a scruffy man with a purple beard and penis necktie takes center stage. That's right – once again, Spike Decker and Mike Gribble subject Boston to the dubious delights of their **Sick and Twisted Animation Festival.** This adults-only animation festival opens with Porky Pig stuttering "Son of a bitch," and goes downhill from there – to the audience's delight. Anarchy reigns as toons copulate, masturbate, defecate, swear, and flip each other off. Disney buffs and right-wing fundamentalists need not apply. The festival runs weekends until May 16 at the Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard Street, Brookline. Tickets cost $7.50 in advance, $8 at the door. For more information, call 734-2500.

"City Life" is the theme of the second international **"Photo by Kids" exhibit** that will be at The Wang Center through May 31 in the lower lobby of the theater. The exhibit is part of the educational outreach program Young at Arts, and will feature 80 photographs by students from Dearborn Middle School in Boston, Pickering Junior High School in Lynn, and Jan Ligthart school in Amsterdam. Through this program, American and Dutch students were encouraged to exchange their works and ideas. If you can't make it to the exhibit, don't fret; two books of the student photographs will be published this summer. For more information call The Wang Center at 482-9393.



WORLD BEHIND THE WHEEL

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

Americans love competition. We love easy money. We appreciate a sharp mind, and the visual aesthetics of a board that lights up with each new clue, leading us closer to a solution. We love games of chance and pressure. And we love Barbie dolls in $1000 sequin dresses.

When the mighty "Wheel of Fortune" crew rolled through town in April, Boston responded in kind by rolling out its red carpet for Pat Sajak and Vanna White, TV's reigning monarchs of game show royalty. Two weeks of shows, to be aired nationally the weeks of May 10 and 17, were taped Easter weekend at Tremont Street's Wang Center.

When the Wheel's impending arrival was announced, the Wang Center received more than 100,000 inquiries. Compare that with the 20,000 responses they received after announcing that the Broadway hit "Phantom of the Opera" was en route. Wang Center President and General Manager Josiah Spaulding said at a press conference that he'd never seen anything like it. Greater Boston Convention and Visitor Bureau President Patrick Moscaritolo gushed over Pat and Vanna, noting that the Wheel's spin through Boston would bring in an estimated 36 million dollars in tourism revenues for the city between the months of May and December, 1993.

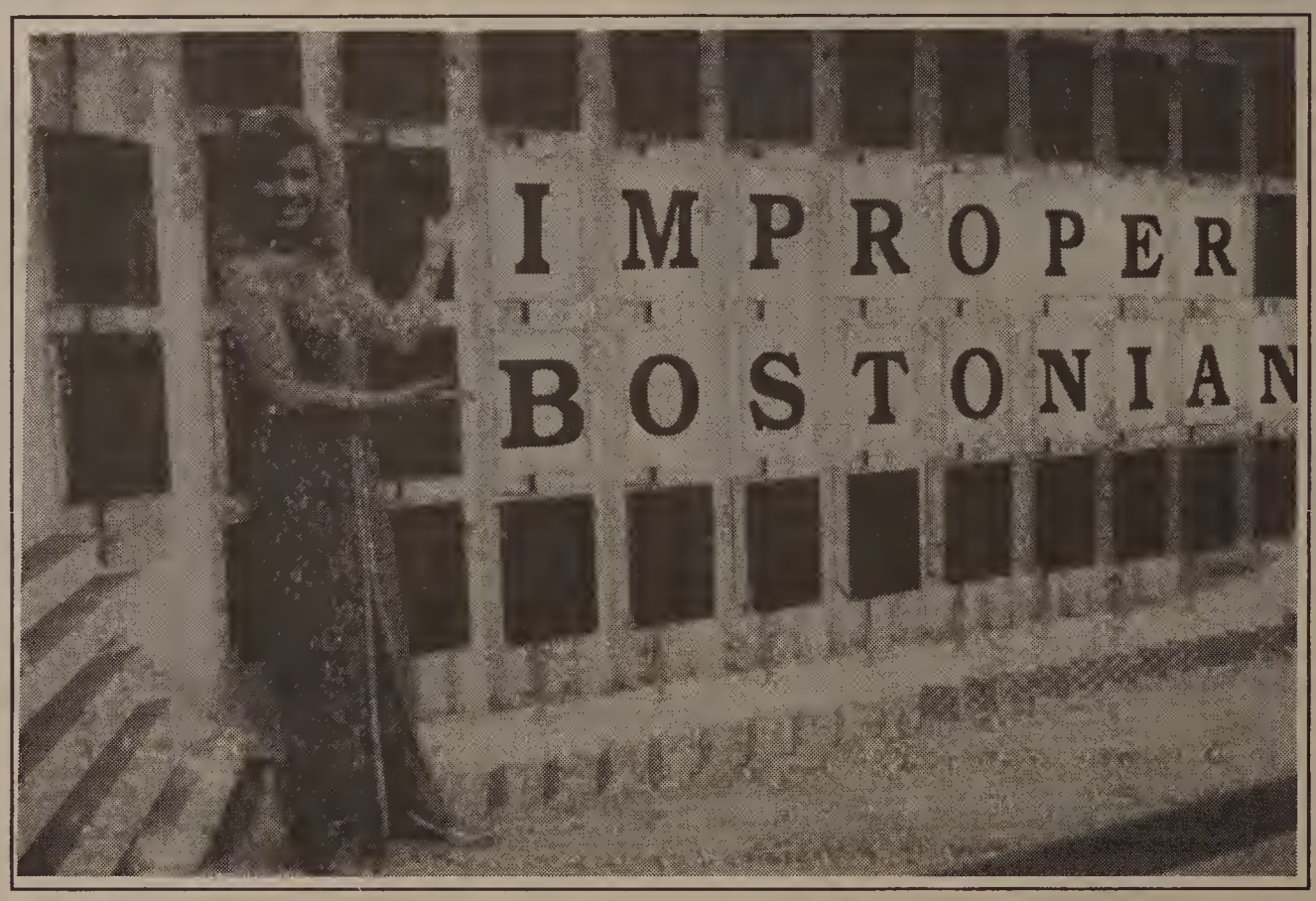


photo by John Soares

Vanna Displays Our Fantasy Puzzle

Vanna White has unwittingly taken the image of the dumb blonde and done for it what NASA has done for space travel. Feminist critics have contended that she is a detriment to the progress of women's liberation, being paid a fortune to look pretty, keep quiet, and turn letters on command (sort of a "barefoot and pregnant" for the showbiz industry). "It's a job," she says. "That's what it is, and that's what I take it as. I have fun with it, and I have for ten years." What about other aspirations? "I hope to continue doing it for ten more years," she says, flashing those famous teeth. Wouldn't you? Really?

On the set at the Wang Center, stage technician Steve Schwartz is defending Vanna to a Channel 7 news crew. "When I light [a letter] up, Vanna goes to it," he explains. "Generally, she is already on her way. All we do is flash her a copy of the puzzle, right before she goes on....if you notice, she'll get there before I do. She's gotta be in the game the whole time. People think that Vanna just sits there and claps, and just looks good up on the stage, but really, she has to think, she has to know what the puzzle is, she has to be ready." One word – pressure.

I sit down on a chair in some remote corner of the maze, and I stare at my shoes. Footsteps approach, and it's her. She's all alone. I smile, shake her hand, and run rapidly through my routine about wanting to talk with her when she has a moment. As I babble, I discover one of the first secrets of Vanna-ty is her sequins. They make her sparkle.

With more than 100 million weekly viewers around the world, Wheel reaches as many, or more, people on a weekly basis than does a Papal address, a presidential inauguration, or the "Tonight Show." More than fifty times as many people watch Wheel weekly as read the Sunday *New York Times* (sociologists can tear that one apart on their own time).

Wheel is a media wet dream. If there was ever an opportunity to slowly, sub-consciously ingratiate the public consciousness towards a major international issue, say the environment, there could be no better medium than Wheel. Its power as an potentially influential culture-defining vehicle is inestimable, a slow-witted media gorilla unaware of its own strength. One hundred *million* people around the world watch Wheel every week. It's so easy to get used to Pat and Vanna. You trust them. You wouldn't think, wouldn't have reason to think that...well, forget it.

Vanna is wearing pink house slippers on her feet, beneath a $1000 Black Tie evening gown, as we stand together in an empty hallway. I notice that she has lipstick on her teeth as she flashes me her seven-figure smile. "You have lipstick on your teeth," I say, smiling. She grins, takes her finger and wipes her teeth. The barrier has been broken, familiarity achieved. She smiles again. She's always smiling. She says, "How about [doing the interview] right now, while I put on my makeup?" I smile, wincing. I have nothing prepared.

100 Million Vanna Fans Can't Be Wrong

mouth of the Wang Center, sidestepping security with my press pass, and descend into the building's depths, following a succession of snaking staircases through the midsections, and into the basement. I set up in the press room, check my recorder for the thirty-third time, and wander the maze-like corridors underneath the stage, trying to think of questions to approach Vanna with, on the off-chance that I get her alone for a moment.

What Wheel's creator Merv Griffin has done is take a child's game called Hangman, a real-live Barbie doll, a shorter, less-chiseled but cuter Ken sidekick, and made television history. Wheel is the most widely viewed television game show in history. It is the number one program in syndication today, the number one program in syndication history, it airs in 21 foreign territories, and boasts the irreplaceable Vanna White, who was recorded in the most recent *Guinness Book of World Records* as "television's most frequent clapper."

Wheel is a common man's "Jeopardy." You don't have to be a rocket scientist to get on the show, just a sharp everyman with an eye for phonetics. There are no buzzers to smash apart in a frenzied rush to beat back your opponents, no stupid, pre-fabricated California putting-green games, offering desperate contestants the rare opportunity of making absolute fools of themselves on national television. Wheel is relatively dignified.

It's hosted by Sajak, a low-key MC, whose soft-spoken, kid-glove wit keeps everything running smoothly. Contestants take turns, like children being taught manners, and each letter request is inevitably followed by a hopeful, almost pleading "please." Please, Vanna, turn



photo by Peter Shankman

Game Show Royalty, Pat Sajak and Vanna White, During Down Time

those damned boxes and please, Vanna, make me a millionaire.

I sit perched on a stool and watch her put on makeup. Silk clings to Vanna's body as if it were skin, riding the curves and slopes of her figure like a Maserati on the Autobahn. She says something funny and laughs. I laugh. I offer to take her out to dinner. She smiles. I smile. She goes back to her makeup. I ask her about being such a big star. She tells me that people don't think of her as a star, that people see her as their next-door neighbor, "because I'm in their living room every night." I begin to wonder what life would be like with Vanna as my next-door neighbor. Lots of free carpet cleaner.

Wheel is sanitized gambling. You spin a wheel colored with monetary denominations, take chances, make split-second decisions, and aim your aspirations at the heart of the American dream: easy money. What makes this international media casino so lucrative is that there's no loss, no repercussions for the losers. The winners go home with cars, cash and trips, and the losers go home with a great story and a ten-year supply of Geritol tablets. The adage "nothing ventured, nothing gained" has never been more appropriate (ask B.U. sophomore Joe Sfarra - or just see the sidebar).

We sit and chit-chat about normal media things: how fame has changed her (not at all), how the tabloids relentless attacks affect her (not at all), how she feels about her critics, who contend she is not helping shape the psyche of the contemporary liberated woman (she could care less what they say, she loves her job), and throughout almost the entire conversation, my tape recorder, sitting dutifully on her makeup table, has been on pause.

Sajak and White have less-than-grueling schedules for the show. They tape 39 days a year. Much of that time is spent taking perfect strangers, putting them on international television, and giving them money. They make the contestants the stars. As Sajak has said, "I try not to do too much because...one of the things you have to remember when you're hosting a game show is that as charming and delightful as you may think that you are, the people at home really are watching to see the people solve the puzzle, and if you can add to it, and say something in passing and move over it pretty quickly that's fine. But if you start trying to turn it into a variety show with you as the star I think that you're going to turn people off pretty quickly." Alex Trebek, take note.

Wheel is a showcase for intelligent (or strikingly ignorant) contestants, where the spotlight is kept on the contestants as much as is possible, though keeping Vanna White out of the spotlight must be like keeping water out of the ocean.

Having finally switched my recorder off pause, I point the little machine towards her, smile (always smile when you're hanging out with VW), and ask her the only question I can think of that she can't easily dodge. It's a loaded question, a spur-of-the-moment, last-ditch effort to get beyond the show business facade, beyond the makeup, and get down to some real meat-and-potatoes journalism.

"If you were thrown into competition, say, for another man's heart, against Hillary Clinton, Marla Maples, or Camille Paglia, who would you be most intimidated by?" For a moment, the room is a blanket of silence. More like a wool quilt of silence. I hold my breath. I imagine this is the most challenging question that has been put to her all day (what with another reporter challenging her earlier, "Do you [and Pat] really, truly have a great relationship off-camera?").

Vanna clicks her tongue, smiles, and turns to me. She has solved the puzzle, knows the answer. "I'm not really intimidated by anyone...I think that we're all created equal in here [she extends glittering fingernails over her sequined chest], in our hearts, and that's the way I look at people. I know that sounds mushy, but it's true. I think a garbage collector is as important as the President of the United States."

I wonder if Bill Clinton takes the garbage out before or after Wheel of Fortune. Probably after.

VOWEL BUYING 101

LOCALS SPIN THE WHEEL

Bostonian Joe Sfarra was a contestant on "Wheel of Fortune's" recent taping, representing Beantown in national competition. Sfarra explains that he saw a sign in the fall of '92, signed up, and was picked in March as one of 125 people competing for four spots.

The competition took place on March 25, at B.U.'s George Sherman Union Building. At 1:30 on that fateful afternoon, the lucky 125 gathered to compete, and by five o'clock that evening, Sfarra walked out. He'd made the cut. He would be one of his batch's four "Wheel of Fortune" contestants.

The initial test for the 125 would-be contestants was a five minute, 16-puzzle test, made up of partially filled-in puzzles. "I sat there and stared at the thing for the first two or three minutes," Sfarra says, "and didn't touch pencil to paper. I was panicked. We all were. After a couple of minutes, I looked over at my friend, and she was jamming. She had most of it done. So I just went to it, and in that last couple minutes got probably 12 of the 16 puzzles."

With part one done, the Wheel people kept 32 of them, and dismissed the rest. With the remaining 32, a simulated game was played, using a "mini-wheel." Each contestant was given two chances. During his turn, Sfarra solved a puzzle ("It was total luck," he vows), and guessed three letters. Next, the group was sized down to 16, and questioned as to why they wanted to be on Wheel, and why they thought they could represent their city well. Your basic interrogation.

After listening to a succession of his fellow contestants shmoozy, kiss-ass answers, Sfarra got up, looked his interviewers in the eye, and asked, "It's Wheel of Fortune, do I really need a reason?" They bought it, and he survived the next round.

Sfarra got up, looked his interviewers in the eye, and asked, "It's Wheel of Fortune, do I really need a reason?" They bought it, and he survived the next round.

The 16 remaining players were put together in varying sized groups and made to play practice games and head-to-head games, while being drilled further about their aspirations. What had been sort of laughably fun, suddenly became deadly serious. This round, Sfarra describes as "the tensest moments of my entire life. Everyone was terrified, and no one was talking to anyone else."

Eight more were dismissed.

The final eight consisted of one woman and seven men, competing for the final four positions. "We all knew that [Tara, one of the players] was going to make it, so that left only three places for seven of us." Cold sweat time.

The interrogation continued. More questions. More games. Polaroids. Documents signed, puzzles solved. More Polaroids. More games. More questions.

Sfarra was the last one picked. Four lucky Boston residents – Sfarra, Tara Thomas, Matt Tanzer, and B.U. law student Mike McNamara – were called into a room with the Wheel staff, and, after being congratulated, were told that one of the four of them would not necessarily be on the show. One of the group, they explained, would be used as a possible alternate on the regular show over the next year ("For legal purposes," they cryptically explained) and the remaining three would participate in the May competition.

To find out who made it out of this group and how they did, and to watch other Boston residents compete, tune in to Channel 7, WHDH-TV weekdays through May 21, at 7 p.m. And watch out, or you too will be sucked in, suddenly finding yourself a "Wheel Watcher."

Newport Cometh

Heathen Delights in the Approaching Sun Season



By Nicole L. Mills

Ask almost anybody in Boston what is on their top three list of things to do this summer, and inevitable the answer will come back "Newport, Newport, and, oh yes, Newport." The novice might naively inquire "Why would anyone with a viable claim to sanity want to fork over around $6000 for a summer rental, which they only actually sleep in two nights out of the week tops, in Rhode Island, of all places, which allows them to hang around with exactly the same people they've been carping about back in Boston all winter?" Well, the only answer is, these poor people have obviously not experienced the hedonistic pleasures of Newport.

Newport began its illustrious career as "the" summer hot spot of the northeast by hosting a plethora of urban refugees around the turn of the century, all of whom had too much time and money on their soft, white hands. Although Newport experienced a slight recessionistic decline in popularity after this breed of big spender died out, the town has returned triumphant upon the social scene, amongst those twenty- to thirty-somethings anxious to hook onto a bit of Newport's heyday glamor. Newport still retains its elitist appeal, although long-time Newport insiders, even pseudo-snob newcomers, lament the influx of too many tourists, and less cultured weekenders. "It's turning into another Cape Cod," they sniff.

A Friday night in June is the best way to start. Escape from whatever urban peon job you slave away at during the week. Cash what passes for your paycheck, navigate Route 24 from Fall River and view before you the site of all delights; Newpie, in all its finery.

Natch, no summer vakay is complete without access to some kind of body of water bigger than a backyard wading pool. On the eastern side of the peninsula which makes up Newport is a strip of beaches, each with its own personality. However, the only two you need to worry about, insider that you are, are Seconds, (where sun worshippers expose inordinate amounts of skin and flex their pecs like American Gladiators gearing up for a big show, volleyballs crash into unsuspecting victims, and everyone tries to disguise their alcoholic beverages as Big Gulps) and members-only Bailey's Beach (if you can weasel a membership. If not, you can always try sneaking onto Bailey's and making like you belong there. Most have done it at least once.).

For the love birds and romantic at heart, try a picnic *en plein air* at Gooseberry Beach. If you're serious about enjoying the great outdoors, and are constantly looking for places to "frolic" in ways your mother probably wouldn't approve of, try the rocks along Ocean Drive, any of the nooks and crannies way below Castle Hill, or, if you're really feeling adventurous, the surfer statue in town.

For those who would rather spend their time on the water than in it, Newport is a sailor's paradise. Fleets of boats are luffing their sails in the never-ending parade of regattas that takes place over the summer. Hordes of hungry and horny international boat trash flotsam and jetsam their way about the waterfront, looking for love and someone to practice their knots on (if anyone asks

you if you want to climb their rigging, BEWARE).

If the motion of the ocean makes you green, then you're butt-outta-luck in Newport baby, because it's absolutely *de rigeur* to have some sort of sailing association here, and nobody can climb very high up the social ladder without it. There are scads of land-lubbers crawling the streets of Newport trying to fake their sea legs by prancing around in blue and white nautical striped clothing (which few people actually look good in), sleeping with sailors, or boasting loudly about their "boat" to everybody within ear shot, even when the craft in question is nothing but a blow-up raft with a holder for a beer can.

We suggest skipping all the mock pretentiousness and embarassing babbling about wind direction and tides, putting on your admiral's hat and heading out to Castle Hill on a sunny Sunday. Castle Hill is such the "in" place to go, it's almost "out." This is really the only place to spend the afternoon with everybody who's anybody, kicking back and enjoying the view of the boats and all those fresh sea breezes (both the drink and the real thing.)

If you have a completely socially acceptable reason for being away from the water, such as "I'm watching my brother play polo," or "I have a big international crocquet match today," then you may justifiably seek out other dry land activities in Newport. We can suggest some locales that will put you in shoulder-rubbing proximity with all the right people: croquet and lawn tennis events at the Tennis Hall of Infamy, dodging balls and stampeding ponies and then dancing around to stamp down the divots between chukkas at the Newport International Polo Series, the JVC Jazz Festival and the Ben & Jerry's Folk Festival (where the term "grass roots" takes on a whole new meaning). If you crave refinement and social niceties, you can slip into your tea-length dress or seersucker suit, and fill out your dance card at one of the *Thes Dansantes* at Beechwood, the Astor's humble little "cottage."



photos by Paul Pilcher

The Pelham, Land of Liquid Delights

These charming daylight activities aside, the real pulse and throb of a Newport summer isn't totally apparent until you've experienced the Four D's: Dining, Drinking, Dancing, and Doing the Wild Thang. On any given weekend evening, throngs of people mill around Bannister's Wharf and Thames Street, looking for dates and places to eat and start off their soirees. The Black Pearl and the Mooring tie for best place to hang outside, flaunt your tan, sip frosty beverages, get in the mood to conquer the town, and study the action. Dinner could be at the Chart House, Zelda's, Scales and Shells, or if you're really feeling flush, the Clarke Cook House.

Cheap eats in 'SNewport, if you're conserving your pennies for the second big D, can be found at Tito's Tacos, Sig's (for subs) or Little Caesar's, but don't be gauche enough to tell anyone you meet later in the evening that you ordered pizza for dinner; just say that you "dined in" with your house mates.

After you've fueled up, the fun can really begin, because, as we all know, the sunning, the dining, the dolling up and the schmoozing are just preludes to the wild hunting and chasing that goes on after the sun sets. There are many spots to raise your body temperature in Newport, and most of them have more than one kind of attraction. For example, the Ark has drinking and cool jazz; the Pelham has drinking and dance fever (but watch out for the black pond scum that seems to burst into existence and crawl up your leg after dancing on the beer-soaked floor); Oceancliffe has drinking and reggae bands. All the hot spots in Newport tend to cater to a certain societal niche, and it is possible that you won't be able to get in to some club or bar because you don't fit the mold; however, we offer a few helpful tips that should gain you easier access to just about anywhere.

The first tip is: dress appropriately. Remember that while Newport is an upscale place, it's a down-time upscale place, and you're here on vacation. Don't break out your Ivana Trump sequined number or your tuxedo just to stroll along Thames Street and hit the bars; you'll look like a pretentious yo-yo, and even if you are a pretentious yo-yo, it's the last

America's Cup Boulevard, Avenue of Dreams



photos by Paul Pilcher

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thing you want to look like. Casual-to-preppy chic is the rule to live by.

The second tip is: become a regular. If you start going to the same places often, the door crew will let you in regardless of what you're wearing, and you'll be able to impress all your friends when you scoot by everyone waiting in the interminable line outside.

Tip number three is: bring money. This should only be used as a last resort, because it is kind of tacky...but if you absolutely must, slip the right person a twenty, allowing them to ignore your social shortcomings and let you in. This tactic is most often employed by New Yorkers, who can't seem to get through a night without tipping or bribing someone.

Even employing all these suggestions, you still might not get into the Candy Store, which is the ultimate Newport night spot. It has drinking, dancing and our favorite chi chi people. Everybody is dressed better because the Candy Store thinks it's a New York kind of club, and they won't let you in if they don't like your shoes. This thankfully screens out people who wear white before Memorial Day, and those who go out at night wearing sunglasses (puhl-*eez*), leaving the rest of us to happily enjoy the scenery.

For the multiple private parties and exclusive events (like the Gatsby Ball at Rosecliff, the Night in White at Beechwood or the Hot Hot Hot party at the Viking), which go on almost every weekend of a Newport summer, you're more or less on your own, because you'll have to pull your own connections or hit up whichever Von Bulow it is that you think you know to get you on the guest list, or pony up some cash for a pricey invite.

Wherever it is that you've spent the hours between 9 p.m. and 1 a.m., if you haven't met the love of your life (or at least of your night), you can stumble back to Bannister's Wharf, known in certain circles as the "Love Canal," where you can join the other crazed and reeling revelers who are in search of an after-hours party. It's some kind of unwritten law in Newport society that you really shouldn't admit defeat and return home until at least 4 a.m., so you need to find somewhere to spend the wee hours, even if it's only playing Pachesi at your neighbors'.

Whatever it is you find to do, however, try to do it quietly, because Newport has a city ordinance against noise between the hours of 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. It's probably not worth the $200 dollars or the night in the clink just to go through your primal scream therapy at 3 a.m., but then again, it's your choice. As long as we're not in jail, we're really not that interested in what happens to you, unless of course, you were the person we had planned on going to Castle Hill with the next day. In that case, be sure someone springs your bail so you can be out and about for the last gasp of your Newport weekend, because every moment counts in the playground by the sea. ❑



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	29-30	I Dig Sportswear, Cassidy Park, Cleveland Circle, Boston
June	*5-6*	***I Dig Sportswear, Easton's Beach (1st Beach) Newport, RI***
	12	Six Pak Volley Gear Pro Am, Salisbury Beach, Salisbury, MA
	19-20	I Dig Sportswear, W. Dennis Beach, Cape Cod
	26-27	West Dennis Beach, Cape Cod
July	10-11	I Dig Sportswear, Revere Beach, Revere, MA
	17-18	Six Pak Volley Gear Pro Am, Ocean Park Beach, New London, CT
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Recently retired Boston Celtic Kevin McHale poses with himself.





A Class Match: Boston Celtic President Red Auerbach with CBS sportscaster Lesley Visser.



Power Skates: (left to right) 1980 USA Olympic Hockey Team Captain Mike Eruzione, Olympic Team Goalie Jim Craig and ex-Boston Bruin Brad Park (who played on the Stanley-Cup-winning team).

Proper Bostonians

Photos by Roger Farrington

11th Annual Newbury Street League Auction
The Ritz-Carlton Grand Ballroom
Tuesday, April 27

N.S. Leaguer/Auction Chairperson Tom Brennan (of C. Talanian Realty) joins League volunteer Fotene Demoulas at the Ritz-Carlton podium.





The Beautiful People: Simon Ringham and Lisa Graff pose for the crowd.



Karen and Michael Moran from the Moran Company follow the bidding.

Social Calendar

Thursday, May 13

Rhythm & Blues Benefit
Harper's Ferry, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston
To benefit The Foundation for Faces of Children. Boogie to the sounds of the Elements Watson. Tickets are $10; casual attire. Call (508) 264-4043.

Spring '93 Fashions Fundraiser
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St.
To benefit the Eva Brownman Fund at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Pre-reception at 6:30 p.m./show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $25. Call 320-9786.

Friday, May 14

Maritime Arts Festival
Bowen's & Bannister's Wharf, Newport, R.I.
Running through Sunday, May 16; "HMS Pinafore," performed on HMS Rose by New Light Opera Co. of NYC; preview 8 p.m., $20. Call (401) 849-2243.

Saturday, May 15

ICA's "Suit Your Self" Gala
World Trade Center
Dance, eat and drink while celebrating the ICA's new "Dress Codes" exhibit. Tickets are $40 members, $50 non-members; the festivities run from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Come as you are (or wish you were). 266-5152

Boston Croquet Club Opener
Sherborn Inn, 33 N. Main St., Sherborn
Watch world-class croquet and compete in a wicket-shoot competition in this elegant setting. Prices vary by meal/beverage choice. Begins 1 p.m. Dress is casual. Call (508) 655-9521.

Highway to Hope Gala
Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel
To kick off the 2nd annual Bob McCourt Run for M.S. Starts at 8:30 p.m.; tickets are $30. Black tie. Call 471-2122.

Two Collections Gala
WGBH Studio A, 125 Western Ave.
Channel 2's gala/art auction; place a bid or just have fun. Runs 7-10 p.m.; black tie optional. Tickets are $35 ($30 for WGBH members). Call 492-2777 for more.

Monday, May 17

Elliot Norton Awards
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Honoring excellence in theater. Cocktails at 5:30 p.m., awards ceremony at 8 p.m. (dancing will follow). Entire evening, $90; $20 for awards ceremony onward. Call 542-9155 for more.

Tuesday, May 18

Arthritis Foundation Comedy Night
Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall
Boston's best comedians in one room; starts at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $20/tables can be reserved. Call 244-1800.

Wednesday, May 19

Lunchtime Fitness Walk
State House
Join Governor Weld in a lunchtime fitness walk. Leaves at noon; fitness demo at 10:30 a.m. Free. Workout wear. Call 727-0944.

Saturday, May 22

Spring Swing
The Children's Museum, 300 Congress St.
To benefit The Steppingstone Foundation; runs 9 p.m.-1 a.m. $25 in advance/$30 at the door. Festive attire. Call 742-7810.

SNAFU 3 Can Drive
The New Place, 14 Pi Alley (off Washington St.)
Saturday Night All Friends Unite present a fundraiser for Second Helping, a division of the Greater Boston Food Bank. The event will run 8:30 p.m. on; $5 and one can of food will get you in. Casual attire. Call 330-6475.

Sunday, May 23

Walk for Walden Woods
Starts at Sanborn Middle School, Concord Center
Join Don Henley, Jason Priestly and other celebrities in this 10K walk to save Walden Woods. Registration at 10 a.m. Call (800) 554-3569.

Monday, May 24

Boston's Grandest Cabaret II
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St.
To benefit the Living With AIDS Theatre Project; doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $15. Call 277-ROXY.

Tuesday, May 25

People's Choice Awards
Silverado at the Roxy, 279 Tremont St.
Benefiting Saturday's Bread and other free meals programs. $10 a ticket; action goes from 7-10 p.m. Call 566-5216 for more.

BEST BET BOX

Maturity got you down? Tired of being responsible, respectible, reliable? Well, there is a cure for your blues. Stop acting your age, and take it easy at the SPRING SWING! More fun than a barrel of monkeys, more relaxation than you can take. Saturday, May 22 9 p.m.-1 a.m. The Children's Museum 300 Congress Street

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Bodies, Rest & Motion

Even though there are many comings and goings in director Michael Steinberg's desert tale, no one really goes anywhere and nothing happens. But that's the point. Beth (Bridget Fonda) loses Nick (Tim Roth) when he decides to leave town. She sleeps with Sid (Eric Stolz). Sid falls in love with Beth. Sid loses Beth. And so on. Phoebe Cates, who plays Nick's ex-girlfriend and Beth's best friend, doesn't lose or find anybody; she is at rest, at least temporarily, and drinks or gets stoned. The movie is exasperating, even silly at times, but other times it shimmers like a mirage in the desert. K. Wilson

El Mariachi

Twenty-four-year-old director Robert Rodriguez made this action picture for $7,000, and it is great fun. A young mariachi singer gets caught in the middle of deadly feud between a vicious drug lord,Moco and his murderous partner Azul. The movie opens with a wonderfully-edited prison ambush sequence and speeds towards its *Road Warrior*-like conclusion. The glaring absence of special effects make the low budget chase scenes especially entertaining. The amateur cast is surprisingly good, especially co-writer Carlos Gallardo as the mariachi and Paul Marquardt as Moco. In Spanish, with subtitles. K. Wilson

Indecent Proposal

Diana (Demi Moore) and David Murphy (Woody Harrelson) are deeply in love (they have sex and say "I love you," a lot). But they are desperate for money, so when a handsome billionaire (Robert Redford) offers them a million dollars for a night with Diana, they take him up on it. There's no denying director Adrian Lyne's considerable talent; he keeps this insubstantial soufflé rising until the very end when it collapses into a sticky puddle. Like *Pretty Woman, Indecent Proposal* is a cynical paean to our consumer society disguised as a romance. K. Wilson

The Last Days of Chez Nous

A decade-and-a half of evolving women's liberation consciousness informs the best films of Austalian director, Gillian Armstong. This includes her latest, *The Last Days of Chez Nous*, a touching elegy to an irreparably broken modern marriage. Lisa Harrow is wonderful as Beth, the film's heroine, who has a shaky marriage, a daughter who loves her, and a successful career. But Beth wonders if she's selfish, unlovable, too competent. Should she have another baby? The film can be interpreted as Feminism Defended. G. Peary

Like Water for Chocolate

In Mexico, the expression "like water for chocolate" means to be agitated or sexually aroused. True to its title, director Alfonso Arau's *Like Water For Chocolate*, telis a tale of love, lust, food, and foment in the tradition of Latin American magic realism, but with a feminist spin. Forbidden by family tradition to marry the love of her life (who marries her oldest sister instead, just to be near her), Tita expresses her sorrow, anger and passion through food. The movie is a delightful, lively romance complete with a wicked-witch of a mother, handsome revolutionaries and leather, lace, and candles. K. Wilson

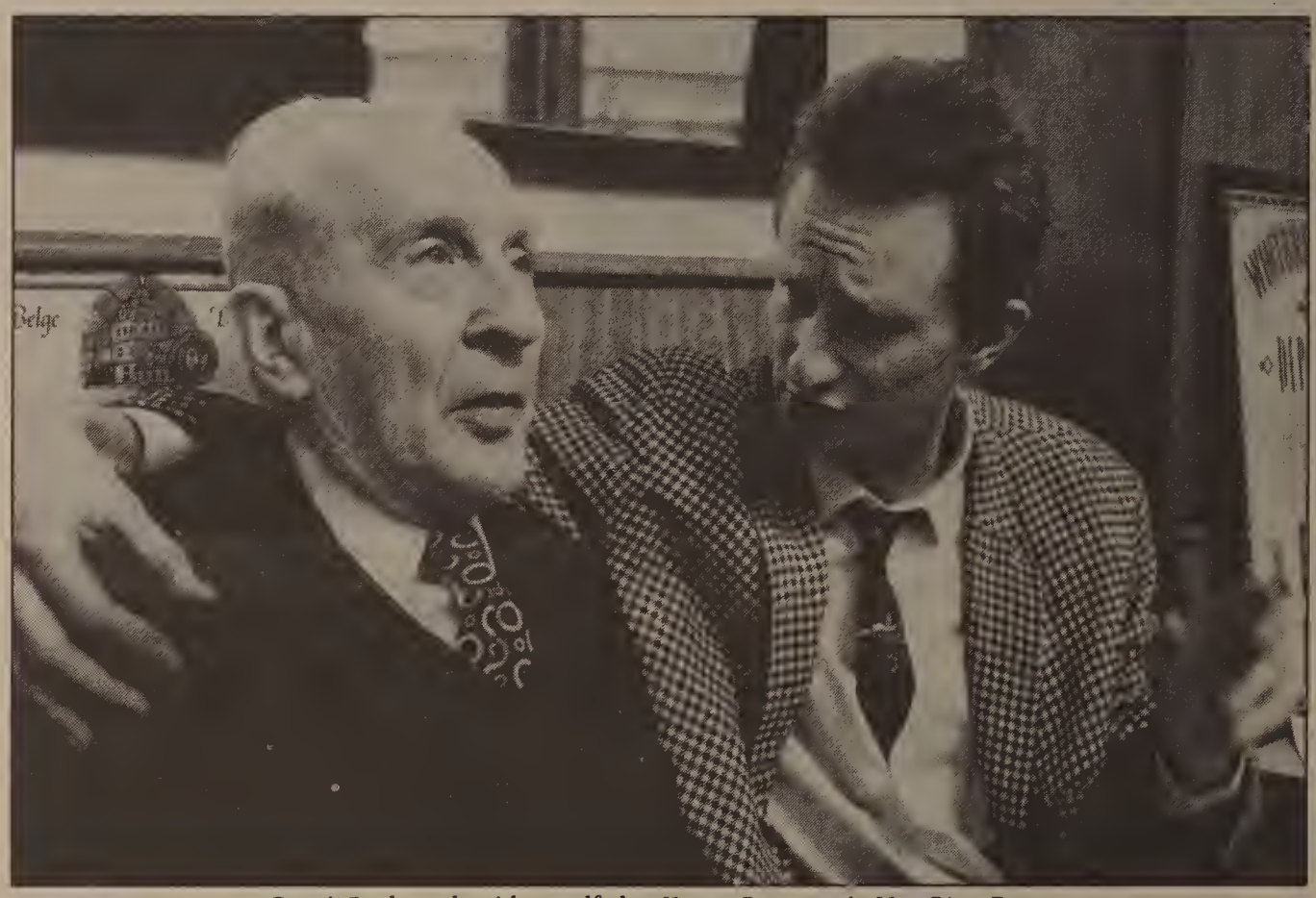
INDEPENDENT'S DAY

Gerald Peary Picks & Pans the Independents

BY GERALD PEARY

Man Bites Dog

Directed by Remy Belvaux. Written by Belvaux, Andre Bonzel, Benoit Poelvoorde, and Vincent Tavier. At the Coolidge Corner Moviehouse.



Benoit Poelvoorde with grandfather Hector Papparet in *Man Bites Dog*

In a bat of an eye, a stranger on a train is strangled, and, even before its opening credits, *Man Bites Dog* kicks in as a serial killer marathon. Eventually, it becomes a mountain of the dying, a river of the dead. As the movie's brute protagonist, Ben (Benoit Poelvoorde), explains his busy calendar, "I like to begin the month with a mailman."

Ben's speedy murder of Mr. Postman segues into virtuoso weeks of frightening shootings, gruesome bludgeonings, and other creepy, indescribably gory deeds. All on screen. All for the camera.

Yes, Ben just loves to kill, and he lives to talk about it, and to demonstrate precisely how his trade is done. Energetic, enthusiastic, a storyteller and a showman, delightfully uninhibited before a camera, he's a natural subject for a hard-copy, real-life dramatic profile.

Man Bites Dog, a Belgian fiction documentary, feigns to be a bonafide documentary-in-the making, going behind the scenes as a raggedy, probably post-graduate school film crew of three (director, sound, camera) who follow Ben about and photograph as he zealously spills blood.

Is this your kind of movie?

If your eyes automatically shut down at violence, and you mutter and kvetch, "Why do movies have to be so depressing?," stay home with your fried green tomatoes, water for chocolate, and passion fish. But if you crave a film which is truly brave, brazen, devious, outrageous, and which shoves your nose into the muck in which we live, *Man Bites Dog* is for you.

But also – get ready for this – *Man Bites Dog* is incredibly funny, in a macabre, gallows humor kind of way, though the audience I saw it with at the Coolidge seemed too shocked to catch the humor everywhere.

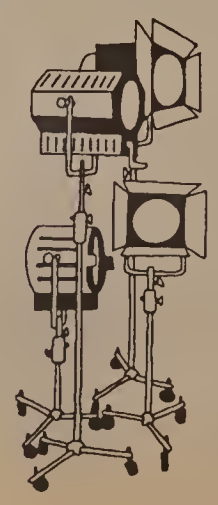
In *Man Bites Dog*, the film crew gets caught up in Ben's crimes. They dictate what murders they'd like him to perform, they delight when he offers to pump his profits (he kills, then robs) into their increasingly expensive documentary about him. Finally, they simply join in, shooting away at a rival video crew, holding the legs of a young boy as Ben offs him with a pillow.

Amazingly, the writer / directors /technicians of *Man Bites Dog* double as the complicit film crew, using their real-life names on-screen. Actor Benoit Poelvoorde, who plays homicidal Ben to the hilt, also co-wrote the brilliant script. Poelvoorde's off-screen mother, grandfather, grandmother, play the psycho killer's family.

Man Bites Dog is an important commentary on the media as a more-than-willing partner in the murderous world around us. But there's an even more profound observation: movies seem to have an affinity for violence, with blood attracted to celluloid like flies landing on honey.

"I am the cinema!" Ben proclaims, singing and dancing down the street, blasting his gun through montages and jump cuts.

Man Bites Dog is nothing less than a demented tribute to Jean Luc Godard's nihilist classic *Breathless*, thirty years later. Killer Ben is Jean-Paul Belmondo of *Breathless* meets Al Bundy of "Married With Children." If you've never seen it, check out *Breathless* at your video store before a crazy night out with *Man Bites Dog*. ❑



IMPROPER BOSTONIAN FLICK PICK

May in Boston means the New England Film and Video Festival, now in its 18th year. Between May 19 and 22, this year's 22 Festival winners will be shown at the Brattle, the Museum of Fine Arts and at Boston University. Particularly recommended is the long-awaited premiere of Bostonian Joe Gibbons' The Genius, starring Bush administration arch-enemy/NEA-spurned performance artist Karen Finley, at the Brattle May 19 at 9:30 p.m. Also, a night of the winners among winners – the best shorts – at B.U.'s Tsai Performance Center, Saturday, May 22 at 8 p.m.

DAVE

Mr. Civilian Goes To Washington

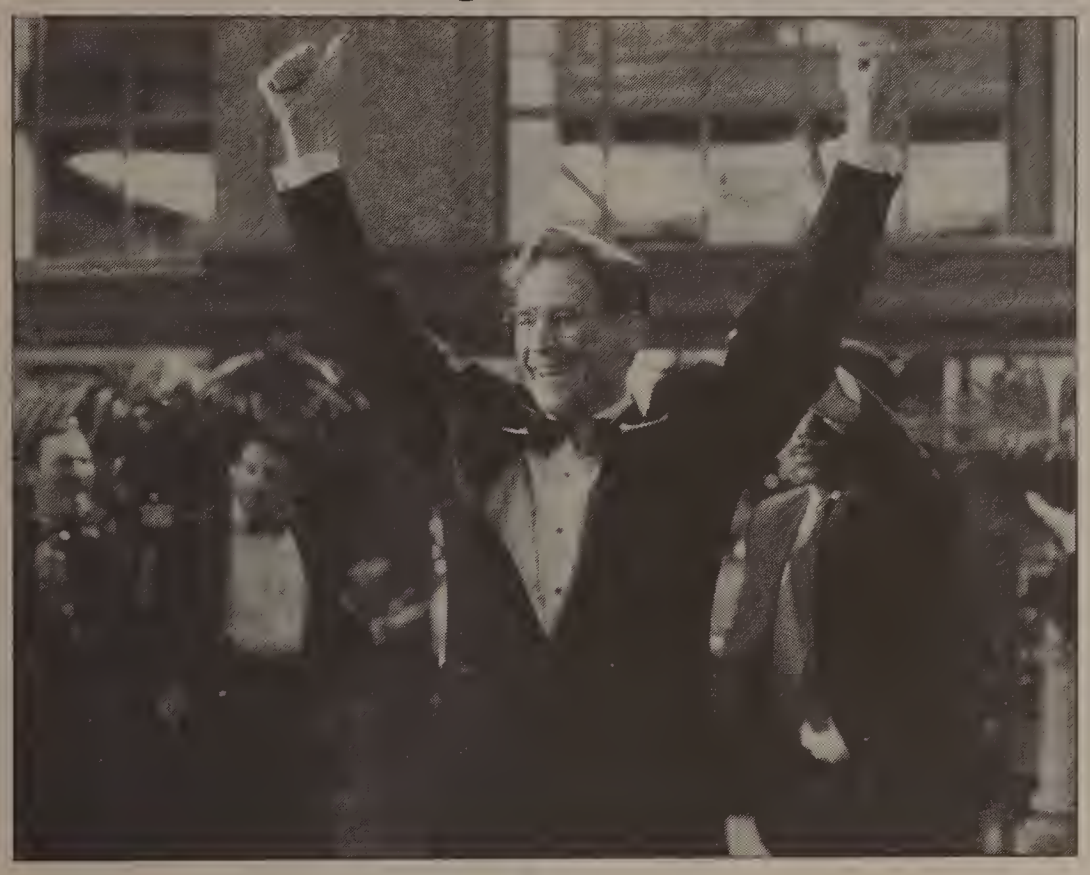
BY KAJ WILSON

DAVE
Directed by Ivan Reitman. Written by Gary Ross.

Dave, Ivan Reitman's Capra-esque comedy about an ordinary guy who suddenly becomes President of the United States, was in the works long before the presidential election, and had Bush won, it would play like a stink-bomb lobbed into a window of the White House. Instead, *Dave* gleefully adds insult to injury and kicks the Republicans in the pants after they've already been shown the door.

Dave Kovic (Kevin Kline) is a high-spirited, warm-hearted guy who runs a temporary agency out of a brick storefront on the Main Street of an all-American town (only this Main Street has been updated to include people who aren't white and who don't speak English). Dave is up with people, the democratic process, and good, honest work; he's an overgrown boy scout and a bit of a goof-ball.

As he looks a lot like the President of the United States, Bill Mitchell (also played by Kline), a mean, tight-assed Yalie (who looks a little like George Bush), Dave is recruited by the Secret Service as a stand-in. However, when the President falls gravely ill, Dave's temporary job turns into a full-time occupation. Soon, Dave is setting an agenda that gives compassion top priority over self-interest, pitting him and Ellen Mitchell, the President's estranged wife (Sigourney Weaver),



Kevin Kline enjoys being the big guy in *Dave*.

against his predatory Chief of Staff, Bob Alexander (Frank Langella) and spin doctor, Alan Reed (Kevin Dun).

Dave and Bob are perfect foils for one another. Bob (a take-off on Alexander "I'm in Charge" Haig) is ruthless, imposing, handsome and has no redeeming social value: he's marvelous. Kline and Langella's performances are broad, playful, cartoonish, and utterly winning. Dave is a clown: he falls out of his chair, babbles when nervous and bursts spontaneously into song ("Louie Louie" seems to have become the unofficial U.S. national anthem). Bob stalks his prey, rolls his eyes and glowers. (Bob used to be a good red, white and blue name. Recently it's become the devil's nickname. Think of Bob from "Twin Peaks" and Tim Robbins' right-wing Bob Roberts.)

Dave has a gold mine of a supporting cast including Ben Kingsley as the V.P., Charles Grodin as Dave's pal Murray Blum, and Ving Rhames as a Secret Service operative. And *Dave* is to the Fourth Estate and the Beltway what *The Player* is to Hollywood: Larry King, John McLaughlin, Kathleen Sullivan, Tip O'Neill, and Senator Paul Simon, to name a few, all play themselves. (Remember the line, the one between entertainment and the news that was said to be blurring? You don't have to worry about it anymore; it's gone.)

Dave loses its edge and energy whenever it becomes sincere, as when Dave wins over a homeless child, the press, and Ellen all at the same time. Sigourney Weaver's performance is surprisingly unplayful and her budding romance with Dave has no fizz. And why does Reitman waste our time with a cloying, simple-minded, feel-good message that an ordinary white guy can change this country with common sense (small-town businessman Murray Blum helps Dave figure out the national budget) and by doing the right thing? Dave does, however, make you think about another young, enthusiastic, extremely extroverted President, who, we hope, will also not be afraid of making enemies even if he risks being a short-timer. ❑

KEY
- A Winner
- A Toss Up
- For the Birds

CRITIC'S CHOICE

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Newsweek	People	Time
Indecent Proposal	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	A Toss Up	For the Birds	For the Birds	–
The Sandlot	For the Birds	A Toss Up	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	–	–	For the Birds	–
Boiling Point	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	For the Birds	For the Birds	A Winner	–	–	For the Birds	–
Cop and a Half	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	For the Birds	–	–	For the Birds	–
Benny & Joon	A Winner	A Toss Up	For the Birds	A Winner	A Toss Up	For the Birds	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	–
The Adventures of Huck Finn	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	–	A Toss Up	A Winner	A Toss Up
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	A Toss Up	A Winner	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	For the Birds	–	–	–	–
The Crying Game	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner
Unforgiven	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	A Winner	For the Birds	A Winner
Point of No Return	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	A Toss Up	For the Birds	For the Birds	A Toss Up	For the Birds	A Toss Up

FLICKS IN A FLASH

MAP OF THE HUMAN HEART

Director Vincent Ward's latest film – about an Innuit Eskimo (Jason Scott Lee) and the half-Indian/half-European love of his life who are caught up in the marvels and the horrors of the white man's world – is a clunker. This is not because it's so bad, but because big chunks of the movie don't connect; they're like icebergs breaking off from the mainland and floating away. Ward bombards us with repetitive images; X-rays and maps appear so often that they lose their meaning. Too many show-stopping aerial shots do just that: stop the show and overwhelm the viewer. The movie makes you snow blind. But make no mistake: Ward has talent and his clunker is worthier than many "successful" movies. K. WILSON

OLIVIER OLIVIER

Though there are no Nazis nor heart-breaking scenes in the Warsaw Ghetto as there were in *Europa Europa* (director Agnieszka Holland's most recent film), her *Olivier Olivier* is far darker in spirit, and weirder. Set in contemporary rural France, the young Olivier rides off on his bike and disappears. A few years later the Parisian police return a kinky Parisian teenager claiming to be Olivier to the bosom of a family that was screwed up even before his disappearance. Psychologically dense, the tale climaxes in black magic and mystery, with even a shaky claim to happiness. G. PERRY

THIS BOY'S LIFE

Michael Caton-Jones' film of Tobias Wolff's autobiography presents a small triumph of the human spirit. Toby, a young teenager (Leonardo DiCaprio), moves all over the country with his mother (Ellen Barkin, doing her best acting in years), who is looking to escape abusive relationships and find a decent job. When her spirits flag temporarily, she marries a bullying auto mechanic (Robert De Niro), who lives in the remote town of Concrete. De Niro gives a surprisingly one-note performance; he's convincing when he's flinging his son against the refrigerator or brutalizing Barkin in bed, but he lacks subtlety. He's so intent on being "intense," that he ruins the quiet moments which could have given the film true resonance. However, Leonardo DeCaprio's performance is simply outstanding: honest, heartfelt, and utterly without guile.
A. LEIBS

WATCH IT

The title refers to a game of one-upsmanship played by a household of thirtysomething, long-time male buddies who won't grow up. At its most primitive the game is played by jumping out of refrigerators or cupboards and yelling "Watch it!" Some stunts are quite creative. All are nasty. The game is symptomatic of the men's need to be in control and their fear of getting close to each other and, of course, to women. Peter Galliher plays a nice guy who attempts to re-establish a relationship with his cousin Michael from whom he has been estranged since childhood. Michael Is a handsome, remorseless womanizer who goes in for the kill when Galliher falls for his ex-girlfriend. Ultimately, Galliher uses the game to force change on the household and get what he wants. Jon Tenney as Rick, a sheep in wolf's clothing (he's a cross between the two cousins) provides the zip in a movie that slows down in the middle. K. WILSON

Museum of Fine Arts "Awash in Color"

Water Focused Watercolors

BY KATHY MATHESON

Does the title "The Great American Watercolor" make you think of those, well, "abstract" paintings of yours that Mom hung on the refrigerator with those little ladybug magnets? Luckily, there are people in this world with a more sophisticated view of watercolor; even better, they have put some of the most renowned works together in a show at the Museum of Fine Arts called "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." Although the exhibit contains 125 works, the museum's collection – reportedly one of the finest in the world – totals nearly 2,000 pieces.

While art scholars generally recognize American watercolors as the best examples of this medium, visitors to the MFA are doubly blessed because they are not only seeing superior art, but they will recognize many of the settings: the Adirondacks, Newport, Vermont, the Berkshires, Boston and— I kid you not— Revere Beach. (It turns out that the North Shore was one of Prendergast's favorite vacation spots, and unless you read the accompanying text, you'd never believe that his beautiful watercolor depicts an area now dominated by big hair and bikinis.)

Spending an afternoon with these paintings is probably the best way to celebrate advent of spring and the imminent arrival of summer. Like the nature slowly coming back to life around us, all of the works on display are, truly, "awash in color;" Your only regret may be that the pictures are too small. Whereas most Impressionist canvases are large enough to allow yourself to fall into the lush landscape of Giverny, for example, these watercolors are fairly small in size and require a careful eye to inspect the work that went into them.

If only there was more to love. ❑

"Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor" runs through Aug. 15 at the MFA.



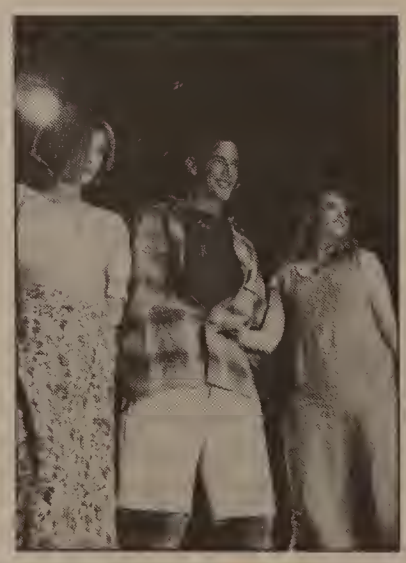
"The Blue Boat," 1892, Winslow Homer, watercolor on paper.

Fashionable Function



Beautiful people, yummy eats and a wild high-tech special effects show made **Model's Inc.'s** Spring Party '93, held at Avalon, a "model" event. Would that all events looked this glam!







all photos by Leslie

"Suit Your Self"

ICA's Currents '93: Dress Codes

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

What, you may ask yourself, could Tom Brokaw, Burt Reynolds, Elton John, and Slash possibly have in common ?

Well, besides the fact that they all possess disastrous coifs, what these icons of popular culture do have in common is that they are all linked with one of the hippest, most innovative and unusual parties of the spring season. (Tom Brokaw, hip? Just wait...)

This year, the Institute of Contemporary Art is exploring and celebrating current trends in popular fashion and sexuality with their most recent exhibition, "Currents 93: Dress Codes." Accompanying this exhibit is the ICA's annual spring benefit, "Suit Your Self," which will take place at the World Trade Center on the evening of May 15.

Highlighting the evening's festivities will be a celebrity auction. The auction will feature a shirt of Leonard Nimoy's, a jogging suit of "Psycho" Janet Leigh, a pair of reincarnated plaid pants from the closet of Shirley MacLaine, plus several other intriguing personal items from those aforementioned celebrities. (No, Burt Reynolds did not donate his toupee.)

There will also be music, dancing, and a fashion show featuring 1994 collections by several Boston designers, with clothes that emphasize freedom of dress and expression. Japanese artist Yasumasa Morimura has also created a limited-edition print specifically for the benefit.

All proceeds from "Suit Your Self" will go directly toward funding future exhibitions at the ICA, so come out and express yourself, or dress in drag if you are so inclined – it's for a good cause. ❑

For tickets and information contact the ICA at 266-5152.

THE COMPANY OF ANGELS

Promise Unfulfilled

BY NANCY LEONARD

Alan Brody's "The Company of Angels" seemed a highly promising work during its staged reading, last spring at Newton's New Rep Theatre. It was full of energy and hope, though a certain stiff awkwardness prevailed, with the actors carrying their scripts and entering the action from chairs pushed back against another play's set. Relying on positive audience response, director Larry Lane decided to stage the world premiere in the New Rep's next season.

But the negative qualities, which seemed to come from the embryonic format, unfortunately linger in the full-scale mounting, and undermine the effort. What should be an emotionally compelling piece, with warm and complex characters fighting against despair, is often a preachy collection of attitudes.

The play was inspired by the true story of Rita Karpinowicz. As a young actress in Poland in 1946, she founded a theater company with her husband, to bring Yiddish language productions to displaced survivors in Polish and German resettlement camps. Initially, they played on makeshift stages with an improvised work, then settled into a formal theater in Munich, performing a wide-ranging repertoire. When the camps were disbanded, the company broke up, and the couple came to the United States.

The play's action tracks these events, from the spring of 1946 to the summer of 1949. Rochel Kremer, an actress trained in Moscow, and her friend Leib Arnovsky, a director, find themselves in Poland after the war.

All sorts of people have come looking for others, and the walls of the Jewish Committee in Lodz are filled with life and death information. Mordecai Solomon, a singer/actor who spent four years with the partisans, wants to start a theater so that the people in the camps can "hear our language" and live again. Two hoofers from Budapest, and their musical director, sign on right away. A renowned actress freed from a concentration camp and her young companion join their rehearsals.

Amidst differing opinions about the desirability of the enterprise and the nature of the work to be presented, the company devises a look at "Yesterday and Today." It draws on the musicalized stories of Sholom Aleichem, and confronts the continuing pogroms in Poland as well as the British quotas preventing emigration to Palestine. Backstage, there's blossoming romance, personal renewal, some political intrigue involving the rescue of children, and metaphysical debate in the face of the Holocaust.

The play is constructed with competent theatricality from many short scenes, but it's marred by unexplained shadows and ambiguity, obvious playwrighting devices, and stylized distancing. Leib's early authoritarianism, for example, remains a puzzle, as do some aspects of the freed actress' development and one man's repeated mention of an imagined spectator. The characters, not fully personified, often say and do things simply to suit their creator's convenience. Two backstage visitors serve as opposing voices in the human debate: is the troupe doing good, or only spreading false hopes? When the author tries to counter the latter view with another tale of survival, the logical thread is lost in a murky tangle.

Larry Lane's conscientious direction fails to gloss over these flaws, and his actors aren't strong enough to do it on their own. What should be riveting, or at least moving ("a shipment" that "went down," the partisan's rallying cry, closing the first act; the anthem marking the establishment of Israel) fails to be either in this production. Some kind of inflexibility keeps the characterizations at a distance, not serving dramatic ends.

Steven Capone's cement-walled set – perhaps intended as a metaphor of desolation – easily accommodates the action, but without much sense of particular locales, atmosphere or passing time. A few props, rudimentary backdrops, and a piano materialize for various scenes. The musical segments try to lift the proceedings into other realms of entertainment. Donna May's costumes convey the company's improving fortunes. Eric Levenson's lighting facilitates the "on-stage" action and shades scenic snippets, amplifying the main event.

Pamela Shafer plays Rochel with stylized reserve and didactic enthusiasm. Her laudable commitment should be warmer. John Moser's determined Mordecai needs more strength for real credibility. Barry Jay Abramowitz is good as the troubled Leib, once he gets into the fray. As the actress/survivor, Josefina Bosch needs to vary the pain. Chandra Pieragostini is alright as her aspiring companion and Paul Wagner and George Drance are fine as the fun-loving hoofers. Charles Geyer's musical director is nicely understated while Scott Severance and Kat Stoutenboroguh play diverse roles.

The New Rep hasn't realized the promise in Alan Brody's play. The story should be compelling and uplifting, but here it's much less than angelic. ❑



ACT YOUR AGE...

THE CALENDAR

DANCE

African Dancing & Drumming
Brookline High Gymnasium
Come see an evening of traditional West African rituals, dances and drumming on May 13 at 7:30 p.m. Free. Call 730-2700.

Boston Ballet
The Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
BB presents a program of All Balanchine, three ballets by George Balanchine, the legendary dance genius of the 20th century, through may 16. Tickets are also on sale for Romeo and Juliet, the Ballet's last production of the season. It runs June 3-20. Call 931-2000 for details.

Ballet Theatre of Boston
The Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St., Boston
BTB presents "*Isle of the Dead* and Other Living Works" May 20-22 at 8 p.m. and May 23 at 3 p.m. Guest artists are two former principals of the Kirov Ballet. Call 578-8727.

Groundwerx Dance
BU's Sargent Dance Studio
1 University Road, Boston
Sean Curran and the Groundwerx Dance Theatre will give a concert May 21 & 22 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $7-12. Call 241-8952.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Frame Gallery
300 (rear) Harvard St., Brookline
Murton Sudalter presents "A Photographic Journey," through May 22.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Close-Up/Still Life" through May 23. Drawn mainly from the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features images by photographers such as Steiglitz, Abbott, Moholy, Steichen, Ray and Brandt. Parallel themes are brought up to date by contemporary photogs such as Coplans, Spano and Nixon.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball," and a group show called "Striking Images." Both contain fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. The former runs through July 30; the latter through May 30.

CLASSICAL

All Newton Music School
321 Chestnut Ave., W. Newton
An all-Schumann program will be performed May 16 at 4 p.m. by a piano and string ensemble, with vocal accompaniment. ANMS also hosts cello and piano concert, with works by Prokofiev, Saint-Saëns and others, on May 21 at 8 p.m. Call 527-4553.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The world-renowned Pops perform every Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., May 13 through July 11. Call 266-1492 for program information and ticket prices.

Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Saturday at 8 p.m., the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May. Call 424-7000 for reservations.

Jordan Hall
Gainsborough St., Boston
New England Conservatory presents its annual alumni concert May 21 at 8p.m. Admission is free. Call 536-2412.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 St. Stephen St., Boston
Ron Barron, principal trombone of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, will perform "An Evening with the Alto Trombone," May 21 at 7:30 p.m. He will be accompanied by pianist Fred Wanger.



IMPROPER PICK

Make Way for the Swans: The ultimate Boston spring tradition is almost upon us. On May 26, at 11:30 a.m., a parade of children (old and young), Boston Park Rangers, Mother Goose and, of course, the swans will troop from the Boston Park Plaza to the Public Garden lagoon. Naturally, a picnic in the Gardens and Swan Boat rides galore will follow. Call 457-2486 with questions.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating - and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Garden in the Woods
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call 508-877-6574.

Hidden Gardens
on Beacon Hill
Tour the hidden gardens of Beacon Hill on May 20 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Call 227-4392 for details.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past - this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

FILMS

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline, MA. Accessible by the "C" Green Line Train. Boston's premier independent first-run moviehouse with renown art deco features and 2 screens including a gigantic silver screen (the second largest in the Boston area). The Coolidge specializes in presenting a vast array of creative visions from filmmakers all over the world. Delightfully air conditioned. 734-2500.

Museum of Fine Arts
365 Huntington Ave., Boston
The "Women Film Women Artists" series will screen three independent films on May 13 at 5:30, 7:15 and 8:30 p.m. The Latin American series continues May 14 at 6 p.m. with a series of short films on Creativity and Expression, and again at 8 p.m. with a theme of Heroes and Healers. Films have English subtitles; tickets are $6. Call 267-9300 for details.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

N.E. Film & Video Festival
various locations
The best independent films by New England filmmakers will be screened May 19-22. Call 536-1540 for the schedule.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

Danforth Museum of Art
123 Union Ave., Framingham
The Danforth shows work by American women artists of the 1920s-30s through June 20. Call (508)620-0050.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Although some of the outdoor exhibits will not be open until the weather warms up, there is still plenty to see indoors, such as the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508)853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture until May 30. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition - an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information, call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors will be presented through Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." On view through Aug. 1 is John Singleton Copley's "Watson and Shark," the two large versions of his famous shark attack painting. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 3 and part two until September.

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY LESLIE

"Name something stupid you have done."



Mike, 35, Melrose
"I ran into a parked car while riding my bicycle."



Marjorie, 22, Boston
"I reunited with an ex-boyfriend, which made me realize why I ended it the first time."



Doris, mature, Quincy
"Get married!"



Gerard, 26, Somerville
"I got out of my car while it was in drive, and it slammed into a wall."



Mary, 24, Brighton
"I came home one night with my shirt inside out and backwards ,and said goodnight to my mother."



Gordon, 25, Boston
"In Toronto, friends and I lit a store mannequin wearing hockey equipment on fire."

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous, robotic ants and other creepy-crawlies! Through May 16, take a whimsical look at some of the attitudes people hold toward wildlife, domesticated animals and the environment in the exhibit "The Good, the Bad and the Cuddly." Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. May 16 is Cadillac Day and May 23 is Edsel Day.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious - and dangerous - sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

PEABODY & ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square, Salem
The nation's oldest maritime museum is presenting "The Great Age of Sail: Treasures from the National Maritime Museum of Greenwich, England," until June 2. It features over 100 of the world's most famous and highly-prized treasures of maritime art. Call (508)745-1876.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
The Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Cambridge
See **"Those the River Keeps"** through May 19; it's about two people being torn apart by their own fear and confusion. Harold Pinter's **"The Caretaker"** returns May 21-30; it's the story of an old tramp who is rescued from a fight and taken in by two brothers. Call 547-8300.

CAMBRIDGE CENTER FOR ADULT EDUCATION
56 Brattle St., Harvard Square
An eclectic evening of mordantly funny dialogues, incisive social commentary, and hilarious personal anecdotes for those who attend **"The Unspeakable Sally Greenhouse: A Thinking Person's Performance Artist"**. May 22 at 8pm; call 547-6789.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. **"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline"** is now performing an open-ended run. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, **"Shear Madness"** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, **"Shear Madness"** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
Through May 16, see ex-gymnast Cathy Rigby perform in the classic musical western **"Annie Get Your Gun."** Call 931-2787 for times and tickets.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
HTC presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Arms and the Man"** May 21-June 20. It's an irreverent spoof about a romantic young lady and the soldier who tries to hide in her bedroom. Call 266-0800 for times and tickets.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
The Lyric presents **"The Price"** by Arthur Miller through May 23. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket prices.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MERRIMACK REP. THEATRE
Lowell Memorial Aud.
E. Merrimack St., Lowell
The MRT presents Peter Shaffer's world-renowned play **"Amadeus,"** about the life of Mozart and the mediocre composer who

(continued on following page)



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$25 in advance / $30 at the door

$50 includes an open bar reception from 8p.m.–9:30p.m.

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617–742–7810

ARTS

(Theater Continued)

claimed he murdered him. Runs through May 15. Call (508)454-6324 for times and tickets.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents **"Murder at Rick's Cafe"** and **"Let's Kill the Boss."** Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

New Theatre
The 1st & 2nd Church Theatre
66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents **"Spike Heels,"** a comedy that reverses traditional stereotypes and hilariously exposes issues of seduction and sexual harassment in the workplace. Runs through May 15, Thurs-Sun at 8 p.m. Call 247-7388 for reservations and information.

New Repertory Theatre
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Come see the world premiere of **"The Company of Angels,"** set in Poland in 1946. Based on a true story, a troupe of young Jewish actors joins together to bring hope to a desperate world. Runs through May 23. Call 332-1646 for more information.

Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St., Boston
Marlo Thomas stars in the provocative comedy **"Six Degrees of Separation,"** winner of two 1991 drama awards. It's about a wealthy white family that takes in a black man claiming to be Sidney Poitier's son. Runs through May 16; call 1-800-233-3123 for times and tickets.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
"Forever Plaid," a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from **"Nunsense"** have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

U.S.I.T.L.
The Roxy
279 Tremont St., Boston
The U.S. Improvisational Theatre League meets May 19 & 26 and June 2 & 9 to compete in a sports/theatre scene. Based loosely on hockey, the improv teams try to out-act each other. Call 227-7699.

Young Playwrights' Festival
The Boston Center for the Arts
Black Box Theatre
539 Tremont St., Boston
This festival is a showcase of four one-act plays written by Boston students ages 16-21, and gives the budding playwrights a chance to work in a professional setting with Boston actors, directors and designers. Through May 30.

LECTURES/READINGS

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle St., Cambridge
Rosalyn Elder of Treasured Legacy discusses the art of the Negro Renaissance, an era from 1919 to the early 1930s, on May 18. Brandeis professor Joseph Wronka speaks on "Human Rights and U.S. Social Policy Agenda" on May 25. Both lectures begin at 8:15 p.m.. On May 20 at 10:30 a.m., learn about the Lizzie Borden murders. Admission for all lectures is $2. The CCAE also sponsors an environmental series at 7:30 p.m. at 5 Longfellow Park in Harvard Square. May 12 it's "Building a Sustainable World" and May 19 it's "How Feasible Are Alternative Power Sources?" Cost is $4. Call 547-6789.



Roger Farrington

IMPROPER PICK

Put Spring in Your Step: *On Sunday, May 16, participating galleries celebrate "Spring Art Newbury Street." Walking the avenue, you can litsen to sidewalk jazz and classical and stroll through the variety galleries. All exhibitions are free and open to the public. Handy Hint: The street itself will be closed to vehicular traffic between 1-5 p.m., so take that T. For more, call the Newbury League at 267-7961.*

Ford Hall Forum
Ell Student Center
Northeastern Univ.
360 Huntington Ave., Boston
Village Voice journalist and author Nat Hentoff will speak May 16 at 7 p.m. on "Is Any Form of Speech So Harmful, So Disgusting, So Dangerous or So Offensive that it Should Not be Spoken or Published?" On May 19 at 7 p.m. at the Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston, Ford Hall presents former presidential candidate Gary Hart, who will share thoughts from his new book, *The Good Fight: The Education of an American Reformer*. And last but certainly not least, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alice Walker (*The Color Purple*) will speak May 25 at 7 p.m. at Northeastern's Blackman Auditorium. All lectures are free. Call 437-5800.

NOW
971 Comm. Ave., Boston
Join the Violence Against Women Task Force on May 20 at 7 p.m. Work for women's safety and to ensure that the media and government take such issues seriously. Call 782-1056.

Rational Recovery
various locations
For those who have problems, with drugs, alcohol or overeating, RR offers an alternative to the "Alcoholics Anonymous" approach. Call 547-1497 to find out more.

GALLERIES

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston
In conjunction with the Society of Arts & Crafts gallery at 101 Arch St., Boston, Alianza presents the work of New England women jewelers through June 4.

Cambridge Arts Center
41 2nd St., Cambridge
Come see "Drawing the Line: Artists Confront Intolerance," a group exhibition created in response to political and moral crises worldwide. Through June 5.

Kane Gallery
115 Newbury St., Boston
Kane presents "A Celebration of Boston," recent watercolors of Beantown as seen by Thomas Rebek, through May 16.

Mills Gallery
The Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
Mills presents "Welcome to Asian America: Challenging the Myths," a series of works, puzzles and adventures representing the complexities of the Asian-American experience. Through June 20.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston
French post-Impressionist Bernard Lamotte's estate will be on display through July 15. Featured are more than 100 oils, watercolors and works on paper that depict the cafes, parks and boulevards of the artist's homeland.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Faces of Children
Harper's Ferry
158 Brighton Ave., Allston
The Foundation for the Faces of Children will host a rhythm & blues benefit bash May 13 at 9 p.m. All proceeds go to the foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the research and treatment of facial deformities. Tickets are only $10; buy them at the door or call (508)264-4043.

Floating Hospital
750 Washington St., Boston
This yearly spring fun run raises funds for the N.E. Medical Center's Floating Playroom. On May 23 at noon; it includes a five-mile run, a one-mile run, and a one-mile run/walk. Call 956-7656, or register the day of the race.

Tiptoe Thru the Tulips
Chestnut Hill Reservoir
Every dollar raised at this walkathon May 15 at 9 a.m. (rain or shine) goes for Parkinson's Disease research. Call 638-8466 to register.

Vision Foundation
along the Charles River
Artesani Park, Brighton
This sixth annual benefit walk for those Massachusetts residents who are losing their sight occurs May 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The walk is 4-8 miles along the river, and begins right across from WBZ-TV's studios. Call 926-4232 for a pledge sheet, or just show up. Rain date is June 6.

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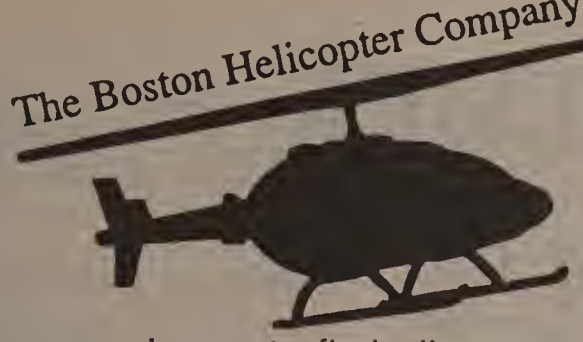
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ARTS

BENEFIT TO HONOR BOSTON'S BEST EATS

BY MAGGIE JAMESON

Where can you sample a wide variety of fine foods from over 30 of Greater Boston's best restaurants, enjoy two-stepping country music and an awards presentation by local celebrities—all for a $10 ticket which benefits one of the most successful free meals programs in Boston?

Discover the fun, the food and the music at the Fifth Annual "People's Choice Awards" for Restaurants, proudly sponsored by the Greater Boston Restaurant Guide, WCLB-FM 105.7 and *The Improper Bostonian*.

The benefit awards event will feature the first public announcement of 35 "People's Choice Awards" to restaurants in many categories, presented by Boston celebrities and restaurant critics. Awards are based on results of ballots cast by the dining public through the Greater Boston Restaurant Guide. Categories include "Best Ambiance," "Best Brunch," "Best Caterer," Best Romantic," and "Best Kept Secret." Participating restaurants include Calamari Fisheries/Daily Catch, Mamma Maria, Bob the Chef and the Small Planet Bar & Grill.

The Church of All Nations, which provides the inter-denominational, interracial free meals programs, "Saturday's Bread" and "Sunday's Bread,"is the beneficiary of the event. These programs provide free meals on weekends and have welcomed over 162,000 guests with meals prepared and served by over 1,000 volunteers. Sponsoring organizations include Catholic Jewish, Protestant, Sufi and other churches, as well as groups from M.I.T., Boston University, Harvard, Brandeis, Tufts, New England School of Law and others.

The benefit awards event takes place on Tuesday, May 25, 1993, from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. at "Silverado at the Roxy," 279 Tremont Street in Boston, across from the Wang Center. All proceeds from ticket sales benefit the "Saturday's Bread" and "Sunday's Bread" free meals program at the Church of All Nations in Boston, now celebrating its 10th anniversary. The event is open to the public. Tickets are $10 per person and can be purchased at the door, or in advance by calling the "People's Choice" at (617) 566-5216. ❑

SPRING SWING

Enter the raffle and become eligible to win a trip for 2 to Aruba!

Saturday, May 22nd, at The Children's Museum, Boston

Music by Izzy V., courtesy of Chunky Productions, and blues band Walk That Walk

All proceeds benefit The Steppingstone Foundation

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Shelly Danse	Grace Mercer	J. Michael Stevens
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Kelly Donahoe	Peter Monaco	Joan Swartz
David Fialkow	Julia Parrillo	Ron Taylor
Ruth Finn	Susanne Schantz	Sintelle Taylor
Ken Foster	Greg Schott	Erik H. Werth

HOST COMMITTEE

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The Steppingstone Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing educational opportunities to inner-city school children. Your contribution is tax-deductible.

ABSOLUT KURANT

CELEBERITY GUEST DINING REVIEW

Cornucopia On the Wharf; Bountiful and By the Sea

BY FRANK AVRUCH

Cornucopia recently hopped across town from its old home on West Street to the waterfront. Now in the location of the former Cherrystones, the restaurant has not only greatly expanded its space, but has also added more seafood entrees, in honor of the new waterfront digs. The kitchen is working well under chef Stuart Cameron's direction, and the adventurous culinary flair is still there. On the evening of my visit, I asked another couple to join me, so there would be a wider sampling of the items on the menu. Here are some of my favorites.

For starters, the Caesar salad was thoroughly tasty and enjoyable, with an exotic flavor. It came with a choice of smoked trout, oysters or the usual anchovies. The grilled portobello mushroom carpaccio was another hit. The large and meaty mushrooms were sliced paper thin, sprinkled with truffle oil and parmesan, and served with scallion accompaniment.

Jumbo is the only word to describe the tender gulf shrimp in our next appetizer, the shrimp cocktail. The chef's culinary flair was once again evident in the cocktail's four creative condiments, which included a tangy corn relish (from fresh steamed corn), a creamy black bean sauce, a hot and spicy cocktail sauce, and, to balance it all, a dollop of sour cream. Certainly not the usual cocktail companion.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

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The menu has been expanded, so (in honor of the new waterfront location) our party opted for seafood entrees. We ordered a succulent grilled lobster, laced with Greek and Spanish olive oil, that came with a special sauce of lemon, shellfish stock and fennel. Next was a fresh swordfish, grilled with basil and leek, which was accompanied by a side dish of creamy garlic mashed potatoes. It was melt-in-your-mouth good! Our third choice, the salmon, was perfectly seared and served with risotto croquettes coated with corn bread. The desserts were tempting but our party was slowing down. However, we did manage to find room for a tempting créme brulée, topped by a tower of spun sugar. It disappeared too quickly. To conclude our dining adventure, we had coffee that came with homemade biscotti and a white chocolate cornucopia. My cup runneth over.



Kudos to our waiter, Bob, who added immeasurably to the evening. His description and knowledge of the menu was exemplary and his service, out--standing. Congratulations to Cornucopia on the Wharf...may the wind always be at their back. ❑

Frank Avruch, currently WCVB-TV/Channel 5's Man about Town, has long been a familiar face in the Boston social and cultural scene. He also hosts movies on the Film Classic Series on Channel 2, Saturday night at 10 p.m.

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CHEF OF THE MONTH

Enzo Raggiana of *Enzo's*

BY MARGE CHRYSSOSTOMIDIS AND PETER MCNAMARA

Enzo Raggiani was born in Switzerland and grew up in the northern part of Italy. Even as a child, he loved good food and helping in the kitchen, so when he reached the age of 19, he enrolled in the celebrated San Pellegrino Culinary School. There, he underwent their grueling six-year course, leading to a diploma that entitles the holder to open a restaurant in Switzerland (no mean feat). During the course of these studies, students were given the opportunity to travel all around Italy and Switzerland, both cooking and tasting the local food, which naturally provided Enzo with an excellent background in the regional foods of Italy.

For five years, Enzo owned a restaurant/night club/snack bar in Lugano. Then, in 1985, his American wife persuaded him to move to Boston. Here, after trying and enjoying many local restaurants, he decided to open his own business. In November of 1986, *Papillon Ristorante*, an international gourmet shop with a dining room, came into being in Marion, Massachusetts. Business was good, though seasonal, and when his lease was due to expire, Enzo's out-of-town customers persuaded him to move to Brookline, where he opened *Enzo's* in August of 1991. Now, his former customers miss him so much, they travel from Marion especially to eat at his new restaurant!

At *Enzo's*, you will find a menu that changes seasonally. In summer, he likes to grow his own herbs for cooking and this is reflected in the dishes served. A popular item on the menu at the moment is *linguini al cartoccio*, in which seafood is literally cooked in a bag. In winter, Enzo plans to put quail and rabbit on the menu, together with some really hearty fare.

Many traditional Italian dishes can be found on the menu, but Enzo stresses that it is not necessary for diners to stick to what is listed there, as he will cook anything from any region on request (even without notice, provided he has the ingredients on hand). Should you want anything really unusual or time-consuming to make, simply call in a description ahead of time and he will cook it for you. Similarly, if you have dietary restrictions, Enzo can accommodate your needs. One of Enzo's specialties is his grandmother's recipe for *tiramisu*. You will never find anything like it elsewhere, he says.

Enzo's Ristorante is located at 329 Harvard Ave., Brookline, 227-1288 ❑

DINING

APPETEASERS

BY PETER MCNAMARA AND R.E. BRUNSON

GRILL OUT

The **West Street Grill** will be opening by the end of May, in Cornucopia's old location on 15 West Street. **Charlie Robertson**, formerly of the Blue Room and Hamersly's, is the general manager and **Neilse Clarke**, a partner in Amsterdam's, is one of the owners. Bar space will be tripled to include the whole first floor, while the second floor will be opened up to seat 100. Despite all these changes, the fireplace will be saved. **Tom Schnapp** is the main chef, and the menu is "urban provincial" (downtown comfort food), with entrees in the $12-13 range. There is also good news for wine lovers – wine prices will not be tripled. We expect great success with Charlie in charge.

BLOWN AWAY

Michael Kornick, executive chef at **Aujourd'hui**, will soon be leaving Boston to head back to the windy city. Michael, a wonderful chef, was always accessible and willing to share not only his knowledge, but his time. He could always be found serving up his creations at local benefits. We will greatly miss both Michael and his delicious gorgonzola crackers with apricot preserves.

Chef Michael Kornick will be replaced by Chef Jamie Mammano, the executive chef from the Four Seasons in Chicago. We welcome Jamie to the true windy city, and wish him well.

NEWS FROM THE EAST

East Coast Grill will present "Eat with Your Hands" night on Monday, June 7. No utensils will be in sight for this special hands-on evening, featuring peel-and-eat shrimp, steamers, sausage tortilla wraps, Memphis-style ribs, and soft shell crabs. For more information call 491-6568.

Andy Husbands of the **East Coast Grill** and **Anna Kovel** of **The Blue Room** have started an organization called B.U.R.N. (Boston's Unusual Restaurant Network) for aspiring chefs. B.U.R.N. attends to participate in community events, and offer networking and educational activities for its members. Call Andy at 738-4728 for membership info.

In **The Blue Room**, **Chris Schlesinger** has taken over the kitchen. Chris and crew have developed a new menu with an emphasis on exotic grilled flavors in a more casual format. The Blue Room; 494-9034.

NU NOUVELLE

With construction well under way, a number of eateries are looking into locations at the new Prudential Center. **The Ground Round** will be back – this time as a sports bar. **Rebecca's Cafe** will be joining the lineup along with the **Sweet Factory**, **Jack's Last Resort**, and the **California Pizza Kitchen**. **Legal Seafoods**, contrary to rumor, is not going into the Top of the Hub, but into a location over the present Star Market. However, a certain night club owner from the Lansdowne Street area is taking a hard look at this faded Boston institution, atop the Pru tower.

WE ALL SCREAM

The season for frozen delight is upon us, and **Ice Cream Works** has come up with a great way to make it decadent and guilt-free. They call it Perfect 10; "ice cream kick without the calories." Zingy flavors, creamy texture, only 10 calories per oz., no sugar and *no fat*. Yay! Call 969-6256

JUICY DETAILS

The owners of **Marais** have found a location for a second restaurant!!! The location cannot yet be disclosed, but ply us with drinks and who knows? A third restaurant is on the drawing board. Adios, **El Torito** (Quincy Market), hello, **Planet Hollywood**. Chef **Diane Unger** has left the **Union Club** to be the executive chef for the **Sherborn Inn**. The new chef is at the Union Club is **Chris McCook**,, who comes from the Tatnuk Country Club in Worcester. **Red, Hot & Blue** has put plans for their new Boston Restaurant on hold.

MORE JUICY DETAILS

Stan Frankenthaler, who recently left The Blue Room, may have found the restaurant of his dreams in a neighborhood setting. **Enzo Raggiana** and wife **Joann**, of Enzo's in Brookline, recently added a beautiful 8 lb. girl to their family; her name is **Isabella.** Owner **David Sum** is about to open a new Korean restaurant in Union Square in Cambridge. **The Old Spaghetti Factory** chain will soon open a new restaurant on Pittsburgh Street. It will be interesting to see how the family spaghetti house fares in a urban setting. Personally, we don't think the North End has much to worry about. Rumor has it that **Boston Beer Works** is looking at a location on Boylston Street.

SAVE THIS DATE

Ever wanted to meet the faces behind the names? Well, your chance arrives on Tuesday, May 25, from 7-10 p.m. when the *Greater Boston Restaurant Guide* sponsors the **People's Choice Awards** to benefit the Church of All Nations free meals programs. The awards will be presented to area restaurants by local personalities, including staff from *The Improper Bostonian* – including yours truly. The event costs $10 a person, and takes place at **Silverado** at the Roxy, 279 Tremont Street. It will feature entertainment and samplings of special dishes from over 30 area restaurants. So pull on those cowboy boots and we'll see you there. For information, call 787-2637. ❑

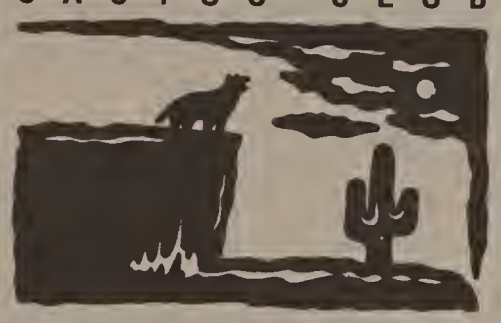
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AUJOURD'HUI
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos., 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, 232-4242
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Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's *Grande Dame of Hotels* - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelette and waffle station, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
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HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, that though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic *and* traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue. Boston. 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SERENDIPITY 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasta, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ
338 Newbury St., Bos., 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

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DINING

Through The Wine Glass

Chardonnay: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

Rich and spicy, mouthwateringly fresh, clean, neutral, dry as air, crispy, fleshy, tooty-fruity, roasty-toasty or medium rare: does picking chardonnay give you the shivers? How does anyone ever know which one is which?

The good news: it's not as random as it might appear. And so, to make it clear, here is your label decoder, or, what I humbly submit as "The Once and Forever Definitive Guide to Chardonnay Flavor and Aroma."

Qualities of Chardonnay

Grape variety is the most important determinant of the way a wine tastes. So why does the thirsty world crave chardonnay, chardonnay and more chardonnay? Because the grape shows memorable flavor? To the contrary, like a glamorous politician who says anything to get ahead, chardonnay lacks intrinsic character; its chameleon personality is charming, inoffensive and easily molded to fit popular tastes.

What explains its mass appeal, then? Lacking flavor definition of its own, chardonnay seduces consumers by providing a great natural backdrop for oak-barrel seasoning. Top quality French cooperage can especially enrich wine aroma and texture. If the fruit is sufficiently intense, barrel fermentation and aging lend an undeniable polish. Layers of creamy, lush vanilla and almond flavors result. So do substantial prices.

Most chardonnay grapes see little or no contact with wood, though, because barrel treatment would overpower them. Suited to commercial production on a larger scale, these simpler, fruitier wines dominate many by-the-glass features and retail shelves. In general, they are smoothly textured and well proportioned with the suggestions of soft apple and melon flavors.

Production methods aside, wine flavor directly reflects grape quality. "Great wine," we are told, "can only come from great fruit." In other words, chardonnay harvested at three tons per acre, rather than ten, will produce wine with less dilution of aroma and flavor.

Warmer climates produce fuller wines, with riper, more developed fruit flavors; cooler climate grapes can taste green, display aggressive acidity and make steelier chardonnays, with a pronounced edge. Soils vary worldwide, but the presence of limestone indisputably contributes the mineral qualities that chardonnay enthusiasts prize.

Types of Chardonnay

Northern Italy: Simple, direct, pale colored, generally un-oaked, with vaguely juicy fruit and a touch of spritz (CO_2) for vitality.

Australia: Once the overblown buttery beast of the species, lately a touch subtler. Still high alcohol (hot climate), with orange marmalade notes and often, except at high prices, a harsh citrussy tang.

Chablis: Classically cool, crisp and green-leaf flavored; the soil is right, except lately price is a joke and quality the punch line.

Cote de Beaune: The real stuff. Crisp but unctuous, luscious and tart, butterscotch and lemon; it can't hardly get better. But buyer beware: know your producers. If you let a showy village name (Chassagne, Puligny, Meursault) lead you, you might get your pocket picked. Then again, you might just never go back.

Macon: The people's choice. Ripe, glossy and easy. Rarely oaked, but often smoked.

California: No free lunch. You get what you pay for. Under $10 and there's not much finesse or flavor...or authentic chardonnay (only 75% by law). A bit hot and blowsy, but look for sub-appellations: Carneros (lemony, taut), Central Coast (sweet fruit and spice), Sonoma (classy, subdued).

Pacific Northwest: Erratic. Sometimes fine, often bizarrely woody and dull.

East Coast: The new contender for the middleweight crown; can be stringy and mean, or graceful and clean.

New Zealand: The climate's cold, the wine is bold. Explosive and thrilling; what a punch! Pay for the best.

Eastern Europe, South America: Cheap, it's true, but save your money and invest wisely...in a beer.

The Future

Armed with this info, you can now pick your "chard" with the best of them. The bad news? The C-grape is on the way out. Why? It's uncool. It's been around too long. Take the smart money, and go for the underdog. That's right, chuck this guide and when you're thinking white, repeat after me: Pee-no Gree. ❑

Sandy Block was awarded the prestigious title Master of Wine in 1992 by The Institute of Masters of Wine, a British organization, founded in early 1950. There are currently only 162 MWs worldwide, with only five Americans able to claim the title. Sandy is also currently the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood,

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ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown, 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, clean cut and authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only one item priced over five dollars, their menu offers the best deals in this category. Choose between rotisseried chicken and kabobs. You'll be an addict of their lamb kebobs after trying them only once. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad and pita and hommos. Ararat also offers take-out service. Hours are 11a.m.-9p.m., Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St., Bos., 426-7878
D,MC,V $$$$
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod newcomer to Boston's best offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection, flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey, but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Huge bar crowd downstairs. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear)
Charlestown Navy Yard, 242-1911
MC,V $$
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BLUE WAVE
142 Berkeley Street, Bos., 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos., 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7a.m.-10:45a.m. Continental Breakfast: 10:45a.m -11:30a.m. L: 11:30a.m-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. until 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$
Get a piece of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors." Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, as well as more traditional staples are served up daily. Call to reserve for parties of eight or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline, 232-3303
M, V, A, $$
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from macaroni and cheese with oven dried tomatoes and roasted garlic to red pepper linguini with house smoked salmon and Trout. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1a.m. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$
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CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located on the waterfront. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted 1B's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

COUNTRY LIFE VEGETARIAN BUFFET
112 Broad St., Bos., 350-8846 $
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00a.m.-3p.m.

THE DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS
323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375
261 NORTHERN AVE., BOSTON'S FISH DISTRICT, 338-3093
441A Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696
$$
This original 20 year old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialitiy in classic *calamari*. Come dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, *The Boston Globe*, December 1989

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton , 566-8590
$
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V, DC $$
Chef John Vyhnanek personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, and the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. Among the luscious desserts: the award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce (also available for take-out). 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
MC, V $$
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties included Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super Lunch Special 12 - 3p.m .Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take-out/delivery and catering services available.

JAMAICA JAMAICA
162 Prospect St., Cambridge, 864-9368 MC, V $
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, sample Caribbean inspired dishes at this friendly Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, it's hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza (about 25 beers to choose from). Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444
A,D,MC,V $$
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

MAMMA MARIA
3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$
Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL & OAR BAR
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Markeplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering regional American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market.Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m... Oar bar open til 2a.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA
207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naple's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m..

MOON VILLA
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos., 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $

DINING

A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try the fresh specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4a.m. for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's feature extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This true authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here. The Saloon also offers a variety of other menu items from burgers to seafood, but they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2a.m., 7 days a week.

Patisserie Francaise

54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner)
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Pizzeria Uno Restaurant & Bar

20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722 (542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D
Voted Boston's best pizza by *Boston* magazine and voted the best deep-dish pizza in Chicago - but come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full-service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches. Huge $1.50 drafts always on special. Open from 11 a.m. to late night.

Province Street Pub

18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC,V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

The Sabra Restaurant & The Sabra Grill

45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

Sorento's

86 Peterborough St., Bos., 424-7070
MC, V, D $$
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

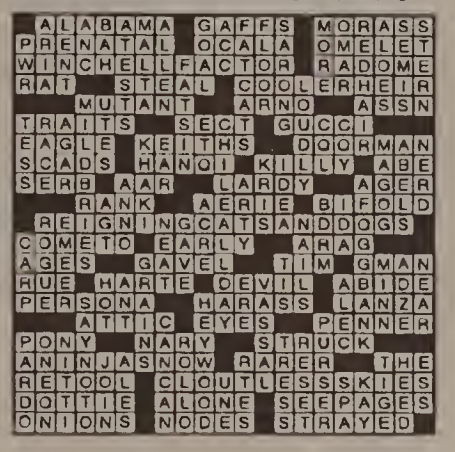
Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location, So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Warren Tavern,

2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history approximately 212 years. The Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country. The WarrenTavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Lunch 11:30-3:30. Dinner 5-10:30. 5-9 on Sun.

Answer to Previous Puzzle



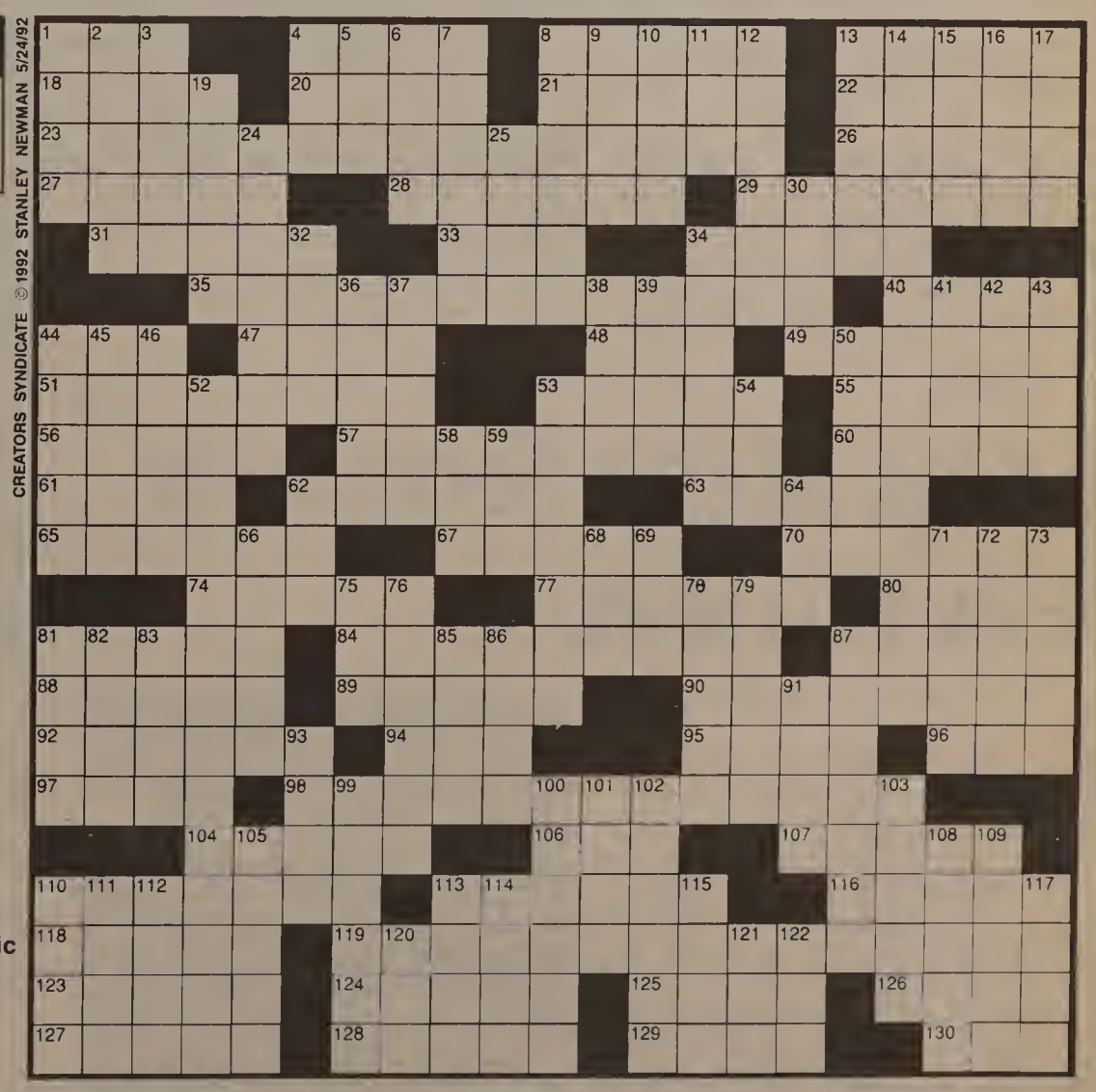
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Brookline
734-0049

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

I OWE YOU ONE: Featuring a certain repeating sequence

by Shirley Soloway



ACROSS

1 Ran into
4 Like fine wine
8 Concorde destination in Africa
13 Gym events
18 Draftable
20 A portion of
21 Take the honey and run
22 Electrical device
23 Diligent attempt
26 Guinness and Baldwin
27 Slow-moving mammal
28 Church gathering
29 Feeling tense
31 Geographical regions
33 Three, in Capri
34 Norwegian composer
35 Diamond or ruby
40 Creative thought
44 Physicians' org.
47 Lasagna filling
48 "You __ what you eat"
49 Bobbins, essentially
51 Do a *Reader's Digest* job
53 Wake up
55 Renaissance instruments
56 Lugged around
57 Goal-oriented
60 Good quality
61 Hurler Hershiser
62 Lay out in groups
63 Green sauce
65 Phone feature
67 Baker's implements
70 Make effervescent
74 Parliamentary leader
77 Wrestling hold
80 *Rambling Rose* actress
81 *Rain* character
84 Pleasantly tuneful
87 Gotten underway
88 Language peculiarity
89 Not quite right
90 Iron ore
92 Mario Lanza role of '51
94 Under the weather
95 Despicable one
96 __ Na Na
97 Iowa State city
98 Continuing problem
104 Word of regret
106 Tchrs.' union
107 Sears rival
110 Anthologize
113 Advertising vehicles?
116 Hearth residue
118 Take as one's own
119 Criminal-trial phrase
123 Ms. Mesta
124 What some win by
125 Short snorts
126 Ltr. enclosure
127 Polymerization product
128 "__ I can help it!"
129 RBI or TD
130 Join, in a way

DOWN

1 Casual shoes, for short
2 __ *Gay* (historic plane)
3 Course of thought
4 "Just __ suspected!"
5 Maudlin sentimentality
6 Brownish-gray birds
7 Former Chrysler make
8 Thumbs one's nose at
9 __ Romeo
10 __ and the Gang (R&B group)
11 Spr. month . . .
12 . . . and something mailed then
13 Idle chatter
14 Cistercians or Carmelites
15 Designer Cassini
16 Austrian physicist Ernst
17 Part of CBS
19 __ in the right direction
24 Like some lives
25 Very light brown
30 Sennett missiles
32 Witnessed
34 Leaves the ground
36 *Domicilios*
37 Shopping-list notations
38 Calcutta clothing
39 Small band
41 They may be connected
42 Gen. Robt. __
43 Prof.'s rank, perhaps
44 Cruise, for one
45 Poet Marianne
46 Put up
50 China piece
52 Juicy fruit
53 Shows up for
54 Compass pt.
58 Charlie Parker's music
59 Wrathful feeling
62 Recipe phrase
64 __ Mateo, CA
66 Attention-getting words
68 Ring around the collar?
69 __-mo replay
71 Sponsorship
72 Consequences alternative
73 Word form meaning "nine"
75 "__ Little Teapot"
76 *Days of Wine and Roses* star
78 Fish dish
79 Basketry material
81 Director Vittorio De __
82 Genesis name
83 More than difficult
85 Caron film of '53
86 Kon-Tiki Museum locale
87 Checkout staffer
91 Knock down
93 Watermelon shape
99 Deliveryperson of old
100 Nobel Peace Prize winner in '65
101 Fractional prefix
102 Fowl purchases
103 Bridge positions
105 Soda size
108 Pampas dwellers
109 Drawn tight
110 __ *Fear* ('91 remake)
111 Gray pieces
112 Media bigwig Zuckerman
113 Cover completely, with "out"
114 Actress Virna
115 Diamonds, but not rubles
117 One-pot dinner
120 "It's __-win situation!"
121 Hot Springs is one
122 Alarm ending

No Trebel In Paradise

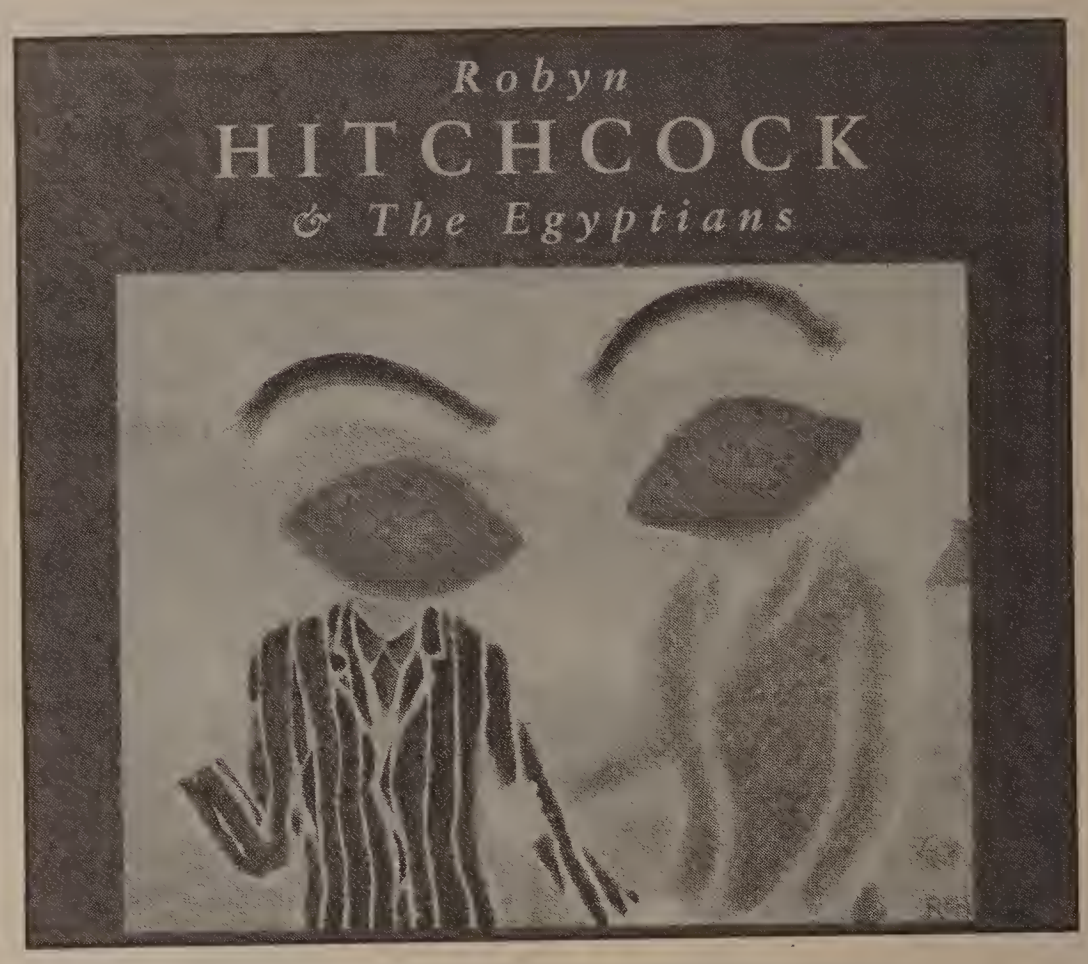
Showing Another Side

BY SANDER WOLF

Robyn Hitchcock, the British thick-tongued alternative cult hero, has just recently turned forty, and although he takes it lightly, (unhappily but matter-of-factly remarking that he prefers it to "being dead"), he realizes that it's time for some sort of change. Staying a few years older than his regular audience, coping with the recent death of his father, and suffering through the prerequisite mid-life crisis has begun to take its toll.

But instead of buying a fancy new car ("If I did that I'd just have to find some other way of getting exercise," he sarcastically muses) or leaving his wife for an adoring seventeen-year-old fan, Hitchcock has instead begun to channel his excess restless energies into writing and reciting his own narrative stories, painting with oils, and, along with his band, The Egyptians, writing some of the best songs of his career.

The newest album from the trio of Hitchcock, bassist/keyboardist Andy Metcalfe, and drummer Morris Windsor features quirky gems like "Driving Aloud (Radio Storm)," "The Yip Song," and an innuendo-filled experiment titled "Wafflehead." Originally slated as *Red Lemon Days*, after an anagram of "yonder damsel" painstakingly discovered by Metcalfe, the album title was later changed to *Respect*, partly because, Hitchcock says, "Respect is something everybody wants." The album cover, an original painting by Hitchcock of two red-lemon headed people



The latest work of Robyn Hitchcock & The Egyptians- "Respect"

whose heads form part of a larger face, remains. Also included with the album, right next to the Lyrics, is a short story about a confused and symbolic moose written by Hitchcock.

It's obvious that Hitchcock has been keeping himself busy, but at the root of all his personal chaos is still his music. "I'm going to [continue to] do the spoken word performances, but I don't know if I'll release them or not," he says. "There are two projects going on at this moment; one is to just do instrumentals and the other is to just do words. But obviously no record company would want to release something with just instrumentals on it, so what we'll probably stick to doing our stories *over* instrumentals," Hitchcock tries to explain, adding that a third plan involves staging an art exhibition next year.

The description of his songs is accurate since some do form some sort of narrative story. "When I Was Dead," one of the more memorable tunes from *Respect*, is a good example when Hitchcock intones, "When I was dead somebody took my hand/I couldn't see his face I took his hand/And the Devil asked me to supper/He said 'Careful with the spoons!'/And God said, 'Oh, ignore him! I've got all your albums'/I said, 'Yes, but who's got all the tunes?"

But most of the songs on *Respect* tend to be more introspective and analytical, or comical like the album's first single, "Driving Aloud (Radio Storm)," where Hitchcock sings in time with a jerking acoustic beat, "And your diagram was nervous when I saw you on TV/You're so vulnerable, honey, now you're fatter than me/I've got a Harrison Ford poster rolled up in my desk/I'd sign it for you, dude, if you'd only request."

Maybe as Hitchcock's career continues in its upwards spiral, he'll finally calm down, or at least make the decision to stick to one creative outlet. But hopefully, he won't. ❑

Robyn Hitchcock performs at the Berklee Performance Center on May 18.

Local Music Spotlight

Walk That Walk

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

Of all the great musical scenes in Boston, perhaps none has the depth of local blues. Performers like Shirley Lewis, Luther Johnson and 100 Proof pack Harpers Ferry and The House of Blues on a nightly basis. And the latest band to make their mark are a mean five piece known as Walk That Walk.

Performing both covers and originals, the band features singer and harp player Tim Gartland, whose voice is textured and powerful. Gartland is complemented by slide guitarist Chuck DeSnyder; combined, they achieve a raucous, traditional sound rooted in the music of Willie Dixon and Muddy Waters. Going well beyond the same old three chords is keyboardist Ted Armstrong, who puts the band a step above your average club act. His fills are



well-placed and rich, while his solos are show-stoppers, drawing cheers every time. ❑

Catch Walk That Walk at The House of Blues on June 16 and at Ed Burke's on June 26 and at The Spring Swing benefit on May 22nd.

Great Woods

Hot Summer Schedule

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

Great Woods in Mansfield has announced a schedule filled with great shows this summer. The month of June has: Sting on June 4, Glen Frey and Joe Walsh on June 6, Poison and LSD on June 12, Lyle Lovett on June 17, Lynyrd Skynryd on June 18, Steve Miller on June 24 and THE THE on June 26.

July has 10,000 Maniacs on July 7, The Reggae Sunsplash on July 8, Van Halen on July 9 & 10, the Spin Doctors & Soul Asylum on July 13, Whitney Houston on July 14 & 15, Barry Manilow on July 16. The Moody Blues hit July 18, Phish on July 24, Yanni on July 25, Duran Duran on July 26, Tina Turner on July 29 and Dwight Yokam, July 31.

August finds the Allman Brothers jamming on the first, with UB40 on Aug. 2. Extreme opens up for Bon Jovi on Aug. 3 and Def Leppard performs on Aug. 6. Three great bluesmen, B.B King, Eric Johnson, and Buddy Guy jam Aug. 8, while Clint Black and Wynonna Judd play Aug. 19. Steely Dan plays Aug. 20, the Beach Boys on Aug. 24, classic rockers Jethro Tull and opening act Procul Harum, on Aug. 28 and the Big Gig, on Aug. 29.

Shows continue into September (such as Sade, Sept, 1) and the biggest party of the year is always held by thousands of parrotheads as Jimmy Buffett plays, Sept. 2-4. More shows are expected to be announced, including Aerosmith. All shows listed above are available through Ticketmaster, and prices range from $20 to $30 dollars depending on the show and the seats. ❑

ALBUM REVIEWS

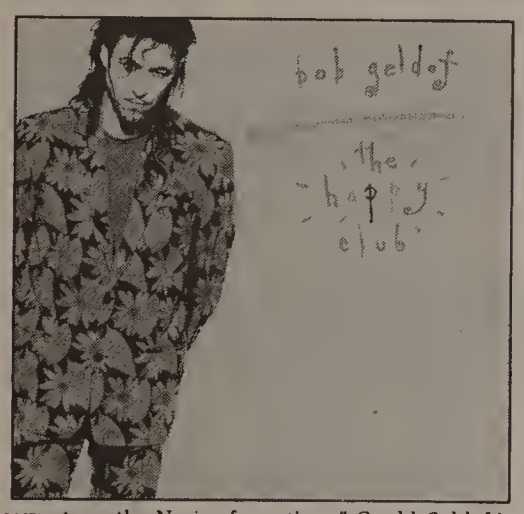
KEY

★ SAVE YOUR MONEY
★★ PASSABLE
★★★ WORTH A LISTEN
★★★★ BUY IT NOW
★★★★★ INSTANT HIT

BOB GELDOF
THE HAPPY CLUB
POLYDOR RECORDS
★★★

After a decade-and-a-half in the music world, Bob Geldof is still best known in the U.S. for trying to heal the world's maladies with a Band-Aid (and a Live-Aid, too). And while he certainly deserves credit for his efforts, one wonders whether his musical career has suffered because of it. People are more likely to see him as Joe Save-The-World than as a viable artist; he tends to be more popular in Europe and his native Ireland. But he is an accomplished singer/songwriter, and has hit the charts with various tunes throughout the years, starting with the Boomtown Rats from 1977-85 and continuing since as a sololst.

Musically, *The Happy Club* is a hybrid of Bob Dylan and Elvis Costello: quirky folk-pop with a strong Irish character. The result is very listenable, although many will probably find his meanderings pretentious (though not quite to Sting-like proportions). He's also got a penchant for goofy song titles, like "The Song of the Emergent Nationalist" and "Attitude Chicken." The latter provides the most interesting line of the album: "...the politically



correct are the Nazis of our time." Could Geldof be trying to shake his Dudley Do-Right stigma? Geldof may have a little trouble selling his brand of folk-pop. He sounds a little limp compared to modern alternative acts. Pearl Jam and the Chili Peppers make 'Geldof' seem more like 'Gelded.'

ROBERT E. HUGHES

IRON MAIDEN
A REAL LIVE ONE
CAPITOL RECORDS
★★★

Iron Maiden, for the uninitiated, was a product of a late-70's explosion of British heavy metal, which also spawned the likes of Judas Priest. Surprisingly, both Iron Maiden and Judas Priest have lost their vocalists within the past few weeks; Maiden's Bruce Dickinson and Priest's Rob Halford have chosen to pursue various solo careers. So this collection of live Maiden tunes, recorded at various dates throughout Europe, will be the last upon which Maiden fans will get to hear Dickinson. The choice of songs highlight their last two albums, *Seventh Son of a Seventh Son* (a genuinely underappreciated album) and *Fear of the Dark*. It's not bad, but any true Maiden-head knows that their best work is behind them. In the Heavy Metal History Book, Maiden could get a whole chapter to themselves based on the strength of a decade of classics like "Run to the Hills" and "Number of the Beast."

Dickinson is actually Maiden's second vocalist (Paul DiAnno getting the boot after two great albums), so Maiden might have a slightly easier time replacing him than poor Judas Priest (Rob Halford is utterly irreplaceable). To hear Maiden's best work, grab a copy of *Live After Death*. Iron Maiden got their name from a medieval torture rack, but can they really stretch out their own careers for much longer?

ROBERT E. HUGHES

LIVING COLOUR
STAIN
EPIC RECORDS
★★★

Living Colour specializes in blurring lines. They mix the driving rage of heavy metal with the intensity of hard core. They are proud of their race without letting it dominate their music. And they maintain their integrity while still getting radio airplay. The best songs on *Stain*, the band's third LP, feature guitarist Vernon Reid crunching chords over one of rock's tightest rhythm sections. Songs like "Leave It Alone" and "Go Away" express anger and stay with the listener.

Still, while the band deserves credit for being ambitious, some of the concepts are less successful. Guest vocalist Andrew Fairley can't save "Hemp" from being a sonic mess, and "Nothingness" shows that boring dance beats aren't the band's strong point. Still, "Bi" and "Never Satisfied" are loud rock with enough twists to put them well above a slew of less creative bands.

DAVID FENIGSOHN

HINDEMITH: CONCERT MUSIC FOR STINGS AND BASS
SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
LONDON RECORDS
★★★

Paul Hindemith's music is often criticized as being on the academic side; much of it is, but there are a half-dozen or so of his works that exhibit more than skillful craftsmanship, and rightly remain in the orchestral repertory. Of those works, *Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes by Weber* and *Mathis der Maler* are the most popular and afford the best introduction to Hindemith. Both are contained on an earlier London release by Blomstedt and San Francisco. Those familiar with them will certainly recognize Hindemith's unmistakable signature in the three works comprising this program. Though Hindemith can not be counted among the trailblazers of the 20th century, his music, at its best, merits more than casual acquaintance. San Francisco is yet another orchestra that renders the term "Big Five" obsolete, due in no small part to Blomstedt's tenure here.

STEVEN D. BROWN

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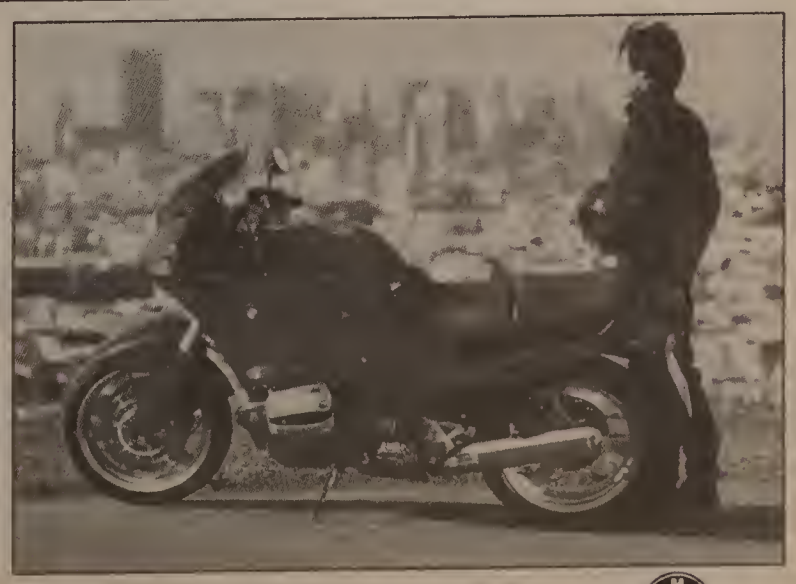
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HARPERS FERRY

Voted Boston's Best Blues Club
Boston Magazine 1992

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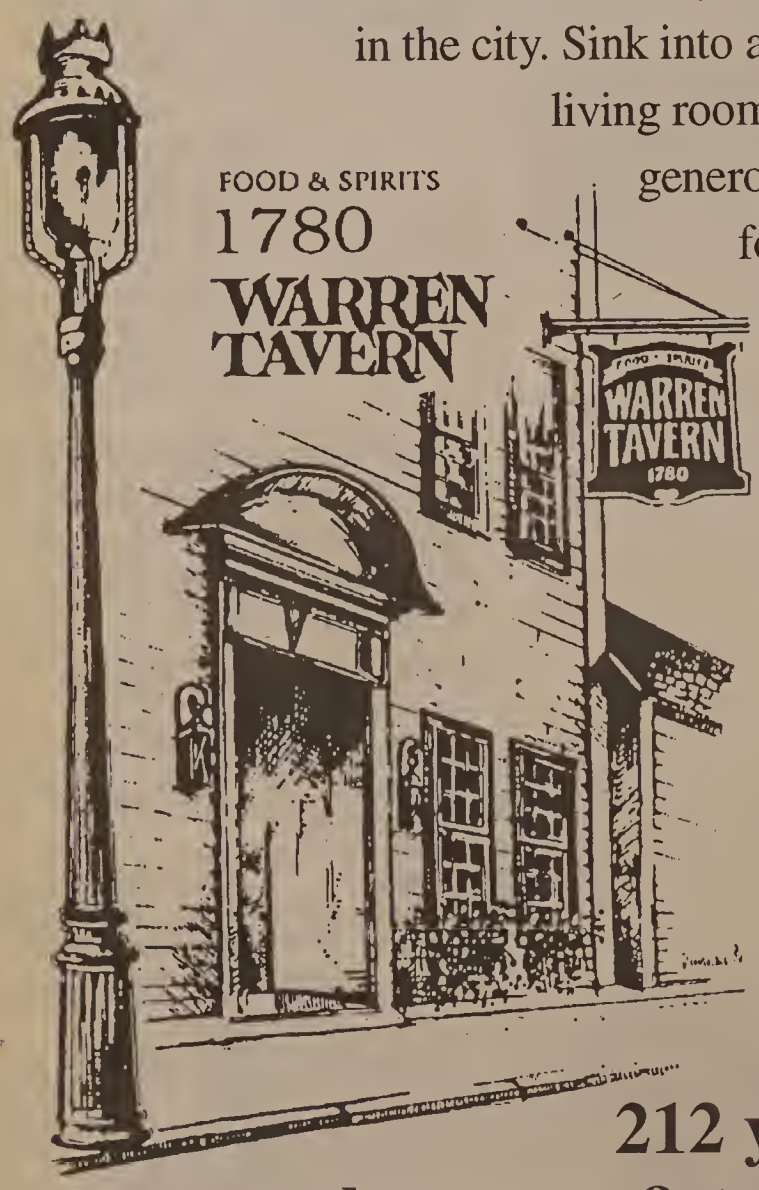
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About Last Night...

Talkin 'Bout Our Generation (X)

BY LAUREN DARE, AKA THE LAST CALL LADY

Once, not so very long ago, we had identifiable generations. The "Lost Generation," for instance, out wandering around somewhere, or the "Beat Generation," taking to the road with Jack Kerouac. The "Me Generation" stole everything they could from the other generations so they could drive around in BMW's and buy summer houses in the South of France, and the "Pepsi Generation" became crazed from sugar and caffeine consumption, and watching too much MTV.

Now we have "Generation X," which nobody seems to be able to demographically pinpoint, but we know they're out there. In fact, it's possible that I just might be one of them. This possibility raises several pressing questions in my little blonde head. What does it mean to be a member of this generation? What are the qualifying characteristics of a Generation Xer? Don't I/we rate a little more descriptive cognomen than "X?" How long should I wait before I get my roots done? What the hell does "cognomen" mean? Deep thoughts, indeed, n'est-ce pas?

GENERATION X

1270 Boylston Street

Boston

424-7747

Well, the club called Quest at 1270 Boylston Street (yes, *the* 1270, which is still an "alternative" club on other nights,) seems to think that they have found the answers to these questions, (they told me I need to get my roots done As Soon As Possible) and they'll be happy to share them with you. That is, if you meet the Gen X criteria for Thursdays nights, when Quest hosts "Generation X: A Nightclub for an Accelerated Culture."

The criteria for getting into the club are clearly stated in the club's fliers: "If you are not 23/have no invitation/ do not know anyone at the club, you don't get in." Although I'm not sold on the idea that actually being a member of Generation X (the generation) is really conditional upon knowing somebody in Generation X (the club), I am kind of hip to the idea of a door policy, being the snob that I am.

However, if, in the past month, you've been to any club owned by Pat Lyons, you've probably been offered a membership at Gen X, since every club has to walk that line between exclusivity and paying the rent. This policy may be a little overly democratic for the drop-dead snob, but at least it guarantees a more interesting and less homogeneous mix of people in the club, and Quest is certainly big enough to handle the crowd. There are four floors to the club, the "cool" Water Floor, the Earth Floor, where you can groove, the Fire Floor, where you can – you got it – burn, and the roof deck, where you can toss your drinks over the balcony onto the people waiting in line below (but be sneaky while you do this, as it's not very popular with the management).

If you're not sure whether or not you belong in Generation X, the club provides a glossary of "Generation X Speak," which helpfully includes the terms "mid-twenties breakdown: a period of mental collapse occurring in one's twenties, often caused by an inability to function outside school or structured environment," and "Dorian Graying: the unwillingness to gracefully allow one's body to show signs of aging," among others. If any of these terms strike a familiar cord somewhere in your subconscious, or if you feel that your life definitely does have meaning, but you're just not sure what it is yet, rush out and get your membership NOW.

Just kidding. One thing that a Gen Xer never feels is the imperative to do a specific thing immediately. It's, like, way too much pressure, man. It's not that we're really avoiding anything in particular, it's just that it's so much more fun to go out and par-tay it up now. We'll worry about what follows later, in our thirties...maybe.

But for now, what the X Generation wants is to go hang out in the Angst Is Us "Batcave," listening to Goth music, or do the Bus Stop on the Studio 54 Floor with other Xers who can relate to our quasi-existential dilemmas, such as what are we going to drink tonight, and who are we going to wake up next to tomorrow morning, and will it ruin my reputation? My immediate answers to these are: 1) anything alcoholic, 2) the doorguy who was wearing a vest with nothing underneath and had a stomach I could wash my lingerie on, and 3) who cares?

By 1 a.m. on Gen X's opening night, I was reeling to a techno beat that would make Tipper Gore drop her drawers, and thinking that it wasn't so bad to not have a real life, just a lifestyle, and thanking God from the bottom of my drunken, sweaty, and lecherous soul that I still have a few years left in the X Generation. ❑

BARS & CLUBS

Bar & Club Listings are a service for our advertisers. To have your Bar or Club listed, in this section, call our advertising department at 232-3507.

•**ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT** 783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

•**ARBUCKLES** 782-9508, 1249 Comm. Ave, Brighton. Situated between BU and BC, Arbuckles attracts an even mix of students from both schools and anyone else in search of good food and drink at a good price. 20 oz. drafts for $2!!! The dress is always casual, but the atmosphere ranges from mellow and relaxing to noisy and boisterous.

•**AVALON** 262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

•**AVENUE C** 423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

•**BEACON HILL PUB** , 49 Charles St., Bos. A scene straight out of Star Wars reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7p.m. weekdays.

•**BLACK GOOSE** 617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Boston. A relaxed jazz club situated a stones throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an "I love jazz attitude" on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.

•**BLACK ROSE** 742-2286, 160 State St., Bos. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose na.m.e is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddagh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

•**BOSTON BEACH CLUB** 227-9664, 300 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos A strong seaside theme prevails. Surfboard tables, plastic sharks, tropical drinks and a guy next to you wearing a Hawaiian shirt adorned with a few dozen neon leis. Live entertainment nightly from Rock to Reggae and Blues. There is a small dance floor for those who like to bop.

•**BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)** 227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years, The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

•**BUNRATTY'S** 254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code.

•**CLARKE'S** 227-7800, 21 Merchant's Row, Bos. Located just outside of Faneuil Hall, this is a popular meeting place for Boston singles and college students. Clarke's has that old-fashioned saloon appeal that makes it easier to let your guard down. Expect a line on weekends. No cover. Casual dress. Full menu in the restaurant.

•**CACTUS CLUB** 236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos. Join us in the evening and experience our firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit julce). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can try a Platinum margarita with Sauza Hornitos, triple sec, fresh lemonade and fresh lime juice. Full menu available at bar.

•**COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY** 523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Nite 9:30 to 1:00. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

•**COTTONWOOD CAFE** 661-7440, 1815 Mass. Ave., Bos. Open daily for lunch and dinner, this casual yet upscale cafe makes you feel like you've landed in the heart of Arizona. The southwestern cuisine (try the grilled specials) is complemented by the adobe booths and multitude of cacti. Relax in the outdoor cafe during the hot summer months.

•**FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL** 720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

•**GREEN BRIAR** 789-4100, 304-306 Washington St., Brighton. This neighborhood Irish pub in the heart of Washington Square has the best combination of the Celtic feel far from the parking mess of Government Center. Entertainment ranges from Irish music to the occasional progressive band. The crowd is a healthy mix of neighborhood folk and recent college graduates. Modest cover on weekends. Casual dress.

•**HARPER'S FERRY** 254-9743, 158 Brighton Ave., Allston. Perhaps Boston's best known R & B bar, Harpers offers live music nightly. Most of the bands are top local blues acts, but on Sun. the amateurs take over with open-mike night. Smoky, but lots of fun with darts and billiards and a large dance floor. Moderate cover varies depending on the act. Collared shirts are required.

•**LENOX PUB & GRILLE** 536-5300, 710 Boylston St., Bos. Enjoy casual dining and an extensive array of imported and domestic beers in an authentic British pub. No cover. Neat dress. Sun. brunch 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m..

•**LILY'S** 720-5580, 101 S. Market Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos. The tourists have found a good deal at this cafe/piano bar where one can sample quality cheap eats and listen to piano Fri.-Sat. nights. No cover or dress code.

•**THE LITTLEST BAR** 523-9766, 47 Province St., Boston. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. As its name implies, The Littlest Bar is quite little., in fact, the place only seats 17 people. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30a.m.-12a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

•**MONDAY'S PIANO BAR** 277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline. . Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

•**MARKETPLACE CAFE** 227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Boston. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30p.m.. "Street Magic" acapella every Wednesday at at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

•**NIGHTSTAGE** 497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

•**O'LEARY'S** 734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

•**PARADISE ROCK CLUB** 254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

•**PROVINCE STREET PUB** 227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week til' 2a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1a.m..

•**PURPLE SHAMROCK** 227-2060, 1 Union St., Bos. An Irish bar with a touch of Faneuil Hall. Entertainment alternates between traditional Irish music and DJ dance music. Giant-screen TV. Moderate cover varies. Casual dress. Full menu.

•**RATHSKELLER** 536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hardcore alternative crowd - lots of black clothes and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

•**RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB** 876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryles. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

•**SCULLERS LOUNGE** 783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

•**T'S PUB** 254-0807, 973 Comm. Ave., Boston. Great food, lively atmosphere and there's always something going on inside. Younger bar-hoppers beware: Only valid IDs accepted (they're really tough!). Lunches and dinners are delicious and reasonably priced. College and thirtysomething crowd. Never a cover but always a good time.

•**THE BARMUDA TRIANGLE** 437-1011, 200 Brookline Avenue, Boston. Located just outside of Kenmore Square, The Triangle features live music seven nights a week. Catch Boston's best Jazz early in the week, and kick up your heels to Latin, R&B, Reggae and Rock through the weekends. Full bar. Reasonable entertainment charge after 9:30. Weekly giveaways include free passes, round trip tickets to Bermuda, T-shirts, parties and more!

•**WARREN TAVERN** 241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Boston. A funky little bar whose clientiele includes young professionals & athletes. Reputedly having some of the most beautiful women in Boston.The bar now attracts manly athletes. Stars don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

•**WESTERN FRONT** 492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

A free service of the Improper Bostonian for our readers.

To have your clubs, live acts listed in our 5/26- 6/8 issue, fax your listings to Christopher Francescani at 232-4305 by May 14th.

W 12TH

Bill's Element's Watson/ Plan Be/ Slow Children/ Welcome Down

Boston Beach Club Jah Spirit

Bunratty's Firepig/Usalos/ The Blanket Party

Diamond Jim's Al Vega Talent Showcase

Johnny D's Barrence Whitfield/ TomRussell

Regattabar Joe Williams

Scullers Myanna

Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike & The Jam

t.t. the bear's Jennifer Tryin/ December Child/ TC Rox

The Middle East Different Drum/ Matumba/ What's Gnu/ Matt Grifin & Lint

The Tam Tornado Room and the Blackwells

Zachary's Matt Gordy Quartet

T 13TH

Bill's DJ Stew & 7

Bunratty's The Derangers/ The Skydogs/ The Willows

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott's The Candles

Johnny D's John Abercrombie

Linwood Grille Fogcutters

Regattabar Joe Williams

Scullers Mighty Sam McClain

Sticky Mike's Motorvators

t.t. the bear's Inclined Slide

The Middle East The Noise Presents The Patty Show

The Tam Black and Grey/ The Allens

Venus de Milo Funky Grooves w/ DJ Debo

Zachary's Aaron Goldberg Quartet

F 14TH

Bunratty's Scatterfield/ Merang/ Ukla/ Mr. Dizzy

Colonial Inn Dan Crary, Beppe Gambetta & John Kirk

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott's Elements Watson

Hard Rock Cafe Mystery Jones/ Mark Lepler/ Rick Norman

Johnny D's Popa Chubby

Linwood Grille Monster Mike Welch Band

Regattabar Joe Williams

Ryles Prescription Horns

Scullers Jean Carne

Sticky Mike's John Putnam & Used Blues

t.t. the bear's Irations/ Allstonians

The Middle East Twig/ Helium/ Envelope/ Small Factory/ Incinerator

The Tam Wildest Dreams

Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz

Wharfield's Signs of Life/ House of Cards/ The Accidents

Zachary's Alain Mallet Quartet

S 15TH

Bunratty's HP Zinker/ Bulkhead/ Noise Gale/ Jerkwater

Cambridge Brewing Co. The Sky Blues

Cecil's Diane Kirk

Colonial Inn Robbie O'Connell

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott's Elements Watson

Johnny D's Boogaloo

Linwood Grille Kat in the Hat Band

Maxwell's Digg Band

Regattabar Joe Williams

Ryles Evil Gal

Scullers Jean Carne

Sticky Mike's Roll With It

t.t. the bear's Heritix/ Blister/ Subdiving Mara

The Middle East Cheesecake/ Mothra/ Eggs/ Pitchblend/ Legendary Lunch

The Tam Letters to Cleo/ Love Riot

Venus de Milo Disco Inferno

Zachary's Alain Mallet Quartet

S 16TH

Bill's Reggae Night- Mighty Charge

Bunratty's Sun God Zog/ Lost in the Whale

Johnny D's Rob Mathes

Linwood Grille West End Blues Band

The Middle East Windmill/ Fine Print

The Tam Hollywood Squares

Venus de Milo South American Night

M 17TH

Bill's Movie Night

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & the Hot Ribs Blues Jam

Bunratty's Guzzard

Maxwell's Brian Maes

Nightstage Trilogy

The Middle East Your Neighborhood Sax Quartet

Venus de Milo Mind's Eye Cafe

T 18TH

Bill's Avatar Blue/ Throat Culture/. Maelstrom/. Groove Butcher

Bunratty's Ajna Chakra/ Nervewomb/ There

Diamond Jim's Rochelle

Johnny D's Jim Henry/ Catie Curtis

Maxwell's City This

Regattabar The Mark Whitfield Group

Scullers New Artist Series

The Middle East World Beat Jam

The Tam Bone

Zachary's Hiro Honshuku

W 19TH

Bill's City This/ Slow Poke Joe/ Sarah Laughs/ Mother

Boston Beach Club Wilson Blue

Bunratty's The Shivers/ Girl on the Top/ The Ideal Cage

Diamond Jim's Al Vega Talent Showcase

Regattabar The Mark Whitfield Group

Scullers Jerry Beaudoin Quartet

Sticky Mike's Little Boy Blue

The Middle East 700 Miles

The Tam Skydogs

Zachary's Miles Donahue Quartet

T 20TH

Bill's DJ Stew & 7

Bunratty's Gang Star Posse

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott's The Candles

Grog The Search Party

Johnny D's Boiled in Lead

Regattabar The Phil Woods Quintet

Ryles Matheson-Shariffi Thang

Scullers Claudio Roditi w/ Greg Abate Quartet

Sticky Mike's Johnny Hoy & The Bluefish

The Middle East Rippopotomus/ Big Hot Sun/ Thumper/ Groovasaurus/ Maniacal Choir

The Tam Chaos Theory

Venus de Milo Funky Grooves w/ DJ Debo

Zachary's Dave Ballou Quartet

F 21ST

Bunratty's The Voodoo Dolls/ Slow Club/ Panhead

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott's Knowmads

Grog Kaos

Hard Rock Cafe Saucer

Johnny D's Sleepy La Beef

Linwood Grille Mike Duke & the Soul Twisters

Regattabar The Phil Woods Quintet

Ryles Loose Shoes

Scullers Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson

Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike & The Jam

The Middle East Tree People/ Tomatoe Monkey

The Tam Universal Language

Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz

Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 22ND

Bunratty's Morphine/ High Risk Group/ Sensesurround/ Red Tomato

Cambridge Brewing Co. One Thin Dime

Cecil's She's Busy

Colonial Inn Fred Small

Diamond Jim's Jon Mansfield

Great Scott's Knowmads

Grog The Rick Russell Band

Johnny D's Boozoo Chavis

Linwood Grille Billy King Kane & the Junko Partners

Maxwell's Digg Band

Regattabar The Phil Woods Quintet

Ryles Loose Shoes

Scullers Ronnie Earll

Sticky Mike's Motorvators

The Middle East Bazooka/ Erectus Monotone/ Usalos/ Shiny Beast

The Tam Shy Five

Venus de Milo Disco Inferno

Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

S 23RD

Bill's Reggae Night- Jah Spirit

Bunratty's STP

Grog Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero

The Middle East Coffin Break

The Tam 100 Proof

Venus de Milo South American Night

M 24TH

Bill's Movie Night

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr & the Hot Ribs Blues Jam

Bunratty's The Amazing Mudshark

The Middle East Charlie Kohlase Quintet

The Tam Jazz Muscians

Venus de Milo Mind's Eye Cafe

T 25TH

Bill's Big Catholic Guilt/ Tree/ Suicide King/ Feldmans

Bunratty's Medicine Man/ December's Children/ Section 8

Diamond Jim's Sing-off competition

Johnny D's Country Gazette

Maxwell's City This

Scullers New Artist Series

The Tam Pathos Gang

Zachary's Steve Wark/ Larry Baione Quartet

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ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — MAY 12-25, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
A mercurial fortnight...provocative, yet productive; somewhat dangerous and depressing too, but that may pass soon after we slip into Gemini next Thursday. The pace of life seems quicker because Mercury has been racing through Taurus in two short weeks, instead of a steady three or a retrogressed six. After rewarding recent acts of imagination and independence with a few choice words, such as a rave review or a hard to get interview, on Thursday and Friday Mercury tests our ability to absorb any more hype about rebuilding L.A., saving/bombing Bosnia or reconstructing a future from burnt out, broken bits of the past before moving on to Gemini late Monday night. To complete the reality check, the Taurus sun opposes Pluto, lord of the underworld, on Friday, conjuncts media-driven Mercury Saturday and squares authoritarian Saturn next Thursday. That's the day Saturn moves out of Aquarius into Pisces for three weeks before turning retrograde and heading back. Folks born on any cusp get a sense of what'll happen while Saturn, the stern taskmaster, stomps through spiritual, sacrificial Pisces from 2/94 through 3/96. Jihad, anyone? The rest of us feel strange due to the impending solar eclipse, the Gemini new moon on the 21st, and foolishly lucky when the sun favors expansive Jupiter on the 25th.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
Make the deal, already. Mercury in your money house is on such friendly terms with Uranus (science) and Neptune (art) in your mid heaven, that it would be a waste of wordpower and imaginative thinking to let negotiations go on much longer. However Mercury is less friendly to your broker, banker and peers, but if you can keep this week's challenges separate from last week's high test scores, you'll make progress. It's a fine line between revealing secrets and uncovering information that the sure footed ram is walking so gingerly.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
Once again, the Taurus sun opposes pushy Pluto in your marriage house, the planet that's dying to get rid of what no longer sustains the partnership. This cosmic garage sale has been going on since 1984, when Pluto first entered Scorpio, your cosmic "other." Keep the parts that function, throw out the rest or bury your feelings until you can safely deal with them? The sun also squares Saturn in your mid heaven, so you'll have an extra family obligation or more clout on the job (the better to clobber your boss?).

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Tricks of the trade are exposed, health info revealed and escape routes explored. You're attracting an array of such intelligent opinion and advice that you should do something with it immediately. While your Mercury ruler joins with the sun, you can also pull in a host of spiritual insights. What to do with such smarts? Put out a newsletter, tell a friend, buy into a fund. Just don't sit on what you learn and wait for a better, the mythical "more convenient" time to make a move. How does the 25th, when the Gemini sun favors lucky Jupiter, sound?

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
Friends, past lovers, the kids and your mate line up in funny formations this week; sometimes running interference, but getting in your way once or twice when it comes to money and fun. Watch what you gamble on, how intensely you play. A buddy's advice can lead to a major investment, one you'll fret over when the sun squares sobering Saturn and you sense that a new moon, a new agenda is just around the corner. Take your time, be circumspect but don't let the weight of deciding drag you down.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Lions born close to the Virgo border are the main targets for the tensions that arise when your sun ruler opposes Pluto this weekend. Isn't there something that should be recycled, such as your relationship with a parent or person from your past, or a garage that can turn into a studio? Guilt or ambient anxiety could overtake you when the sun and Saturn are in a testy square just before the solar eclipse next Friday, but you're treated to one of life's luxuries when the sun finally favors lucky Jupiter in your money house on the 25th.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Impressively clever and the center of attention too. While your Mercury ruler makes contact with almost every heavenly body, you process information and invitations with amazing efficiency. Just concentrate on what you want to happen and, except for romance (your lovelife plays second fiddle to your intellectual output and musical input), you can make it happen. As we move closer to Gemini, you'll notice that your career is picking up speed, becoming more interesting even to you.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
Good news about the folks at home or the house, more money for your personal use, but not enough to make a real difference until the 25th and, as this week ends, a more realistic approach to the kids. If you're having an affair with an older lover or a crush on your mentor, what happens this week could be pivotal. Although a lot is going on, you might not be emotionally involved and instead feel more like an audience than an actor. Didn't Momma say there'd be days like this too?

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
Big deal for those on the brink. As the sun opposes Pluto in Scorpio, something comes to a head. Whether your partnership is about love or money or a little of both, a critical moment occurs this week that can tip the scales. Since Saturn is being so heavy handed, you might miss out on some fun, lose sight of the humor in the human comedy. Chit chat about writing, neighbors, gossip and fancy folk continues but has little effect except when it threatens your finely honed sense of security.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
The work becomes more varied, the spiel more amusing and insightful, the audience younger, thanks to Mercury, messenger of the gods. There's a monetary reward because you're swift or mobile (upwardly, laterally?) enough to reach for it on the 25th. But there's a down side, an aging effect from dealing with elderly neighbors, a troubled sibling or your editor. Until the sun gets to Gemini and changes the equation, don't indulge too heavily in bad habits and be more security conscious in the car, around the neighborhood.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Talk the talk, walk the walk. Your Saturn ruler receives tons of attention from literate folk and students (dare we say devotees) of your particular skills. Take their comments to heart but don't sacrifice whatever humor you can glean from this week's mish mash of events. To some you'll be a hero, to others, maybe those you're exploiting, a cad. And while it may not be in the cards you're holding right now, a payoff is coming. The pressure to disavow your allegiance to a group peaks this weekend. What gives?

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
News about where or with whom you're living or intend to, particulary for those Aquarians born close to either cusp. If you want to revitalize or rescue your job or trade it in for one with more power, then pay close attention to the signals your boss emits. A not so subtle change occurs as the week ends and strict Saturn moves out of your sign. Don't celebrate your release just yet, it'll be back in July for a seven month stint before it's gone from Aquarius for good (or another 29 years.)

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
If lately it's been too quiet to suit your love of drama, then you'll be glad to know that Gemini and the complicated games one plays during this period is about to shake your foundation, maybe uproot you from your routine. But you won't make the change lying down. Expect to wax eloquent, perhaps put into words what you've been threatening to expose all year. More schooling looks particulary good right about now, so spend some hours leafing through course catalogs instead of J. Crew's.

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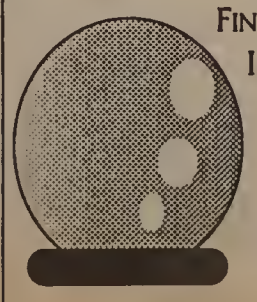
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Hey! Rodent with the Ax,
I say your face, I saw your body and I'm finding more and more on you every day. At first I was looking behind my back, soon begin looking behind yours. Even if I fail, I will NOT QUIT! Vindication will be mine. I will find you.
Early morning victim at Faneuil Hall

Yo, Wacko,
I would have expected a little more tolerance from someone named after an act of masturbation.
G.

Martin, Ross, Mike (for a minute) & Matthew,
Generation X sure can drink, eh? And dance, and sweat, and plain get nuts. Even on a freakin' Thursday night. Hope you were hating life as much as Nicky and I on Friday. Good to see the years have been good to us Sparkies. Good luck at Berkley (you big brain), hope things remain Constance, don't shoot yourself in the foot again, and send me your clips. Want to hear your stories.
XO,
Shue

Chang,
It stuns the mind how a once benevolent being can so easily transform into the most intolerable fuckhead & loser this side of Jupiter (excepting your father, who committed the graver inexcusability of impregnating your heathen mother). On sheer paranoia, you obliterated 5 years of friendship in the span of 5 minutes. Y'know, I once remarked (to no one in particular) that the foulest criminals are those who violate the trust of loyal friends, save for those who falsely accuse them of such transgressions. You're a dung beetle. Eat shit.
Cujo
P.S. Has anyone seen my pancreas?

Jeff,
Thanks for the lousy time. You know "J" also stands for "jerk." Do you really think that I don't remember what you did to me just because you got me drunk?? I still have bruises on my chest, thanks to you. Compared to you, Atilla the Hun was a sensitive lover. It takes more than a big weenie, buddy boy. You must think "finesse" is a French disease. You left a bad taste in my mouth in more ways than one. You should live to be so rich that you have a thousand servants, each one shoving motor oil down your throat.
Melissa

Brian,
Yeah you – from Delaware. It's me, Malzone (at B.U.). Saw you at the Crowes concert last Thursday in Worcester. Okay, so I didn't remember your name, but I did want to talk and see what's up. Call me if you have the inclination or I'll just see you at the beach.
Tom at the Bank,

To Tanja, Lauri, Charline,
Ha Ha! I have the last laugh – you thought *you* dusted me! Each time I got sober and you got madder. Ha!
Johnny Mac

What an appropriate name for someone who enjoys sucking the life out of his employees! It's amazing that you still have your job. I guess that's what happens when you surround yourself with peers who are as slimy as you are. You didn't give your employees a raise in over three years but made sure you got a new company car, a huge annual cash bonus, and several "Business Trip" vacations on the bank's expense. How could you knowingly let your own secretary embezzle almost $100,000? She didn't happen to sleep with you, did she? At least someone else caught her. I'm tired of seeing fellow employees and myself being treated like lowlife garbage. And I'm sure your customers don't enjoy being cheated by you. You will soon get everything you deserve. You really suck and I hope you die slowly and painfully!
Have a nice day!
Your Loving Employees.

Miss Thang,
The men all paused...
Wench Boss

This is to "Robert Redford":
You really are an asshole.

To Achmed (of the Love Den),
Keep your towel on & I.D. unchopped. It's time to bash.

Dorian,
She's only 19!
A concerned admirer

Kurt,
You scumbag, sack of shit, good for nothing son of a bitch, you are the most evil, malicious, moronic, brainless, motherfucker I have ever had the displeasure to associate with. If you gained 10% in the intelligence area you would still be negative -90%.

Dave,
You womanizer.
The girls

Dainsy Wainsy,
You lied to me. You hurt me. Don't play with fire because you'll get burned. You may get run over by a car. I hope you suffer. There is always a price to pay for pleasure. I will be that price and it will cost you.
Your "Love,"
Choucroute

To the "You Think You're Bad" Bladers at Kenmore,
If only you could be as extreme as we are!
M&D

To Steve Z., The Stud Boy,
We hear hair loss in men only means all that testosterone is being used for more important things.
With love from,
Rich's Fan Club

Hi, Sarah W.,
This is where you work. . .see, I'm not a loser like you say. . .

"E" Bacthler,
Why can't we just get along?!?
"Stubbs"

Dear Lisa,
If you weren't interested in breast bondage, you should have said so early on in the process. Even still, you looked great. No hard feelings.
Louis

Zoocums,
Why do we all have to be this way? Anyway? Here comes the rooster coming over to Little Miss Dangerous. Crazy, go nuts.
You're the best!

Craig & Jim,
You guys suck.

Steph,
Someday, somehow, maybe it wasn't meant to be. But if it was, let's just take what comes and screw the rules.
Woody

Miss Cathy S.,
That party last week was unforgettable. The grace with which you move across your living room floor moves me deeply. Understand that it is possible to fall in love with a medicine man. Call me.
Jeff

Ragdoll,
There are so many things I would love to say to you. I honestly do not know where to begin. You are most definitely NOT AS SENSITIVE as you think you are. My sympathy to Christina.
Love Always,
"An enamored listener"
P.S. If voodoo works, you should be in gonadinal paralysis.

Okay, you're right. You're always right! No getting married. No exclusive relationships. No stancking breath. Everything else, Fair game!

Demi,
I luv you.
X

To my sunshine and my lover,
You guys are the best whores in the world. . .I love you.

To all the stuck-up people,
I'm sick of all you people who think that school is such a fashion show (not, you distort what fashion means.) Once you get a brain, let me know.

!,
I said I would jot down a few lines. You said all I have is my license. She said what elephant? They both said I know I don't think I've paid for a beer yet. Yes, and a nice day at that. . .
?

Hey Rembs,
I'm not letting you out of the bathroom until you smoke one of my mother's cigarettes.
Your hippy roommate
P.S. Your balls are beautiful.

Dear Michelle,
You are ruthless and cruel. You definitely deserve the woman you will probably marry!! I hope you catch some sort of sexually communicable disease, you dirty whore! -ME!

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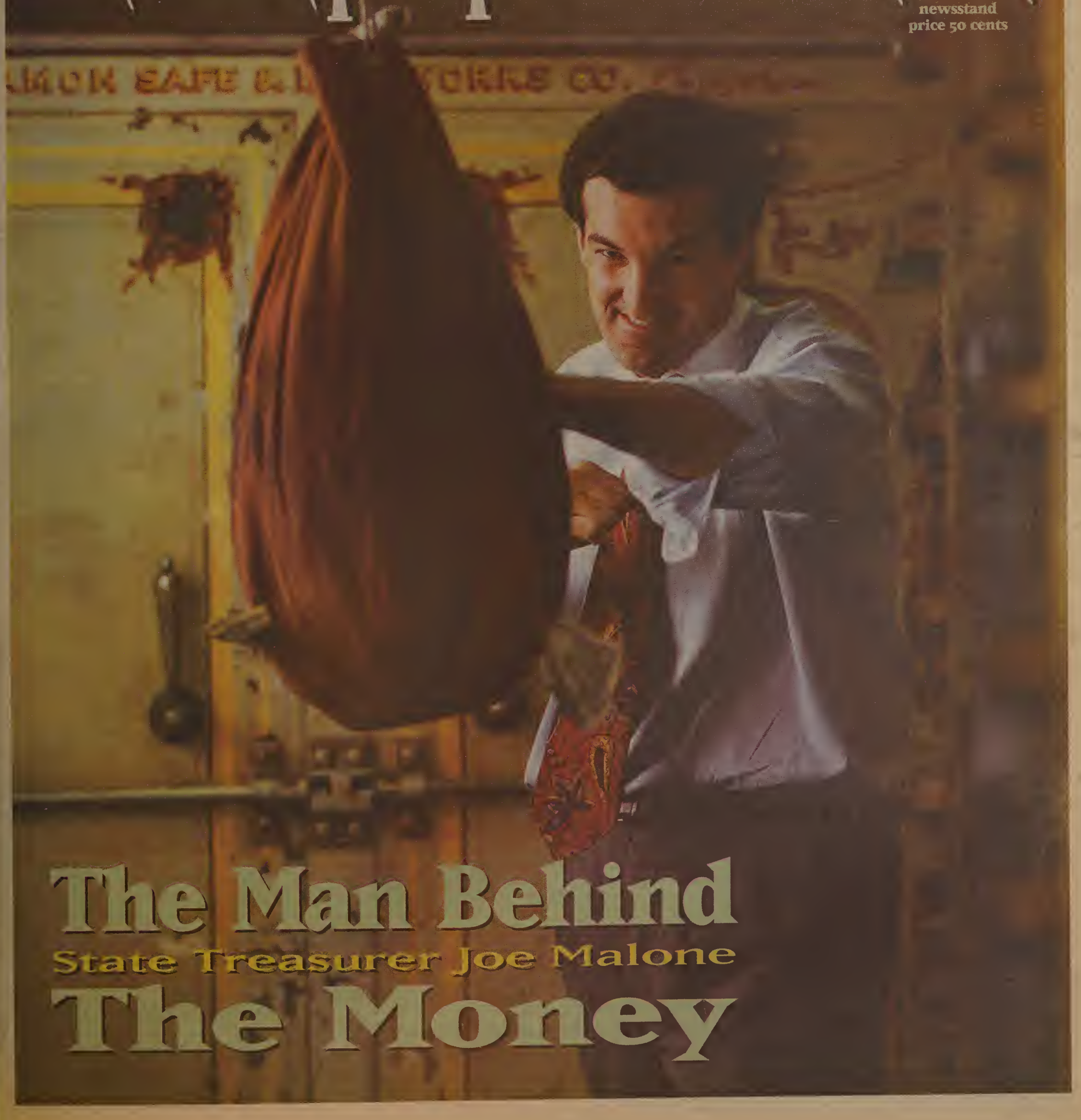



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The Man Behind The Money

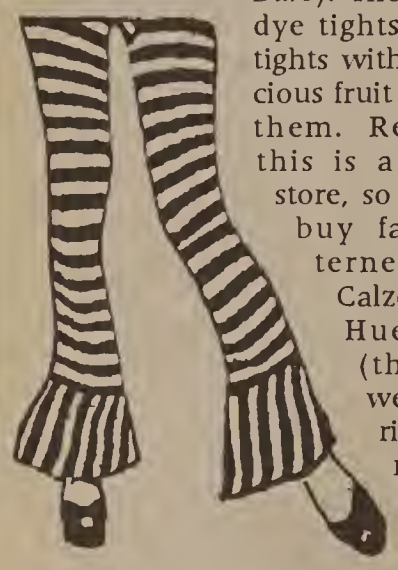
State Treasurer Joe Malone

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Legs Go Tights

"Our store is messy," says the owner of Super Socks, not without pride, and therein lies part of its allure. There's a schleppy ease to looking through the plenty, the variety, and the sometimes self-mocking glitz of the tights, socks, stockings, and pantyhose here. Some of the history of fashion has been scrunched into micro-form, with bell-bottom pants reincarnated as stripy tights with frou-frou bell-bottom parts (reminiscent of Madonna in *Truth Or Dare*). There are tie-dye tights, too, and tights with pale, luscious fruit printed on them. Remember, this is a discount store, so when you buy fancy patterned Dolci Calze Ergee or Hue tights (there's a well-known, ribbed style) made clingier with some lycra, you're getting them on the inexpensive. There are lots of modern micro-fibers here, so slippy and skinny to the touch, they feel like real silk stockings – and the colors range from somber greeny golds to interesting pales, and shades of black. The price of cotton and wool is going to rise next year, but Super Socks has them, a deal and a steal, for $6. Should you know (or be) a cross dresser, this is a sympathetic place to get your gear. Also, the outrageous is available in "exotic dancer" style, ones that have zippers or lace-ups, tights that overflow with marabou, or naughty fringe, or a tiny gold seam up the back. Garter belts, which are making a comeback with younger women who never had them as a burden, can now be enjoyed as an erotic diversion. Or come here for E.G. Smith's comic socks, printed with Mona Lisa, or with an elephant and a donkey. Very expensive, till you amortize them over years of wear, are the very luscious $50 Austrian Wolford micro-fiber tights.



Super Socks / 518 Commonwealth Ave. / 247-7092

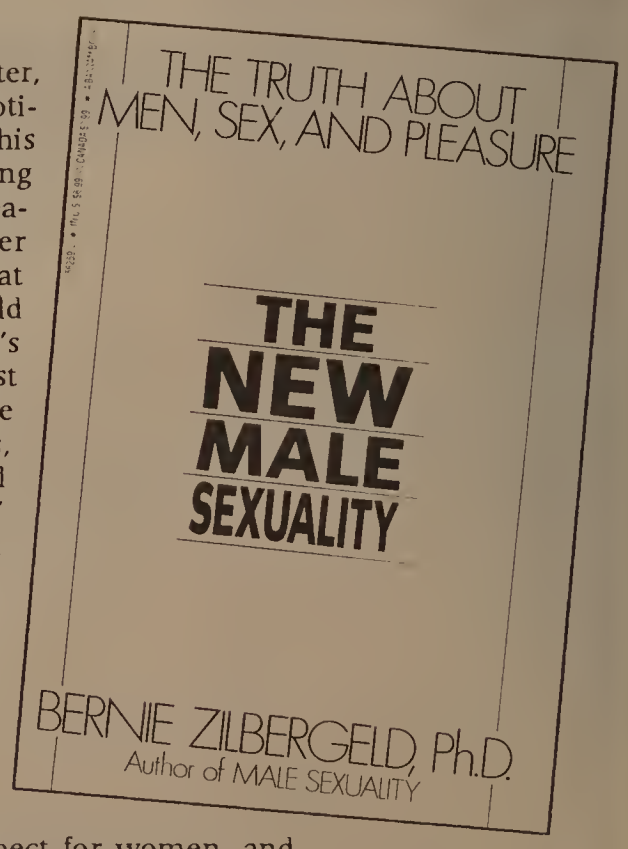


Imaginary Vistas

Gail Martin's own house is full of things that aren't there; the Puffin sitting on a disarranged pile of yellow National Geographics in the bathroom, the tousled cloth, draped wantonly on the bedroom wall, the shiny kitchen tiles that aren't. Moldings merely painted on flat ordinary walls, depth-suggesting niches, and shadows cast by nothing more than paint are part of her repertoire. These decorative specters appear as entire murals. You can luxuriate over one at Enzo's Restaurant in Brookline where a huge, soft neo-Classical landscape stretches throughout the place, including a huge structure clinging to rocky cliffs, poplars, statues, monuments, a reflecting pool, balustrades – the whole Italian nine yards. Back at home, a marmalade cat (based on her own) presides plumply on a railing. Elsewhere, she has filled hallways with ivy and birds, and even painted a dog on a door, eternally watching trompe l'oeil mail slither through the slot. A very elegant screen with ornate decoration was another commission. Martin "opens" cramped hallways with "windows" to nowhere, suggesting light, and one of her kitchen creations had the "trellised" inside of the cabinets festooned with sexy vegetables, ripe forever. When not working pictorially, she marbleizes, sponges, and invents coppery surfaces. She even has painted some chairs – art imitating casual distress – so they look like they need to be painted.

Gail Martin / Decorative Painting / 862-4927

The Kissing Game



One of the things that's new with this sex tome is that the writer, Bernie Zilbergeld, doesn't put himself on some Olympus of eroticism. Instead, while talking about modern sex, he talks about his own sex life, too. This can mean Zilbergeld talking about picking up a woman at a conference and being surprised at the displeasure of the disconnected sexual encounter. Or, on the other hand, it can also mean him celebrating the wildness of sex that isn't always only tender. In a chatty, easy-going tone, Zilbergeld takes on many questions about sex, acknowledging that there's a certain cultural 'men-are-oafs' trend, which he argues against in a good-humored way. Teenaged boys reading Playboy, he notes, are not monsters of chauvinism, etc., but are curious, energetic, life-affirming, charming. He proposes many useful exercises in communication about sex – practicing saying "no" (yes, men get to say "no," too), openly receiving feedback about sex, getting a kissing lesson with verbal commentary. Like a cool older brother, he gives good advice on how not to be defensive about matters romantic and sexual, and generally encourages a man to be a mensch. While a lot of what he talks about is in that region where relationship matters metaphorically echo sex itself – and can be improved there – he gives lots of good, specific advice about dealing with sexual problems, including how to handle the lousy feelings that go along with them. Partly because it is so informed by respect for women, and partly because it's so winningly guy-ish, it's a good book for women to (eavesdroppingly) tune into as well.

The New Male Sexuality / by Bernie Zilbergeld / Bantam Books

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, The Boston Globe, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. *Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146*

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May 26-June 8, 1993

4 You Oughta Be In Pictures

What do Larry Moulter, Marjorie Clapprood and Manos Linos all have in common? Together, they make up the first run of our new Improper People profiles page. Will Marjorie run for gov? Has Larry Moulter saved the Garden? Will the Euros take over Boston? Read on, and find out.


Paul Pilcher

6 Say It Is So, Joe

State Treasurer Joseph Malone spends lots of time with money. Thoughts of money, problems with money. He probably dreams of money, right? Wrong. Find out the who the man behind the moola is, in this up-close *Improper* interview.

BY MARK SEMONIAN



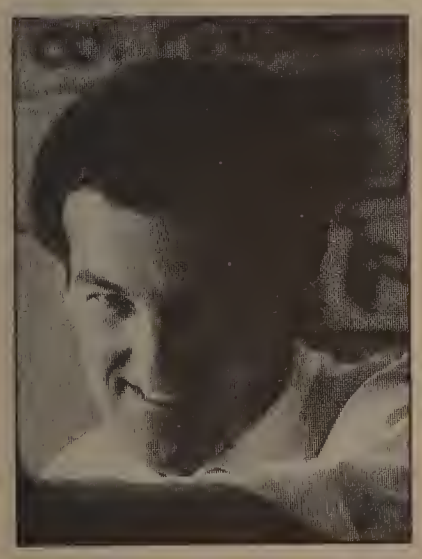
11 Shakespearean Reels

The Bard gave us the playful "Much Ado About Nothing," centuries ago. Now, Actor/Director Kenneth Branagh and an all-star cast recreate the magical farce in full-blown, big-screen form. How does this masterpiece fare in the transition? Our theater critics reveals all.

BY KAJ WILSON



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On The Cover

Massachusetts State Treasurer, Joe Malone

Photographed by: Tracy Aiguier

The Issue at Hand


Mim Michelove

It's been nearly two years since we first set up shop in a converted warehouse in Brookline Village, and it's been nearly that long since I've chained myself to the word processor to set ideas onto the printed page.

Ideas can be potent things, and when placed into open minds, they can generate action. When we began *The Improper Bostonian*, we started with two computers, some old doors for tables, a stack of resumes, and potent ideas, the main one being to create a great newspaper, one without peer; one in which the reporting was entertaining, insightful and a tad irreverent. Not an easy goal.

Our staff was recruited on the merit of being both insane and gullible enough to believe we could actually pull off this project, and tough enough to see it through when our future seemed uncertain. (Being able to survive indefinite amounts of time without sleep didn't hurt either.)

With our initial team possessing minimal, if any, practical media experience, we created a newspaper the only way we knew how. And, 37 issues later, with hard work, a focused dream and a little BS, our goal has paid off.

Today, as deadline pressures have finally calmed to manageable levels of chaos, I proudly dedicate a new era for *The Improper Bostonian*. In this issue, you'll find what we hope are significant improvements to our publication. Look between these pages for a renewed sense of vision, action, and ideas. We have revamped our methods and styles to bring you more of what you've requested: better reporting, editing, photography, layout, clarity and a more Improper voice.

All this wouldn't have been possible without enormous dedication from a staff of exceptional individuals. We ask that you take a look, read through, give a call and tell us what you think. But don't call between the hours of 11p.m. and 5a.m. We'll be fast asleep at our desks.

Improperly yours,
Mark Semonian
Publisher

The Improper Bostonian

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PROFILES

Photos by Paul Pilcher

Marjorie Clapprood

"Six-Inch Heels, Painted Nails and Candid Humor"

by Megan Gilmartin



Don't expect saccharine sweet or politically-correct conversation from talk-radio host and politician Marjorie Clapprood. "I could really care less if people agree with me," Clapprood says, in her take-me-or-leave-me tone of voice. "I just enjoy provocative, political debate." And debate she does, diabolically, every morning on WRKO.

"Thanks to Natalie Jacobson and her wonderful interview with John Silber...I get paid an obscene amount of money to kick the stuffing out of the two guys that beat the democratic ticket in 1990," Clapprood says. "I have the best job in the world!"

Clapprood describes her on-air relationship with co-host Pat Whitley as "symbiotic and oxymoronic."

"Pat is just an extraordinarily wonderful human being," Clapprood laughs. "I'm just horrified by his political beliefs...I don't hold him responsible; I think it's because he wasn't breast fed as a child."

Clapprood is a self-described risk taker. She remembers when she was offered a job at WHDH and a lot of people told her she was "crazy" to take it. "Suppose you flop?" they said. "Then I flop," she replies (almost flippantly), "and then move on to something else."

Clapprood equates her brash attitude and resilient nature to the fact that she grew up with next to nothing. She tells stories of a childhood spent growing up in the projects, living off of welfare and eating with food stamps. She recalls learning at a very young age that "the sense of self-worth is really the only thing that you get to take to the grave."

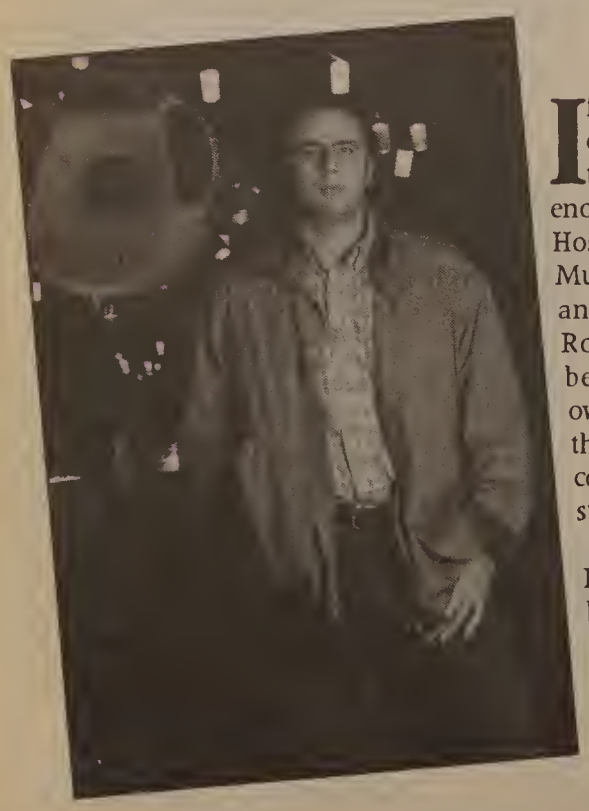
"I've known an awful lot of people who lead a cautious life. They never step outside the boundaries...they leave no legacy." Clapprood is, however, quick to add that she does not take herself seriously. "I cannot stand egocentric, stuffed shirts," she says vehemently. "I think an awful lot of people need to lighten up."

Clapprood says she does not set out to offend, rather, she tries to provoke her audience to think about issues and get involved. "I have no filter mechanism," Clapprood says in defense of her sometimes irreverent and outrageous commentary. "If it's in the head and the heart, it falls out of the mouth."

What about future plans for poljtical office? "Well," Clapprood replies, giggling, "I plan to return to politics long before I become menopausal...but I think that until the office of Zyrena Queen of the Universe opens up, I'm going to follow the course that I'm on now." ❑

Manos Linos

The "Crown Prince" of Boston's Euro Kingdom



by Nicole L. Mills

If you haven't been to one of the clubs promoted by Manos Linos yet, then you obviously don't get out enough. Manos and his two partners, Hossein Shandoulou and Christophe Muller, are the force behind Europa and the Friday night bashes at the Roxy. Manos and his partners had been promoting for other club owners. Their success (and seeing all the money go to other people) finally convinced them that it was time to start their own venue.

The glamorous concept behind Europa is regarded with suspicion by "proper" Bostonians, but Manos himself is a somewhat unlikely club czar. For someone who creates such a see-and-be-seen atmosphere, he's remarkably unflashy. He's reticent about having his picture taken, and he prefers to be somewhat in the background, letting his clubs claim the attention.

There is, of course, competition for that attention. It's hard to be the new kid on the block in what has essentially been a one-kid town for 15 years. A while back, some other promoters in town got together to throw a "Unity Ball," which intentionally targeted the international scene. Manos calls it "Promoters against Europa," saying "A lot of people did go to the Unity Ball, but then they just showed up at Europa later. Nobody really understood what the Unity Ball was for."

But Manos doesn't worry. "As far as the international scene, we own Friday and Saturday nights in this city. Other clubs keep trying to surprise us with new things, and I just have to surprise them back." ❑

Larry Moulter

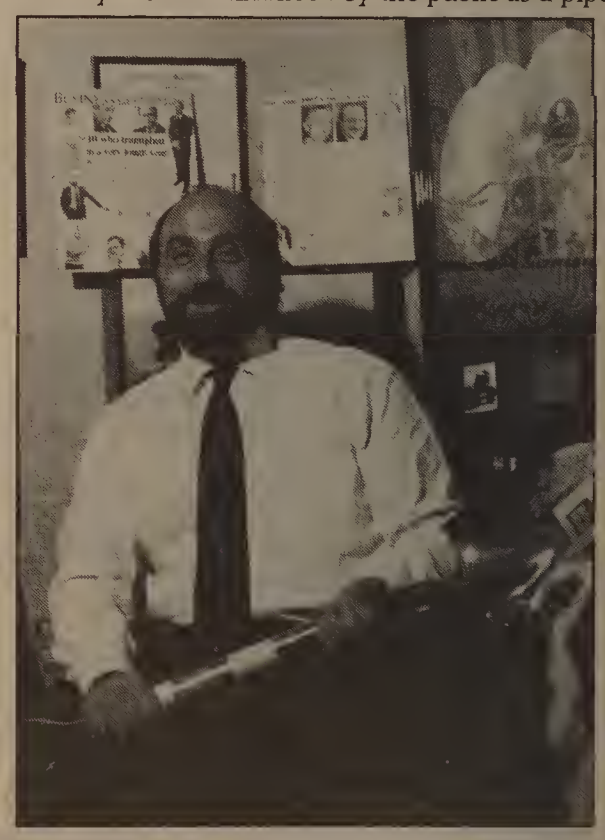
Larry, Larry Quite Contrary, How Does Your Garden Grow?

by Chad L. Sanborn

Neither the B's nor the C's survived the first round of the playoffs. But Larry Moulter, point man on the six-year negotiations for a $160 million multi-purpose Boston Garden replacement, has won in the second round of the playoffs, and seems destined for a championship. In fact, Moulter, president and chairman of New Boston Garden Corporation, won the first playoff round in February, when the state legislature approved the new arena, now named The Shawmut Center.

From his Causeway Street office (adjacent to the Garden), Moulter looks past the green underbelly of the expressway, out to the city he so obviously loves. Moulter moved to Boston in the late 1960s to attend Northeastern University. "Like a lot of people that come to Boston to go to school, I loved it so much I stayed," he laughs.

Barrel-chested and outgoing, Moulter, 43, bounces lightly around his office as if sparring in a ring, quick to laugh and put you at ease. The fact that he weathered the stop-start negotiations with the State, on a project rumored about for more than 25 years and dismissed by the public as a pipe



dream, is a testament to Moulter's sense of humor, and his tenacity. When he took up the new arena development reigns, Moulter was well aware of the quagmire that is Commonwealth politics.

"I wasn't surprised [by the contentious negotiations], having worked in both levels [of government; I] know how the game is played. I [use] the word 'game' because that's what some people do – play games."

Moulter is quick to defend the naming of the new arena, by noting that the marketing relationship allowing Shawmut Bank to attach its name to the center, "a privately financed building," will provide a windfall in excess of $30 million over 15 years. Still, Moulter himself slips at least once, violating the party line by referring to the new arena as "the New Garden." But he always catches himself, with a wry grin. ❑

HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS



VOGUE
Choreographed movement flows through Mark Morris, June 7

➤WEDNESDAY, MAY

26 Want to be the critic? Long to give thumbs up or down? The ICA (955 Boylston Street) is presenting the premiere screening of ***The Painted Princess***, an animation film created by award-winning filmmaker Pooh Kaye. Lights dim at 8 p.m. Call 266-5153 for more information.

➤ THURSDAY

27 Memorial Day weekend looms; everyone gears to leave town. Our advice? Bag the weekend traffic. Stay in town and hit a tony outdoor cafe. **The Rattlesnake's roof deck,** outdoor tables at the **Cactus Club, Cornucopia, Joe's American Bar and Grill, Spasso** or **Ciao Bella:** perfect ways to celebrate summer's start.

➤ FRIDAY

28 The King of "Dead" is here – dead-pan humor, that is (yuk, yuk). Comedian **Tom Agna** is headlining at **Catch a Rising Star** (Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton Street). Now see him in the flesh. Tickets are $12; 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. shows. Call 426-3737.

SAM SAYS!➤

Help SideWalk Sam deface the city at the Paint For Pets, June 3

➤ SATURDAY

29 An early summer's afternoon. The Green Monster. Brewskies and dogs. Sunshine (well, maybe). Yes, it's the **Red Sox versus the Texas Rangers.** What better way to spend a day out of the office? Call 267-1700 for tickets. Prices will vary, game starts at 3 p.m.

➤ SUNDAY

30 Rejoice! Tomorrow's a holiday. Go out and play. Where to? Two clubs consistently jam on Sundays: **Esmé** at Marais (1 Boylston Place; 482-7799) curries to those looking for sophisticated socializing, or **Venus di Milo** (11 Lansdowne St.; 421-9595) offers Hip Hop, House and Funk.

➤ MONDAY

31 Want to shiver from fear and lust? ***Sliver***, and you will. William (the sexy brother) Baldwin, Sharon Stone and Tom Berenger are smoking up the screen in this made-for-summer Martin Landau movie production. Catch it at the Cheri or Chestnut Hill.

➤ TUESDAY, JUNE

1 "I could have watched all night..." Lerner and Loewe's timeless musical comedy, **"My Fair Lady,"** thrills the Colonial Theater through June 20. Actor Richard Chamberlain shines as linguist Professor Henry Higgins, and Melissa Errico of *Les Miserables* is Cockney flower girl Eliza Doolittle. For tickets, call 931-2787.



➤ WEDNESDAY

2 Art Nouveau is the 19th Century phrase for art that uses flowing lines and organic motifs: think Gustav Klimt and Edvard Munch. The Museum of Fine Arts has pulled together a collection of these works, and called it the **Age of Art Nouveau** (catchy, no?). Call 267-9300 for more.

➤ THURSDAY

3 Sidewalk Sam is ready to deface the Boston's City Hall Plaza, and you can help. **"Paint For Pets"** means drawing a huge chalk mural on the bricks to celebrate the MSPCA's 125th birthday. Legalized graffiti! From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; for more, call 244-3171.

➤ FRIDAY

4 Books and Gaelic brew appeal to you? Head to the **Brendan Behan Pub** (378 Centre Street, Jamaica Plain) and catch two fantastic Irish authors, **Patrick McCabe** (*The Butcher Boy*) and **Michael Collins** (*The Man Who Dreamt of Lobsters*). Both will be reading from their latest. Call 522-5386.

➤ SATURDAY

5 Clued out on architecture? Wouldn't know "art deco" if it bit you? So take the **Art Deco Society's walking tour** of Boston architecture; you can chose either a downtown or a back bay tour. Starts at 11 a.m., runs two and a half hours. Tickets $12. Call 787-2637.



HOT PICK

"'Enry 'Iggins?" The classic tale of Pygmalia is played out in the Colonial Theater's "My Fair Lady," starring Richard Chamberlain and Melissa Errico, on June 1

➤ SUNDAY

6 The Copley Society is challenging over 70 painters to, in six hours, produce "fresh-air" original works. The results will be sold at the Copley's **5th Annual "Fresh Paint" Auction** fundraiser, at the Dorothy Quincy Suite, John Hancock Hall, starting 6 p.m. Admission, $20. Call 536-5049.

➤ MONDAY

7 Dance Umbrella is bringing the **Mark Morris Dance Group**, an Avant-Guard dance company, to the Emerson Majestic Theater for two programs. "Program A," June 1-5, features *Home*. "Program B," June 8-12, features *Mosaic and United*. Performance highlights: live music performed by Michelle Shocked and Rob Wasserman. Call 931-3100.

➤ TUESDAY

8 Need some comic relief? **Humor authors Richard Russo** and **Cathie Pelletier** will be reading from their most recent novels at the Brattle Theatre (40 Brattle Street, Harvard Square). Part of the WordsWorth Readings, this event starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are free. Call 354-4223.

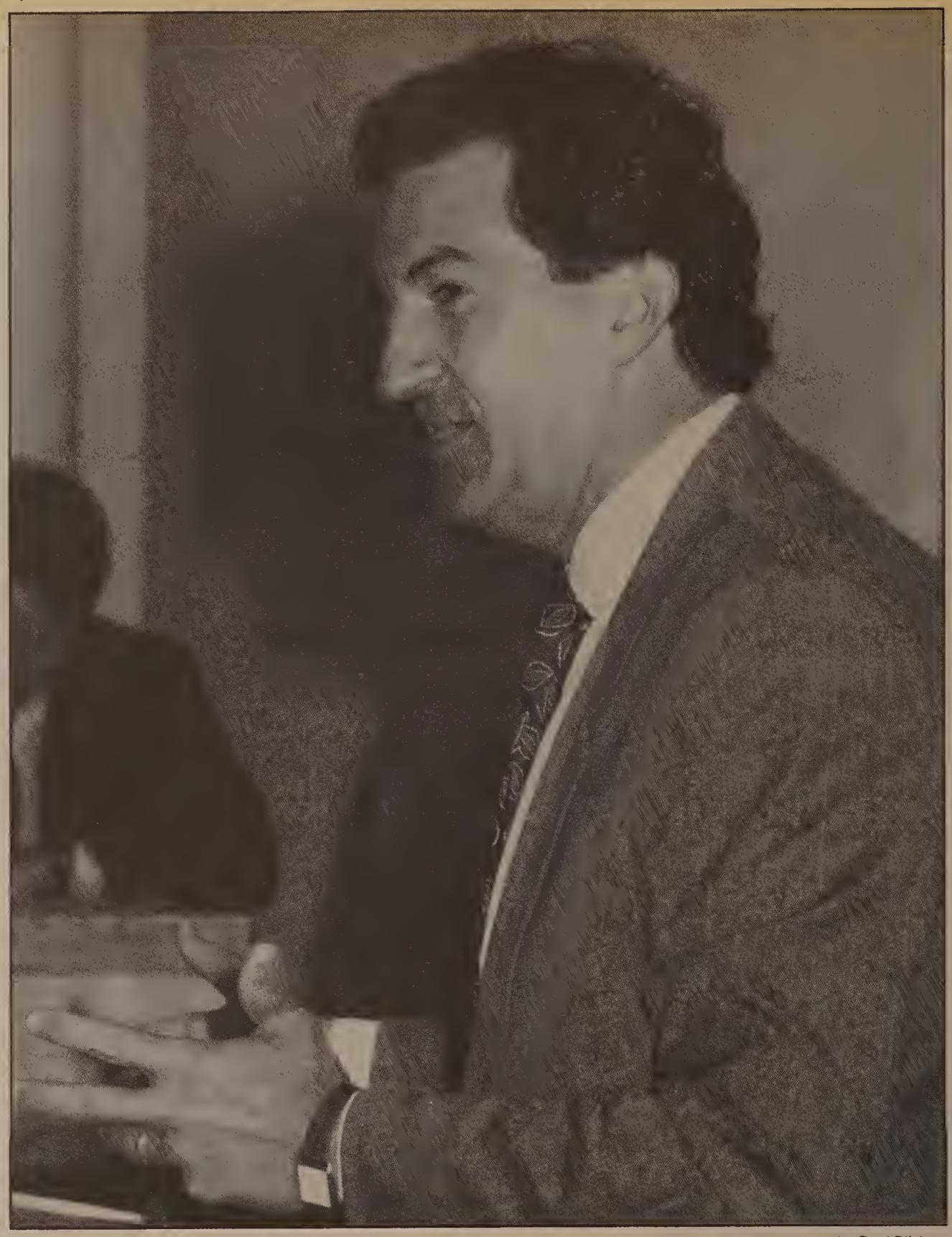


photo by Paul Pilcher

The Man Behind The Money

State Treasurer Joe Malone

by mark semonian & nicole mills

The Commonwealth's chief money man and its third highest-ranking Republican is safely at the first plateau on his political climb. He is content and relaxed, settled into his position and starting to gain popularity, admiration and praise for his self-styled independent status and congenial manner. And though some may disagree, Joe is generally credited with unusually effective management of state resources.

In the political ring, Joe Malone fights with a concealed drive, displaying a learned and steady caution. His style: hit and block with consistency, wisely choose opponents, and take care not to over-extend. He understands well that, while being considered an underdog, he may emerge victorious merely by being the last one standing conscious at the end of a bout. In time, political opponents will become tired and frustrated in the search for a weak spot in which to land a shot, but Joe Malone stays cautious, steadily biding his time.

Typically, the Office of the State Treasurer has lacked a high profile appeal, but since the election of Malone, the first Republican to hold the office in over twenty years (and a strong possible contender for higher office), all eyes are on the man who controls the State's purse strings.

Malone exists as an anomaly in state government, one of three lone Republican figureheads in a Democrat's State House. Both he and the Governor occupy separate and distinctive niches in the mind of the electorate. Weld, as the razor-sharp-witted Brahmin, is a master of public persona, while Joe Malone is the everyman's politician.

Born into a middle-class family, Malone was transported from the ethnic neighborhoods of Waltham to the privilege and opportunity of Phillips Academy Andover, and later, Harvard University. It may be this peculiar mixture in his background that has created his popular appeal. After all, his prior occupation, owner of a health club, is not necessarily typical training for the State's top money man.

Malone also has an imposing physical presence. One look at the conspicuous crook in his nose and images of Italian pugilists come to mind, though Joe is not a trained fighter. He's an athlete at heart, with a deep-seated drive to fight and to win.

After convincing Joe to "box with the budget" in the treasurer's vault for our cover photo, we met with him in his downtown offices, and discussed the man behind the money.

The Interview

How did you end up at Phillips Academy Andover?

"My mother had always pushed me to go to Phillips, starting at the ninth-grade level. I'm the youngest of seven kids; there was a tradition of all my brothers and sisters going to Waltham schools. When I was a kid, I always thought it would be neat to go to Waltham High and play on the football team. So her suggestion of my going to a private boarding school was not something I responded to in a positive manner. But then there was the second option, which was to do a post-grad year, and I thought that was a terrific option. It afforded me the opportunity to meet an awful lot of interesting people, to learn a lot, to improve study skills and all in all, it was positive.

Would you consider yourself an academic?

I was someone who had a broad range of interests, one of which was academics, but by no means would I say that I was an academic. Take college, for example. I was playing football and bartending at a place called Jack's [while at Harvard University]; it was a bar between Harvard and Central Square. It was the bar Bonnie Raitt got her start at in the early 70s. I bartended there from '74 to '78.

A lovely cast of characters was working there when I was there, including Mike Lynch (now sportscaster for WCVB-TV, Channel 5) and Mike Dukakis' future daughter-in-law, who was working there before she married John Dukakis. I'd definitely recommend to any person out there in college or in their college years to do something with that much direct involvement with the public. It's a great training ground. I can remember working there the first night, a freshman in college, very wet behind the ears – and I thought that I had seen the whole world and was a very urbane fellow – and suddenly, it was like whoa! There are people here that I never realized existed. That type of an experience is a real eye-opener.

Are there any similarities that you can see between running a bar and being in politics?

You develop this sense where someone walks up to the bar, and in some cases the sense they give off is, "I want you to make me feel important." And you then respond to that. And then there are other people that say "Leave me alone, I don't want you doing anything else but pouring me my beer."

It shouldn't be a case of the world adjusting to the mood you're in, in my business; it's going to be a case of [you] adjusting to the moods that different people are in.

Were you politically ambitious as a child?

My involvement came about as a result of my parents being supportive of John Volpe's campaign for governor in 1960. As a result of their support for him, the discussion at the dinner table often times was politics. So I can remember going to grade school and being very tuned in to what was happening in elections. I can remember my sixth grade teacher sending a note home to my mother saying your twelve-year-old son knows more about government than I do, you ought to make sure that he keeps his focus.

What made you decide to seek public office?

I wasn't sure if I ever wanted to become a candidate. I thought it was fun to be working behind the scenes, helping other people to get elected. There was a point that I got to where I was wondering if I was ever going to work for a candidate who got elected in Massachusetts, because I was supporting the Republican side. That's the point at which I said "The heck with this, I'm going to give this a shot myself, and see what comes about." My thought was that, at the very least, I would achieve a result. I would either find out whether I am properly suited to be a candidate and an elected official, or whether it just wasn't for me.

So at the age of 33, for the first time in my life other than running successfully for student council president of Waltham High School, I ran for office against Senator Kennedy, and learned a heck of a lot even though it didn't result in my getting the number of votes required to become senator. And along the way, I think I built some credibility, built an organization, built an understanding of how the system works, so that in 1990, I was able to get elected.

What was it like running against Ted Kennedy?
It was a race where mental strength was more important than anything, because it is so easy to get discouraged when you're running that kind of uphill battle. Every hour of every day I would be reminded of just how uphill it was. If I was going to an event where there was supposed to be 50 people, and there were only 12 people there, you could walk away saying "Why am I doing this, no one knows I exist." If you then went into an editorial board meeting and allowed their first impression to get you down, then you would walk away discouraged.

But instead, I kept on looking at the portion of the glass that was full and getting more filled by the day. And took the campaign sort of section by section, and looked to the little successes as opposed to worrying about the poll numbers at the end of the line. And as a result of doing it that way, we spent eight or nine months winning friends and building some strength.

When election night came, I didn't think of it as a defeat, I thought of it as a giant step towards achieving our goal. I always thought it was extremely important for a Republican to prove that a Republican could get elected in Massachusetts.

What does Joe Malone do for fun?
I love sports and am married to a woman who is also a sports enthusiast. Linda and I are Celtics season ticket holders, we have been since Larry Bird's second year. I recall lots of good memories going into championship games and watching the Celtics play inspiring ball. Linda and I spend a lot of time with our kids, a three-and-a-half year old and our 11-month old. Whether it's taking them to a picnic, Drumlin Farms or to other places.

Who is on the Joe Malone required reading list?
Harry Truman's biography, [author] Peter Drucker, Megatrends 2000, The Last Hurrah.

Why Harry Truman?
I think we are living in a day and age where people are frightened to death of taking any risks whatsoever. I don't know whether that's because there's so much media out there that communicates messages electronically, and can send a message around the world as soon as you slip on a banana peel. Or maybe it's that we're in such a legalistic society, where there are lawsuits everywhere. People just seem to be very, very cautious.

Harry Truman, in my opinion, was someone who listened to advice, he was willing to think things over, but once he made up his mind, he had no problem whatsoever moving forward. And to me, that's very refreshing. He worked hard at what he did. He never looked back and never second-guessed himself. To me, he personifies leadership.

Who are your heroes?
If this doesn't sound too personal, my mother is one of my great heroes. She was a widow at age 51; when my father died, she was left to raise seven children and take over a family trucking business. I was the youngest of seven at 12 years old. And she not only raised us all, but she also found time to be involved with community affairs; she's been on the Board of Trustees at the Fernald League For Retarded Children since Governor Volpe appointed her in 1961. She was just a wonderful role model in terms of her human qualities. She'd be number one on my list of heroes.

I'm also a big fan of Ronald Reagan and I'll tell you why: because again, he was someone who wasn't afraid to let people know where he stood. And if that led people to turn away from him, well, that's okay. "You've got to know where I'm coming from, and I'm not going to be out there trying to please all people."

I think history will conclude that Ronald Reagan made a tremendous contribution in terms of bringing about the end of the Cold War. And he had the conviction to see through his ideas of peace through strength. And that peace through strength eventually brought about a whole new world.

Do you wish to seek a higher office in the future?
I take great comfort in keeping in my mind that I can walk away from this business at any time. That allows me to take a more independent approach to governing. I don't have any great game plan worked out. If you asked me, the short term prospect is, I expect to be running for re-election and I hope to get re-elected. I think we'll have a good story to tell in 1994. Beyond that, I don't have the faintest idea of where all this is leading.

What would you be doing if you weren't in politics?
I know what I'd like to be doing; I'd like to be teaching and coaching, maybe at the high-school level. Interacting with kids. I know the experience I had in sports was a great experience, and I think it helped shaped my life.

Who was your favorite coach?
I had a guy at Phillips Andover named Steven Sorota. We won every game we had that year with the exception of one game, where we lost to Deerfield [Academy]. We had a 21-to-nothing lead at half-time, and ended up losing 22-to-21. And when we got into the locker room at the end of the game, Steve Sorota, who was probably in his early 60s at the time, in a very fatherly way said, "You will learn more from this experience of having lost today than you will from all the games you've won this season."

The way in which he dealt with us, knowing that we felt the hurt of losing that game, was just wonderful and pretty different from most I'd ever had. I can remember saying to him one day as he was walking off the field, "I notice you never yell at anybody, you have a very soft-spoken way of dealing with all the players." He said, "Well, I know that it takes 15, 16, 17 years for these kids on the field to build up some self esteem. And I do not want to destroy that self esteem in 30 seconds."

What parallels would you draw between the football game and the game of life?
Let me give you one example. I went through high school doing very well. I was the captain of my high-school football team and played both ways [offense and defense], went to Andover and started both ways. I got to Harvard and started on the freshman team and my hope was that I would someday start on the varsity team.

My big chance came junior year. Instead of me being put into the starting role, one of my teammates was. On that day, I went to the offensive line coach and I said, "I can do better than this guy and I think you just don't see that. And I think maybe it's time for me to hang up my uniform. I just don't want to do this anymore, if I'm playing for a coach who doesn't recognize my talent and sees someone as being more talented than me for this job."

And so I walked out of camp that day, and about a week and a half later, the defensive line coach called me and said, "You're missed out there, your teammates miss you, the coaches on the staff, including the offensive line coach, think that you belong on this team and would like you to come back. If you don't want to play offense anymore, come back and play for me on defense."

Well, I did that, and for about a year and a half went out every day and wasn't starting, but I tried to find a niche from which I could help. And so I then became that guy who, all week long in practice, did everything possible to make the practices be more spirited and make sure that the best job possibly was done by those reserves who were playing against the starting team during the course of the week.

To make a long story short, the night of the banquet the award, called the Henry N. Lamar Award which is voted by all the members of the team, was presented to me and I received a standing ovation that made me feel like I had just won the Heisman Trophy.

The lesson in that experience was that in life there are always going to be people who are bigger or stronger or faster or smarter or whatever the case might be, but if you find your niche in life and if you remain positive and you try to do the very best you can, then good things occur as a result. So going from that atmosphere and that experience, to then going into the real world, and particularly the political world, I never got discouraged ❑

I take great comfort in keeping in my mind that I can walk away from this business at any time. That allows me to take a more independent approach to governing.

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WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW



MOVIES

Posse, directed by Mario Van Peebles. Starring Van Peebles, Stephen Baldwin, and Big Daddy Kane, this western saga tells the story of the African-American cowboy experience in the Wild West. Sure to provoke conversation, as well as entertain.

MUSIC

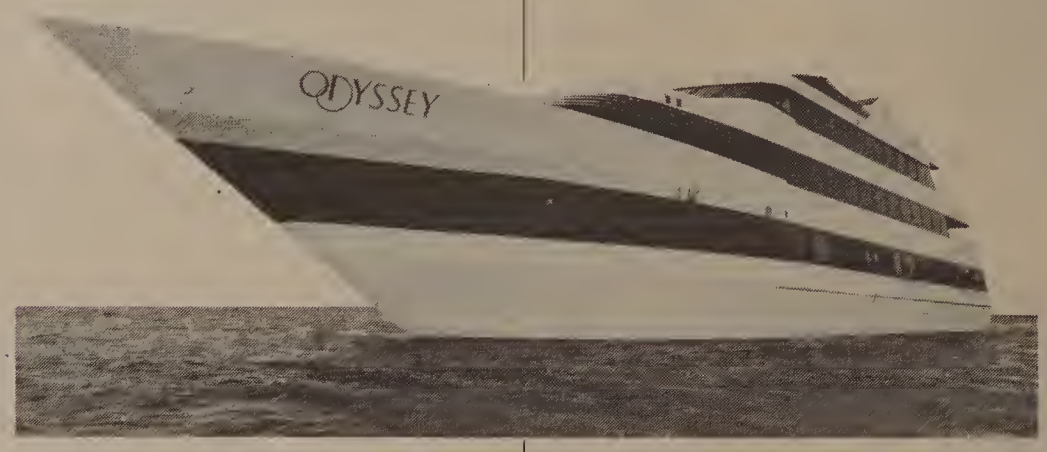
Sting, June 4, at Great Woods. The ex-frontman for the Police is back touring behind his latest release, *Ten Summoner's Tales*, and will bring his unique blend of pop, jazz and southern hemisphere rhythms for one show. Tickets are available through Ticket Master, 931-2000.

SCENES

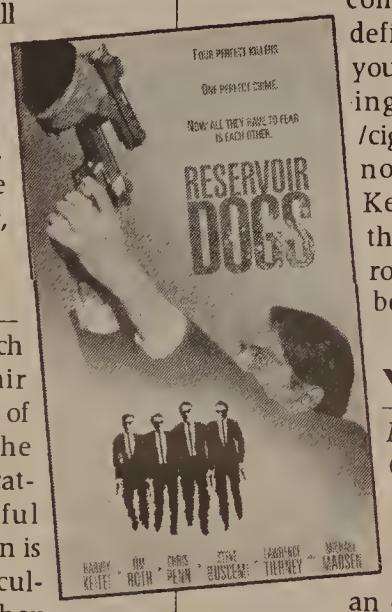
Boston Pops at the Hatch Shell. Fans of open-air tunes rejoice at the start of the Pops season at the Hatch Shell theater, located along the beautiful Charles River. The season is short this year; shows culminate after July 4, when the Esplanade Orchestra takes over. So hurry up and see John Williams before he's gone! Call 266-1492.

RECORDINGS

Tell Me Why, Wynonna Judd. A new release from the daughter half of country music's famous mother/daughter duo The Judds. This latest solo effort carries on the family brand of cross-over country music, firmly establishing Wynonna as one of the leaders in the mainstreaming of country music.



The Jack Kerouac Collection, Rhino Records. Though it's not brand new, this three-compact disc box set is the definitive listener, whether you're involved in the emerging coffee house /poetry /cigarettes scene or simply a nostalgic aging beatnik Kerouac muses on everything from jazz, America's roads and, of course, Uber-beatnik Neal Cassidy.



VIDEOS

Reservoir Dogs, directed by Quentin Tarantino. This innovative blend of humor and ultra-violence depicts Harvey Keitel as an oddly moral L.A. jewelry thief, confronted with a heist gone terribly wrong. Also starring are Michael Madsen and Tim Roth as the much more sinister members of the elite gang of thieves.

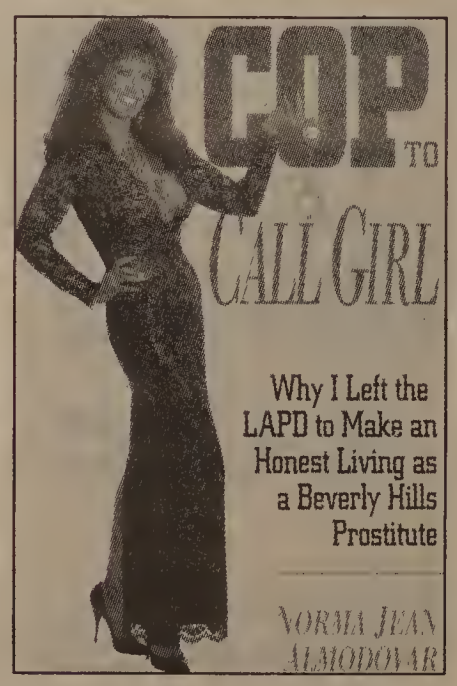


RECREATION

Atlantic Ho! The dinner cruise ship Odyssey starts docking at Rowes Wharf June 8, offering Bostonians the opportunity to get the first look at this latest addition to the waterfront community. A 175-foot yacht with gourmet cuisine, entertainment and room for 600 passengers, Odyssey offers lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch cruises. How handy! Call 654-9700.

HOT EATS

"Cuisine of the Americas" is the newest fave among city diners. This means food with Caribbean, South and Central American influences – hot, hot, hot! The perfect spot to catch this is Claremont Café on Columbus Ave. in the South End. Outdoor café dining, terra cotta dishes, deliciously spicy foodstuffs. Call 247-9001.



BOOKS

Cop To Call Girl, Norma Jean Almodovar. From police officer to prostitute to prisoner, the author has walked on every side of the law. Now she's written about it in a shamelessly titillating, tell-all book. Odds are *Cop To Call Girl* is available at just about every bookstore in the world (Simon & Schuster, $21).



BALLET

June 1-20 are the final day for Boston Ballet aficionados to experience "Romeo and Juliet" at the Wang Center. Tears will flow! Last show of the season. Tickets are available through Ticket Master, 931-2787.

OUTDOORS

Boston's Emerald Necklace Park. Everything has gone green in the Boston Common, the Public Garden, Commonwealth Ave. Mall, Back Bay Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Jamaica Pond, Arnold Arboretum and Franklin Park – lifestyle trompe l'oeil to escape the urban environs. Call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at 635-4505.



FASHION

Men's Wear: The Banded Collar. The latest evolution in men's fashion is an omission rather than an addition; specifically, losing the collar. Banded collars, or "grandpa shirts" as some call them, look like regular casual shirts sans flapping neck wear. Spotted from Newbury to Hollywood, banded collars go well with shorts, jeans or Chino-style pants.

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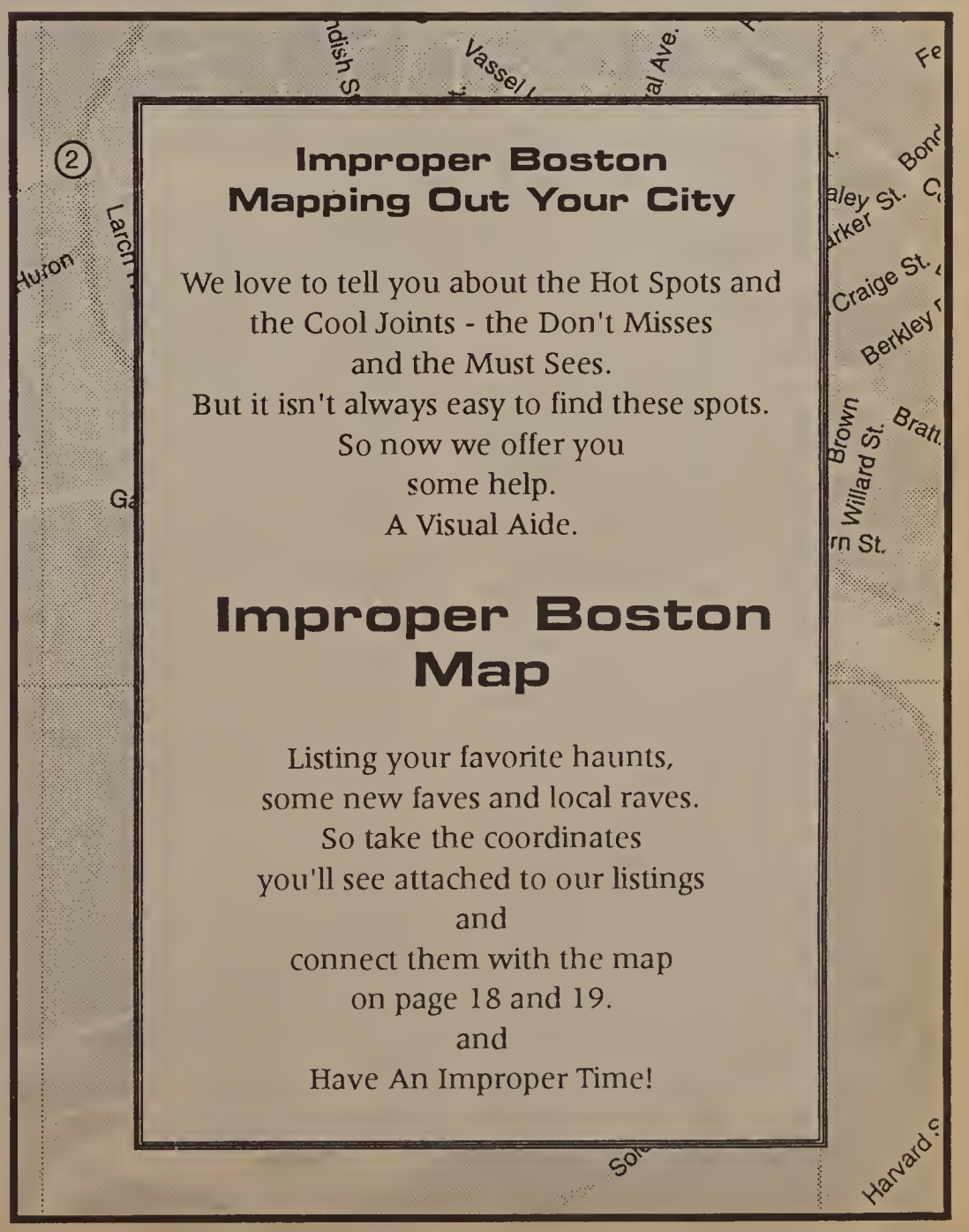
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Independent Films / Gerald Peary

TIME INDEFINITE

"...*Time Indefinite*, More Genuinely Philosophic and Significant than its Predecessor; *Visions in Light* is a Dizzying Paean to a Host of Ace Hollywood Cinematographers; *Fishnet*, a Vibrant, Energetic Feminist and Lesbian Media Collective..."

TIME INDEFINITE

★★★★

Written and directed by Ross McElwee. At the Brattle Theatre through June 3.

Ross McElwee, Boston-based documentarian, hit a public nerve with his autobiographical *Sherman's March* (1987). The crowds came out to root Ross on his wry, merry way: a sardonic trek through the American South, 16 mm camera clamped on his shoulder, searching for Love. Even those who decry a cinema of male obsessions about women were disarmed by McElwee's self-deprecating civility in the battle of the sexes, and charmed by the buoyant end of *Sherman's March*. Returned home, by the green grass of Harvard, the filmmaker seemed to have located The Right Woman, a graduate student in the Divinity School.

Did they get married? Do they live happily ever after? How about kids? For years hence, McElwee has been set upon by *Sherman's March* fans, eager to know.

So he provides an update with *Time Indefinite*, a feature-length documentary sequel. First answer: he marries someone else, filmmaker Marilyn Levine. Second, they do live happily, in an anxious, cramped-apartment, modern-couple way. Following a gloomy miscarriage, they have a son, Adrian. It is baby Adrian – peering out into a thorny world – who ends the new film.

Be warned: *Time Indefinite* isn't as instantly ingratiating as the earlier film. In fact, it's sometimes painfully strained when McElwee rambles on, trying to be funny in his voice-overs: "Does a fish have a soul?", etc. But eventually, *Time Indefinite* finds itself. As McElwee returns to his native South, seeking reasons for the demise of his seemingly healthy doctor father, the documentary opens into something deeper, much darker, more genuinely philosophic and significant than its predecessor.

In *Time Indefinite*, dying is everywhere. The film becomes submerged in it, smothers in it, as the investigatory journey to North Carolina, so deceptively flowery in Spring, devolves into an almost archetypal Orphic journey into the mordant Underworld. Afterward, McElwee returns to The Living, his marriage and child in Boston.

McElwee's filmmaking also intersects the fertile Southern literary tradition, with profound results. McElwee echoes Poe in his brooding, masochistic dwelling on the details of death, and fellow North Carolinian Thomas Wolfe in his obsessions with his childhood home and dying father. In *Time Indefinite*, it is Lucille, the African-American maid of the white McElwee clan, who holds the precious secret on enduring this disappointing world: that's Faulkner country, and the immortal servant, Dilsey, of *The Sound and The Fury*.

VISIONS IN LIGHT.

★★★★

Directed and written by Todd McCarthy, Stuart Samuels. At the Coolidge Corner Moviehouse.

Visions In Light is a dizzying paean to a host of ace Hollywood cinematographers, from *The Birth of a Nation's* Billy Bitzer to *Blue Velvet's* Frederick Elmes. This wonderful documentary insists that it's the unheralded cameramen who often deserve the real credit for making movies soar as "art." *Visions* backs up its claim with scene after scene of magisterial visual splendor illustrating the signature talents of various Hollywood cameramen: among others, Lee Garmes, William Daniels, Arthur Miller, Gregg Toland, then, and Caleb Deschanel, Vilmos Zsigsmond, Nestor Almendros, Gordon Willis, now.

Do these names register? It's only the cinematographers themselves who really know, and genuinely appreciate, each other's work. As Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci's cameraman, Vittorio Storaro, observes about assigning the greatness of *Citizen Kane*: "From Bernardo's point of view, it's Orson Welles. From my point of view, it's the cinematographer Gregg Toland."

FISHNET

★★★★

Various artists. At the Institute of Contemporary Art.

A vibrant, energetic feminist and lesbian media collective, *Fishnet* has hit Boston with a splashy six-part "Undressing Crossdressing" film and video series at the Institute of Contemporary Art. The final fun evening, Friday, May 28, twins a program called "The Social Body: Technology and Stigmata" at 7 p.m., with "Rebels, Irreverence and Girl Power" at 9 p.m.. The 7 p.m. show features postmodern literary queen Kathy Acker in *Stigmata* and postmodern porn queen Annie Sprinkles in *Linda, Les, and Annie*. The 9 p.m. show includes GB Jones's post-John Waters *Yo Yo Gang*, an all-girl Toronto street rumble, and *Girlpower*, the latest post-New Wave tape by Milwaukee wunderkind, Sadie Benning, a young lesbian who is redefining autobiographical video. I Was a Teenage Godard. Call Fishnet at 433-7100. ❑

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching fim at B.U.

FLICKS IN A FLASH

BODIES, REST & MOTION

★★★

Characters come and go in director Michael Steinberg's desert tale. Nothing happens and nobody gets anywhere...but that's the point. Beth (Bridget Fonda) loses Nick (Tim Roth) when he suddenly leaves their Arizona town for Butte, Montana. (Why Butte? Why not?) Beth sleeps with Sid (Eric Stolz), who is painting the apartment she'll vacate the next day. Sid falls in love with Beth. Nick loses his parents. Sid loses Beth. And so on. Phoebe Cates, who plays Nick's ex-girlfriend and Beth's best friend, is at rest, at least temporarily; she drinks, gets stoned, and doesn't get involved. The movie is exasperating, even silly at times, but it has moments when it shimmers like a desert mirage.

K. WILSON

DRAGON: THE BRUCE LEE STORY

★★★

As do so many bio pics, *Dragon* promotes the legend more than it portrays the man, and it keeps a rushed "and then he...and then he..." pace, asmusic swells to let you know something important is happening. Jason Scott Lee as Bruce Lee (no relation) is a charmer. The kung fu fights are flashy, if bloody, set pieces which propel the story. Above all, the movie is an exposé on racism: Lee watches Mickey Rooney play a buck-toothed Oriental buffoon in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*; he promotes the idea for the successful T.V. series, *Kung Fu*, but loses the lead to a Caucasian; Chinese martial arts masters condemn Lee for teaching whites. Ironically, Bruce Lee comes across as an all-American hero.

K. WILSON

DAVE

★★★★

Ivan Reitman's Capra-esque comedy gleefully sticks it to the Republicans. Kevin Kline is a delight as Dave Kovic, an exuberant, generous, small-town guy who so resembles the President (a mean tight-assed Yalie) that he becomes his full-time stand-in. Dave's agenda – giving people in need top priority – pits him against Bob, his reptilian Chief of Staff (the wonderful Frank Langella) and allies him with the estranged First Lady (Sigourney Weaver). Like its hero, the film is high-spirited, but it loses its edge and becomes cloying whenever more than one "nice" person is on the screen at a time. *Dave* is to the Fourth Estate and the Beltway what *The Player* is to Hollywood.

K. WILSON

EL MARIACHI

★★★★

Twenty-four year old director Robert Rodriguez made this action picture for $7,000, and it's great fun. A young mariachi singer (co-writer Carlos Gallardo) gets caught in the middle of deadly feud between a vicious drug lord (Moco, who always wears white) and his partner Azul (who always wears black, even though his name means "blue"). The movie opens with a cleverly edited prison ambush sequence and speeds towards its *Road Warrior*-like conclusion. Rodriguez gets good comic mileage out of inanimate objects such as a portable phone and beer bottles, and he even paves the way for a sequel. The amateur cast is surprisingly good. In Spanish.

K. WILSON

INDECENT PROPOSAL

★

Diana (Demi Moore) and David Murphy (Woody Harrelson) are deeply in love (they have sex and say "I love you," a lot). But they are desperate for money, so when a handsome billionaire (Robert Redford) offers them a million dollars for a night with Diana, they take him up on it. Then have to pay the piper. Like *Pretty Woman, Indecent Proposal* is a cynical paean to our consumer society disguised as a romance. So why weren't Demi's clothes as nice as Julia's?

K. WILSON

LÉOLO

★★

Fat, raw meat, flies, and feces: all figure prominently in Jean-Claude Lauzon's *Léolo*, as do words, dreams, poetry, madness and sunken treasure. A young boy from a Montreal slum calls himself Léolo (he dreams of Italy) and writes obsessively. We learn about his grotesque family: his stupid, piggish father who's obsessed with bowel movements; his lewd grandfather, who pays the young girl next girl to suck his toes; his dear, slow-witted brother whose overgrown muscles can't protect him from his own cowardice. It's obvious things are getting out of hand when the untimely death of Léolo's pet flies is upsetting. The film is surreal, dark, and despairing. In French.

K. WILSON

MAP OF THE HUMAN HEART

★★

Director Vincent Ward's latest film – about an Innuit Eskimo (Jason Scott Lee) and the half-Indian, half-European love of his life (Anne Parillaud), who become caught up in the marvels and the horrors of the white man's world – is a clunker. Big chunks of the movie don't connect; they're like icebergs breaking off from the mainland and floating away. Ward bombards us with images: X-rays and maps appear so often that they lose their meaning .Too many show-stopping aerial shots do just that – stop the show and overwhelm the viewer. But better a magnificent clunker than a mediocre "success," any day.

K. WILSON

MENACE II SOCIETY

★★

The comparison with *Boyz N the Hood* is inevitable, except that *Boyz* gives you reason to hope; *Menace* doesn't. Twenty-year old directors Allen and Albert Hughes show how one generation passes on to the next a legacy of violent, destructive behavior, emotional numbness, and hopelessness. Caine (Tyrin Turner) is an L.A. gang member. The son of drug addicts, he saw his father shoot a man to death at home. His friends and family offer him some ways out, but try as he may, he can't escape the cycle of violence. The Hughes brothers are talented, and you can see them experimenting and borrowing. Sometimes they hit, sometimes they miss, as in their brief, unsuccessful Spike Lee sex scene.

K. WILSON

THIS BOY'S LIFE

★★★

Michael Caton-Jones' film of Tobias Wolff's autobiography presents a small triumph of the human spirit. Toby, a young teenager (Leonardo DiCaprio) moves all over the country with his mother (Ellen Barkin, doing her best acting in years), as she tries to escape abusive relationships and find a decent job. When her spirits flag temporarily, she marries a bullying auto mechanic (Robert De Niro) from the remote town of Concrete. Although De Niro is convincing when he's flinging Toby against the refrigerator or brutalizing Barkin in bed, he gives a surprisingly one-note performance. However, DeCaprio's performance is simply outstanding: honest, heartfelt, and utterly without guile.

A. LEIBS

Movie Review

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

"...How Disappointing Then, When Benedick and Beatrice Declare Their Love After Only a Few Minor Skirmishes..."

BY KAJ WILSON

★★★

Directed by Kenneth Branagh. Based on the play by William Shakespeare.

The opening of Kenneth Branagh's *Much Ado About Nothing* is energetic, full of fun and promise. Leonato, Governor of Messina (Richard Briers) and his entourage are picnicking in the bright Italian summer sun on the hillside above his magnificent villa (former home of *the* Mona Lisa). When a messenger announces the arrival of Don Pedro, Prince of Arragon (Denzel Washington) and his victorious army, all hell breaks loose.

The picnickers rush shrieking and shouting down the hillside as the soldiers advance on horseback. Once inside the villa, women race through the halls, strip and shower. Outside, the soldiers strip and jump bare-assed into a pool. Music swells in anticipation. The men don impeccable white uniforms; the women, flowing white dresses. The soldiers arrive at the gate, and the festivities begin.

Benedick (Kenneth Branagh) and Beatrice (Emma Thompson) set eyes on each other and immediately resume their long-standing quarrel. They are worthy adversaries, precursors to all the modern, smart, snappy, sexy big-screen couples we love, and we happily anticipate an hour or two of witty verbal warfare capped by their inevitable realization that they're perfect for each other (which we, of course, knew all along). How disappointing then, when Benedick and Beatrice declare their love after only a few minor skirmishes.

Couple number two, Claudio (Robert Sean Leonard) and Hero (Kate Beckinsale) are beautiful, but too young and too much in love to be amusing. The plot thickens when Don John (Keanu Reeves), Don Pedro's bastard half-brother, tricks Claudio, who is by nature jealous and easily gulled, into believing that his Hero is a shameless hussy.

When Don John's treachery finally surfaces, Don Pedro postpones punishing him so as not to interrupt the revelry. But there's no getting away from Don John: he brings out every man's dark side. Take Claudio. After Don John's insinuations, he thinks nothing of physically and verbally abusing Hero, without even bothering to question the evidence against her. Until he learns the truth, he is self-righteous, callous, and cruel. Even Hero's father is quick to believe the slander, and slaps his child. Their behavior casts a long shadow, perhaps unintentionally.

Beatrice's nature is as sunny as Don John's is dark. Besides sporting quite a tan, she's full of fun (although she takes being merry very seriously). Never doubting her cousin Hero's innocence, she convinces Benedick to break rank and defend her honor. Emma Thompson is lovely in spite of too many unflattering, almost distorting, close-ups. Director Branagh isn't picking on her, though; he does it to everybody. After the lively opening sequence, the movie slows down cinematically, as the director relies too much on close-ups to tell the story. However, the plot moves at a gallop, and the combination leaves little room for tension to build; it keeps us at a distance.

Keanu Reeves' Don John is stiff; he has two expressions: the sneer and the scowl. But Reeves is a handsome villain with his black clothes – all swarthy, sweaty face and skinny black beard – and he seems at home stomping around dark, torch-lit tunnels while everybody is upstairs having fun. Michael Keaton as an idiot constable acts as if he escaped from another movie (somebody feed this man a bug), but the Bard and Branagh accommodate him, and he livens things up. Denzel Washington gives the entire affair dignity and gravity. Back is the charisma that disappears whenever he works with Spike Lee. ❑



THE BARD'S BEAUTIES: *Thompson and Beckinsdale in "Much Ado About Nothing"*

INDEPENDENT MOVIE THEATERS

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
C4, GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
BU's summer film festival continues June 1 with Oscar award-winning Unforgiven and June 8 with Spike Lee's much-talked about Jungle Fever. All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're FREE! Call 353-3635.

BRATTLE THEATER
A3, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

COOLIDGE CORNER
D3, 290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
C6, 365 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Native Americans on Film series continues May 27 at 6 p.m. with Ishi the Last Yahi, the true story of "the last wild Indian in North America," and Harold of Orange. At 8 p.m. the same day, see The Silent Enemy (1930), the first Hollywood film made from an Indian point of view and featuring an all-Indian cast. A 90-minute program by independent American animators will be shown twice on May 28, at 6 and 8 p.m. Films are in English or have English subtitles; tickets are $6. Call 267-9300 for details.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
B6, Mugar Omni Theatre, Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax treats you to Tropical Rainforest, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is Antarctica, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and Mountain Gorilla, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

OTHER SIDE CAFE
C6, 407 Newbury St., Boston
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9 p.m. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

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COMEDY

BREAKING FUNNYBONES

Waging a War of the Wits with the *Improvisational Theater League*

BY ROSS GARMIL

Every week millions of Americans relax with a bag of Doritos and enjoy an action-packed episode of "American Gladiators." They sit back and watch, as people travel to California in order to be trampled, repeatedly hit in the head, and placed in Velcro nouveau-torture devices, all in the pursuit of victory. The popularity of this twentieth century homage to the Inquisition makes a definite statement about our capitalist culture – we, as a culture, thrive on competition, no matter how stupid.

Yes, we love watching people we don't even know humiliate, maim and defeat other people we don't even know. This is true for comedy as well. For just as the American Gladiators have their cattle prods or whatever it is they use, so to do the members of the **U.S. Improvisational Theatre League (ITL)** use their comedic skills to maim their opponents. Well, they don't really maim people; they don't maim people metaphorically, either.

In fact, most of them have never even killed a man in cold blood listening to his cries for help echo through the empty alleyways of the cold, heartless city. But then again, how many of us have? Rather, the members of the ITL compete using their talents of improvisational comedy (commonly known as improv) to humiliate, outwit, and ultimately defeat their opponents in a battle of talent and wits.

IF YOU GO

ITL COMPETITION

THE ROXY
279 TREMONT ST., BOSTON
227-7699
DATES: WED, MAY 26, WED, JUNE 2, SPECIAL BATTLE OF THE SEXES SHOW WED, JUNE 9.

Unlike other improv troupes, the ITL does not take suggestions from the audience. Rather, their performance is based upon a given title and other limitations including time, number of characters, and genres (i.e. in the style of Shakespeare). From this information, the performers create their comedy on the spot.

But the ITL strives to be more than just comedy – really, it's theater. The performers don't merely go for the quick laugh. Rather, the ITL teams create, to the best of their abilities, entire scenes of theater. They are funny, but they are also actors who possess the impressive talent to create full, coherent scenes, when done right.

However, improv for the ITL is more than just comedy and theater. For them, it's a sport. The performers belong to different teams who use their talents to out-perform the opposing team. Referees not only instruct the teams on their assigned skits, but also penalize performers for a variety of fouls ranging from "Not Respecting the Title," to "Third Rate Acting". The ITL's anthem (that's right, they have an anthem) states the group's goal of putting on a show "with theater skills and music fills all played like ice hockey." They may not hit each other as much as hockey players, but they do play three twenty-minute rounds, and to help create atmosphere, the ITL will be playing at the Roxy over the next month inside the walls of their own hockey rink (sans ice).

They also do not forget their audience. When you enter an ITL show someone hands you an old, rolled-up pair of socks (don't worry, they're clean). Why do they give you socks? Well, to throw at them, why else? You see, when you don't like a particular actor, line, referee's call you may voice your opinion by hitting the guilty party with an old, rolled-up pair of socks. The audience also plays the most important role in the ITL: it votes on which team wins the competition. You make the call. So go see the ITL and you'll be presented with not only humor, but also an impressive and serious display of theater talent. Plus you'll get to throw some socks at people. ❑



VERBAL VICTORY: *Competing Comics of the ICL*

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Coming to the Stop!!

Steve Sweeney — "Rapid Fire Craziness" May 28-29



Anthony Clark — Seen in the film "Dogfight" June 4-5



Jimmy "J.J." Walker — "He's Dyn-O-Mite!!!" June 11-12



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COMEDY LISTINGS

CATCH A RISING STAR AT THE CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
C6, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. This legendary comedy club has a new location, but has not changed in bringing top rate performers to Boston. Located in the Charles Playhouse, Boston's oldest remaining home of standup comedy. Every Mon.: Comedy School. Every Tue.: Boston"s Brightest. Every Wed.: The Comedy Lab. Showtimes: Thu. & Su. at 8:30p.m. Admission $8. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30p.m. and 10:30p.m. Admission $12..
Thu. 5/27-Comedy Underground. Fri. 5/28 thru Sun. 5/30- Larry Sullivan, Bob Carney, Tom Agna. Tue. 6/1- Boston's Brightest, Rich Gustus. Thu. 6/3- Comedy Underground. Fri. 6/4 & Sat. 6/5- Jim McCue, John Henson, Klaus Meyer. Sun. 6/6- comedy Underground. Tue. 6/8- Boston's Brightest, Colin Blake.

THE COMEDY CONNECTION AT FANEUIL HALL
B7, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 5/26- Jim Dunn, Mike McDonald. Thu. 5/27- Lisa Ann Walter, Jim Dunn. Fri. 5/28- & Sat. 5/29- Lisa Ann Walter, Jim Dunn, Don Gavin.. Sun. 5/30- Adele Givens. Mon. 5/31 & Tue. 6/1- Dave Fitzgerald. Wed. 6/2- Dave Fitzgerald, Mike McDonald. Thu. 6/3 & Fri. 6/4- Dave Fitzgerald, Dennis Wolfberg. Sat. 6/5- Dave Fitzgerald, Don Gavin. Sun. 6/6 5p.m. & 7:15p.m.- Dave Fitzgerald, Dennis Wolfberg. Sun. 6/6 9:15p.m.- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 6/7- Kevin Knox. Tue 6/8- D.J. Hazard.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY HUT AT AKU AKU
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $10. Always packed and second hand smoky.
Fri. 5/28 & Sat. 5/29- Billy Martin, Charlie Kwakis. Fri. 6/4 & Sat. 6/5- Dominic Fig, Mike Prior, Denise Burns.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S
C6, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. See D.D.'s above. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 10p.m. Admission $9.
Fri. 5/28& Sat. 5/29- Boston Comedy Showcase. Fri. 6/4 & Sat. 6/5- Boston Comedy Showcase.

NICK'S COMEDY STOP
C6, 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.
Wed. 5/26- Vinnie Favorito. Thu. 5/27- Paul DiAngelo, Kevin James, Mike Eagen. Fri. 5/28 & Sat. 5/29- Rich Ceisler, Kevin Knox, Eddie Brill. Sun. 5/30- Kevin Knox. Mon. 5/31- Billy Martin. Tue. 6/1- Jim Lauletta. Wed. 6/2- Vinnie Favorito. Thu. 6/3- Paul DiAngelo, Bob Sibel. Fri. 6/4 & Sat. 6/5- Anthony Clark, Steve Sweeney.

STITCHES
D4, 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu.: The Dating Game, Hosted by Billy Martin. Every Sun.: Comedy Riot Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.
Wed. 5/26- Women in Comedy, Maria Falzone. Fri. 5/28 8:30p.m..- Frank Santos. Sat. 5/29 8:30- Anthony Clark, Chuck Sklar, Bob Gautreau, Steve Kimtrough. Sat. 5/29 10:30- Anthony Clark, Chuck Sklar, Steve Kmbrough. Tue. 6/1- Rich Ceisler. Wed. 6/2- Women in Comedy, Julie Barr. Fri. 6/4 8:30p.m.- Frank Santos. Sat. 6/5- Star Search Auditions.

Theater Review

Those the River Keeps

"...A Skillfully Written Work of Considerable Power..."

BY NANCY LEONARD

David Rabe's "Those the River Keeps" is a powerful, hard-hitting play, perfectly formulated to leap full-grown from the Hasty Pudding Theatre (where it's part of the American Repertory Theatre's New Stages Series) to the main stage of America's commercial theater – preferably with its two male leads intact. This new drama about a life and death struggle within one man's psyche seems destined for high acclaim.

The author, who began his career in the early 1970s with a series of explosive plays about the Vietnam-era military experience, turned to other subjects and to screenwriting as the decades passed. His last play, "Hurlyburly" (1984), was a cynical take on Hollywood. Dissatisfied with the Broadway production, Mr. Rabe reworked the play for a 1988 Los Angeles production. As part of this process, he discovered that one of the characters, Phil, deserved to have a play of his own. This former hit man and aspiring actor, struggling with a troubled marriage and a troubled life, now takes center stage.

The latest work is set around the same time as the first act of "Hurlyburly," and shows how Phil is trying to step out of his cloudy past and build a new life he can call his own. After eight years in the slammer and with the blessings of the mob, he looks to California and the movies as a fresh start. Though desperately repressing his prior life – even to the point of not remembering his precise involvement – Phil is now caught in the uncertainty of auditions, for which he's had no training, and in his new wife Susie's equally desperate desire to have a baby. Already the father of three children, who hate him, and mindful of mayhem in the world – himself, actually, as one of its sources – he's been putting off the family business.

During the first act, it's difficult to relate to Susie's emotional needs, which are tangibly represented by the diapered teddy bear she totes around their living quarters. Some feminists may be put off by her obsessive focus, though the author mitigates this with information about her childhood, spent growing up in a desert wasteland. But the play is not about Susie. She is only one polarity in Phil's life, and as the action proceeds, she comes to represent the positive life force that can rescue him from his chaotic existence. "I just want my turn," he says, as he makes clear that he loves his wife, but fears that a baby will deprive him of that opportunity.

The other, even more dramatic polarity is represented by an unexpected visitor. Sal, a longtime associate from the old days, has come to California to take someone out, and calls on Phil for help. Sal meets with resistance, but his brooding menace and disparagement of Hollywood take their toll. He sneers at Phil's pastel existence – it's for "mooks" – and stokes warm feelings about life back East. There's guilt wrapped up in this nostalgia, everything from the guy Bobby they put into the river, to the bloody demise of Tony's dog. Sal has swept in like the wind, and is laying claim to Phil's soul. This world, which Phil still carries within him (though he insists he walked away from it and changed), is a torment to put down. But it's the only world he has when Susie throws him out after a fight – the fight precipitated by the very things he would deny.

Sal's presence forces Phil to confront his past, and he doesn't like the undertow sweeping him away from stability. When Phil pounces on his friend and seizes his gun, he recognizes that with one shot "My life would be over." The explosive rage is shattering nonetheless. It makes him even more desperate to retain his new life.

The play is constructed with deft simplicity and an authoritative playwrighting voice that is, by turns, prosaic and poetic. Rabe makes the life and death struggle raging within his central character plausibly emerge as the focal point from vivid facts and casual conversation. Everything is very purposive, and seemingly throwaway lines appear to serve dramatic ends. In describing his latest hit, for example, Sal cautions Phil never to beg, then relies on this point of honor in their standoff; yet in their last scene, Phil explicitly and repeatedly "begs" Susie to save his life.

Serio-comic riffs dot the landscape, easing tension without breaking the mood. One of the funniest has Phil trying to explain that the movies had something to do with his desire to leave the mob. Sal, uncomprehending, sees only mass upheaval if everyone wanted to change his line of work just because he saw a film. In the second act, Rabe brings on Susie's friend Janice, whom she thinks is supportive but is actually domineering and scornfully judgmental about the marital breakup. Janice adds some colorful energy to the play, and enables us to learn more about Susie. But their scene together seems mis-written as female dialogue. Here, it feels as though we're back in the barracks of the author's earlier plays.

Under Rabe's considered direction, the proceedings are taut and compelling. The performances are understated and, for the most part, wonderfully on target. Paul Guilfoyle has Phil's hoody, East Coast manner down so right he seems not to be acting. His anguish and love are very real. Jack Willis is superb, too, as the darkly menacing Sal, whose first smile comes well after his arrival and a meticulously poured drink. The actor is mesmerizing in the almost absurd mix of wariness and warmth. These two fine actors would add luster to any future production.

Candy Buckley has a small but splendid turn as Janice, whose overpowering denunciations have the opposite effect from what she intended. Rebecca Tilney's Susie is a bit shrill and one-note wearisome in the first act, but she comes into her own in the duel with Janice, and is truly moving in the final scene with Phil.

Loren Sherman's set – a conventionally if economically furnished living room backed by a picture window, with a small kitchen area off to one side – is light and airy in a vaguely California style.

"Those the River Keeps" (the title refers to victims of gangland hits, and the imagery is used in separate ruminations by the two men) is a skillfully written work of considerable power. It should have a bright future. ❑



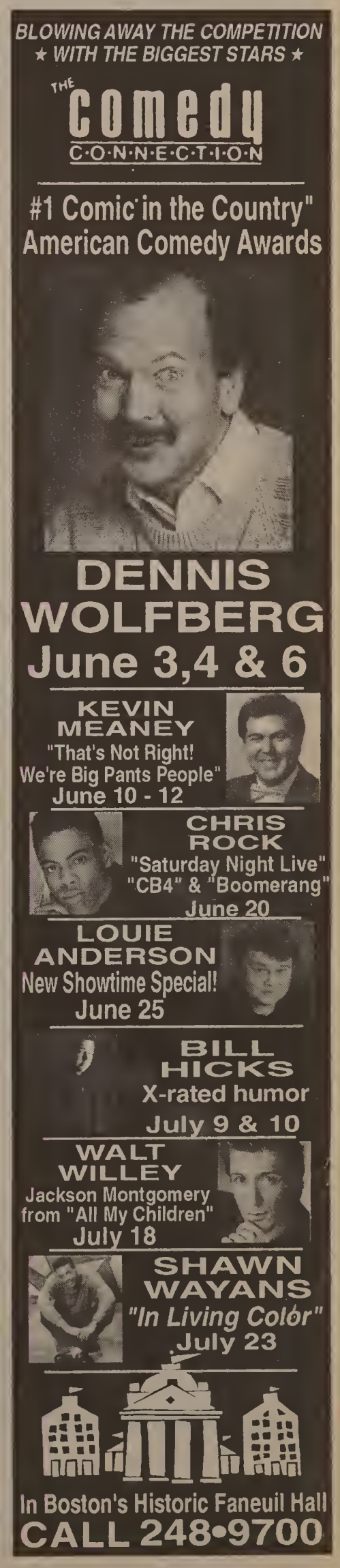
MARITAL DISCOURSE: *Phil (Paul Guilfoyle) and his wife Susie (Rebecca Tilney) talk about life's woes.*

IF YOU GO

THOSE THE RIVER KEEPS

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DAVID RABE

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
64 BRATTLE STREET, CAMBRIDGE
547-8300
MAY 26 & 27, JUNE 2-5, 10-12, 16-20
TICKETS: $18-$36



ARTS

THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S • M • T • W • T • F • S

			26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8				

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
The Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are on sale for Shakespeare's tragic love story, *Romeo and Juliet*. It's the Ballet's last production of the season, so don't miss it: June 3-20. Call 931-2000 for details.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
Sargent Dance Studio
1 University Rd., Boston
Don't know much about them, but we're sure that *New Dances by Anna Myer* will be great when they're performed May 26-28 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10. Call 547-9699.

DANCE COMPLEX
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Keep it Moving! May 29 at 8 p.m. and May 30 at 3 p.m. when dancers perform the works of Peter DiMuro, Margo Parsons, Ken Pierce and others. Tickets are only $5. Call 547-9363.

MARK MORRIS DANCE
Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St., Boston
Dance Umbrella sponsors s series of concerts by the world-renowned Morris troupe June 1-12. Included in the performance will be the world premiere of a specially-commissioned dance. Call 931-1300 for times and ticket prices.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
With June comes a slew of weddings, some of which are chronicled in "For Better, For Worse: The Contemporary Wedding," June 2-29. Featured are photographs of seven weddings by seven Boston-area photographers.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Take a cheap trip to France when you view "Summer Sojourn," images of France by Michael Berger. On display June 3-July 30. The exhibit is free; there will be an opening reception June 3 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Call 266-4351 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball" and a group show called "Striking Images." Both contain fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. The former runs through July 30; the latter through May 30.

TOURS

BACK BAY GARDEN TOUR
Back Bay, Boston
Play Robin Leach as you snoop into the private backyard and patio gardens of Boston's historic Back Bay on this June 2 walking tour. Gardens are open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine. Tickets are $12, or $15 the day of the walk. Write to Gardens of the Back Bay, 337 Newbury St., Boston, 02115, with a SASE. Call 247-3961.

BEACON HILL ART WALK
Beacon Hill, Boston
Over 100 artists from Beacon Hill and beyond will exhibit and sell their work at the 4th annual BHAW, June 6 from 12-5 p.m. (raindate: June 13). Displays will be set up in the gardens, courtyards and entryways of Beacon Hill (Charles Street, Putnam Avenue, Phillips Street to the Phillips Street Playground). Maps will be distributed; admission is free. Call 227-1726.

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River— while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating—and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call 508-877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

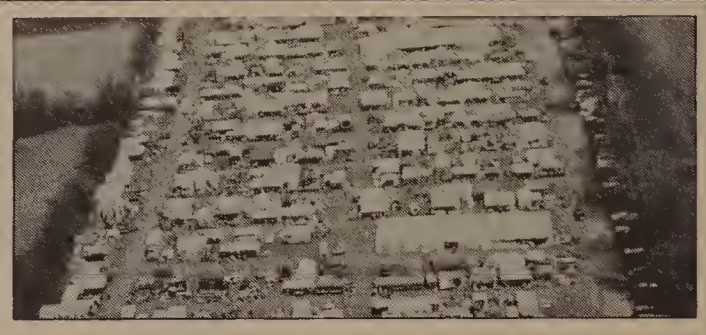
NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past—this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART
123 Union Ave., Framingham
The Danforth shows work by American women artists of the 1920s-30s through June 20. Call 508-620-0050.



IMPROPER PICK

More Bargains Per Acre: An aerial view of the Newport Antiques Festival. More than 300 antiques dealers display and sell their wares Saturday and Sunday, June 5 & 6; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.. Admission is $4. At Glen Farm, Route 138, East Main Road, Portsmouth, R.I. Call 1(800) 759-7469 for more information.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call 508-853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. The ICA presents "Currents '93," an exhibition that explores cross-dressing in contemporary art and powerful culture until May 30. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Boston
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition—an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors will be presented through Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." On view through Aug. 1 is John Singleton Copley's "Watson and Shark," the two large versions of his famous shark attack painting. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 4 and part two until September.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle—all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Call 723-2500.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. June 6 is MG Day—over

(continued on following page)



Suggested Retail Price: $345.

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Boston Brewers..."What is your favorite beer you brew?"

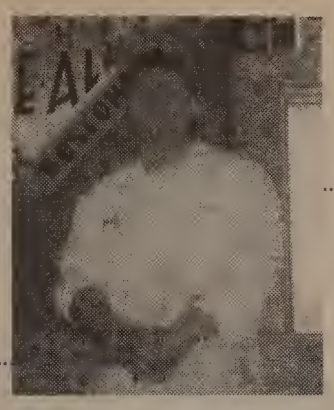
BY LESLIE



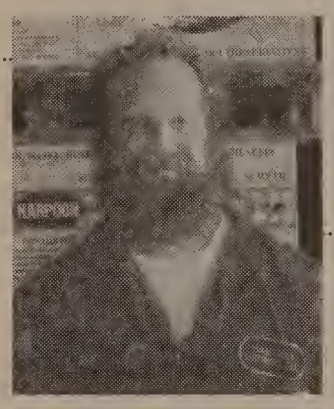
Tim, John Harvard's Brew House
"My *Cristal Pilsner*. It came out exactly the way I wanted. Lots of continental flavor."



Phil, Cambridge Brewing Co.
"*Cambridge Amber*. It has a neat balance of ingredients."



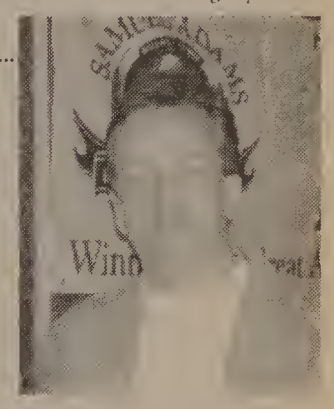
Steve, Boston Beer Works
"*Fenway Pale Ale*. It has a perfect balance of bitterness and aroma with a dry finish. It tastes better with every glass."



Tod, Mass Bay Brewing Co.
"*Harpoon India Pale Ale*. It has the most hops flavor, because I'm a true hops head."



Dan, Commonwealth Brewery
"*Boston Best Burton Bitter*. A very traditional smooth ale with good hop character."



Dave, Boston Beer Company
"*Samuel Adams Boston Lager*. A traditional pilsner made with a classical brewing style."

(Museums continued)

50 MGs will be there for a judged event.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious—and dangerous—sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, Boston
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

PEABODY & ESSEX MUSEUM
East India Square, Salem
The nation's oldest maritime museum is presenting "The Great Age of Sail: Treasures from the National Maritime Museum of Greenwich, England" until June 2. It features over 100 of the world's most famous and highly-prized treasures of maritime art. Call 508-745-1876.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Cambridge
Harold Pinter's **"The Caretaker"** returns May 21-30; it's the story of an old tramp who is rescued from a fight and taken in by two brothers. Call 547-8300.

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Elaine Stritch stars in the world premiere of **"Cakewalk"**, a semi-autobiographical work by Peter Feibleman about his turbulent, 40-year relationship with playwright Lillian Hellman (*The Children's Hour*). Runs May 28-July 17. Concurrently, the ART stages Philip Glass' opera **"Orphee."** Call 547-8300 for more information.

BACK ALLEY THEATER
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Famed author Beth Henley (*Crimes of the Heart, Miss Firecracker*) brings her newest, critically-acclaimed play **"The Lucky Spot"** to the Boston area through May 29. It's Louisiana in 1934 and a guy who won some property is determined to turn it into a dance hall that will "bring the glamor, magic and music of city life to simple country folk." Call 576-1253 for reservations.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. **"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline"** is now performing an open-ended run. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, **"Shear Madness"** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, **"Shear Madness"** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
HTC presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Arms and the Man"** May 21-June 20. It's an irreverent spoof about a romantic young lady and the soldier who tries to hide in her bedroom. Call 266-0800 for times and tickets.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
Renowned actor Nehemiah Persoff performs his award-winning one-man show, **"Tales of Sholem Aleichem,"** through June 27. Enjoy some of the most charming, wise and humorously touching stories about Eastern European Jewish life in the last century. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket information.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents **"Murder at Rick's Cafe"** and **"Let's Kill the Boss."** Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly
Rodgers and Hammerstein's first collaboration, **"Oklahoma!,"** is now in Massachusetts from June 3-19. It's the musical's 50th anniversary, so mosey on out to North Shore. Call 508-922-8500 for times and ticket prices.

OUT OF THE BLUE
Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
A shipwreck leads to love, mistaken identities and, well, cross-dressing in Shakespeare's romantic comedy **"Twelfth Night,"** performed May 27-June 26. Shows are Thurs.-Sun. at 8 p.m. and there is a 4 p.m. matinee June 26. Call 576-1253 for more information.

SUGAN THEATRE
Black Box Theater
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
Written for the Royal Shakespeare Company, **"Mary and Lizzie"** is a dramatic fantasy loosely based on the fact that two Irish women, Mary and Lizzie Burns, lived with Karl Marx's friend Frederick Engles in the mid 1840s in Manchester, England. Runs May 27-30 and June 4-6; tickets are $12. Call 646-5983 for times and reservations.

TERRACE ROOM
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St., Boston
"Forever Plaid," a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from **"Nunsense"** have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

U.S.I.T.L.
The Roxy
279 Tremont St., Boston

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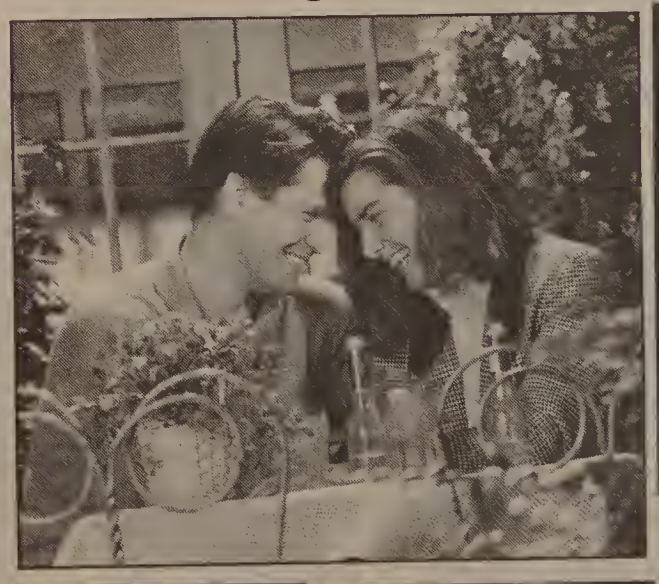


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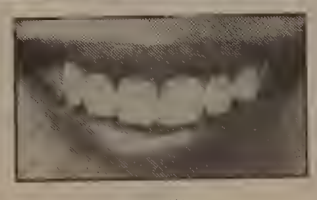


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ARTS

(Theater continued)

The U.S. Improvisational Theatre League meets May 26 and June 2 & 9 to compete in a sports/theatre scene. Based loosely on hockey, the improv teams try to out-act each other. Call 227-7699.

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS' FESTIVAL
Boston Center for the Arts
Black Box Theatre
539 Tremont St., Boston
This festival is a showcase of four one-act plays written by Boston students ages 16-21, and gives the budding playwrights a chance to work in professional setting with Boston actors, directors and designers. Through May 30.

WORKSHOPS

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
808 Comm. Ave., Boston
Non-cooks (with a pretty significant cash flow) should consider BU's four-part series on creating healthy, tasty meals at home. Restaurant consultant and cook Linda Criss teaches busy people with little time to shop each Tuesday June 1-22. In room 117; tuition is $240. Participants will cook and eat a full meal each class. Call 353-9852 to register.

NOW
971 Comm. Ave., Boston
Get involved in planning the National Organization for Women's annual conference, which will be held right here in Beantown July 2-4. They're looking for volunteers to help before and during the conference. Come to first meeting June 8 at 7 p.m. Call 782-1056.

MUSIC

BOSTON POPS
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave. The world-renowned Pops perform every Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., May 13 through July 11. Call 266-1492 for program information and ticket prices.

THE CENTRUM
Peter Gabriel, June 19-20. Tickets $35, $25. On sale now, through Ticketmaster.

COLONNADE HOTEL
120 Huntington Ave. Every Saturday at 8 p.m., the Colonnade presents a dinner package with Opera Night - a show comprised of professional musicians committed to "user-friendly" opera. Runs through May; call 424-7000 for reservations.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St. Soprano Barbara Winchester and classical guitarist Robert Ward will perform the works of Seiber, Tarrago and Ravel, as well as Appalachian folk songs, May 26 at 6:15 p.m. Admission is free, but reservations are recommended. Call 266-4351.

GREAT WOODS:
New shows announced: New Order, August 5. Tickets $25, $18.50. On sale, June 12. Bob Dylan/Santana, Sept. 12. Tickets $27.50, $25, $18.50. On sale, June 19.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge. Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

NEW ENGLAND COMPOSERS
Faneuil Hall, Boston. N.E. composer Daniel Pinkham turns the big 70 in early June, and to celebrate, there will be a gala fundraising concert June 4 at 8 p.m.; Globe music critic Richard Dyer will emcee. The Lydian String Quartet, Boston Cecilia and others will perform Pinkham's works. Call 734-1933 for tickets.

THE SOMERVILLE THEATER
Clannad, June 11-12. Tickets $20, on sale now through Ticketmaster.

SPECTRUM SINGERS
First Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. The Singers' season finale, "An American Sampler," will be performed June 5 at 8 p.m. Included in the program are Currier's *Quadrille for Two Marriages*, two works by Barber and Copland's In the Beginning. Tickets are $12 and $16; call 469-3723.

LECTURES/READINGS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
Learn how heart problems can be prevented when the N.E. Medical Center's chief cardiologist, Deeb Salem, gives a lecture May 27 at 2 p.m. on "Aging and Your Heart." Also, learn to decipher all the mumbo-jumbo on the business pages June 2 at noon when financial advisor David Thomas gives a lecture on "Understanding the Financial Pages." Who knows? You just might learn how to make some money.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA GALLERY
154 Newbury St., Boston
In conjunction with the Society of Arts & Crafts gallery at 101 Arch St., Boston, Alianza presents the work of New England women jewelers through June 4. Through June 28, see the interesting, iridescent Raku vessels of Ed Risak.

BROOKLINE FESTIVAL IN THE PARK
The Brookline Council for the Arts and Humanities is currently seeking craftspeople for its 7th annual Festival in Larz Anderson Park, a day-long event featuring 50 juried craftspeople with works for sale. For applications and more information, call 508-887-3291. The festival will be held Sept. 12.

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CENTER
41 2nd St., Cambridge
Come see "Drawing the Line: Artists Confront Intolerance," a group exhibition created in response to political and moral crises worldwide. Through June 5.

MILLS GALLERY
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston

(continued on following page)

★ ★
TICKETS
SPORTS★CONCERTS★EVENTS
Sting ($35)
Jimmy Buffett
Whitney Houston
Van Halen ($25)
Kenny G.)$20)
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TOMORROWNITE AT AVALON BENEFITTING ST. JUDE'S CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL FRIDAY, MAY 7



Bevy of Beauties: Committee member Debby Enblom (left) joins honorary guest Marlo Thomas (right).



The pompador still rules! The Fabulous Thunderbirds rock out.



Jeanie Fabiano and Chris Zizza smile for the camera.

PROPER BOSTONIANS

PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

MARAIS/ESMÉ ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY BENEFITTING THE GENESIS FUND SUNDAY, MAY 16



Marais honchos (left to right) Steven Foster, Jackson Kenworth (chef), Gillian Foster and Kevin Troy celebrate.



Can you can-can? Dancer Meera Prasad sure can!



Boston Garden's Jo O'Connor and Karen Mize having a blast.

ARTS

(Galleries continued)

Mills presents "Welcome to Asian America: Challenging the Myths," a series of works, puzzles and adventures representing the complexities of the Asian-American experience. Through June 20.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St., Boston
French post-Impressionist Bernard Lamotte's estate will be on display throgh July 15. Featured are more than 100 oils, watercolors and works on paper that depict the cafes, parks and boulevards of the artist's homeland.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

AIDS WALK
Boston Common
"From All Walks of Life," the annual six-mile-long AIDS pledge walk, begins at 9 a.m. **June 6**, at Boston Common and ends with a concert at the Hatch Shell. Pledge sheets are available at Fleet Bank, Bank of Boston, Store 24, Videosmith, or by calling 424-WALK. Get off your duff and *walk*! You could be saving a life.

BIG TSIMMIS
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St.
The Society of Young Jewish Professionals, those people who brought us the Matzo Ball, announce the 6th annual Big Tsimmis event, on **May 30** from 8 p.m. onward. Admission is $15 at the door. There's also a ladie's night special, where all women pay only $10 before 9:30 p.m. Call 376-3939.

CAFE DES ARTISTES
DeCordova Museum, 51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln
The DeCordova Museum's annual benefit diner adopts a Parisian theme for this **June 5** event. All that cosmopolitan cuisine, dancing and the art auction cost you $75 a ticket, and reservations are required. Cocktails start at 6 p.m. Call 259-8355.

D-DAY DANCE
Hanscom AFB Aero Club Hangar
The New England Escadrille are hostin a gala 1940's style USO swing band dance on Saturday, **June 5,** from 7 p.m. to midnight. This event commemorates the 49th anniversary of the Allied invasion of Fortress Europe at Normandy. Artie Barsamian's 17 piece Big Band will swing the place out. Couples, $25; singles, $15. Call 274-0311.

PAINT FOR PETS
City Hall Plaza, Boston
The Mass. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) will celebrate its 125 years **June 3** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as thousands of animal lovers from across New England will help well-known artist Sidewalk Sam paint the world's largest pet picture on the bricks of City Hall Plaza. The painting will cover 20,000 sq. feet! Call 244-3171 to find out how you can help.

WORLD FAIR
Centre Street, Jamaica Plain
The 6th annual JP World Fair will be a gala event with more than 100 local merchants, artists and craftspeopls selling their wares, with international food, music, community groups and free drawing for prizes. Will be held **June 5** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (raindate: June 6).



IMPROPER PICK

Goodbye MasterWilliams: Conductor John Williams begins his last season with the perennial summer treat, the Boston Pops. For concert dates and ticket information/prices, see page 25 or call 266-1492. Don't delay; the Hatch Shell awaits!

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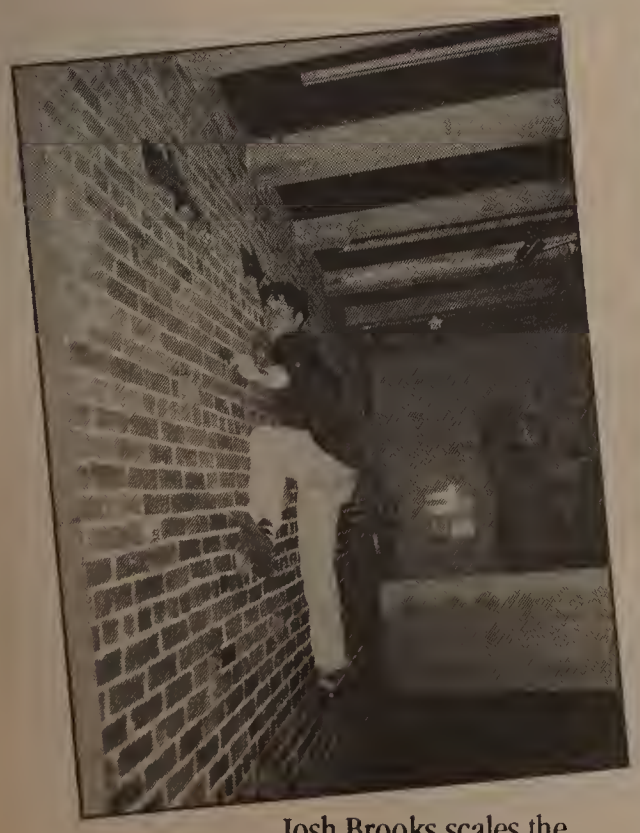
Improper Event...

SPRING SWING

"...Guests Reverted Back to Their Childhoods on the Children's Museum's Interactive Exhibits..."



Laurie Crocker measures herself next to the life-size Absolut bottle ice sculpture.



Josh Brooks scales the climbing wall.



Patrick Fetterman and Francis Warren express their creative nature with oversized Lego blocks.



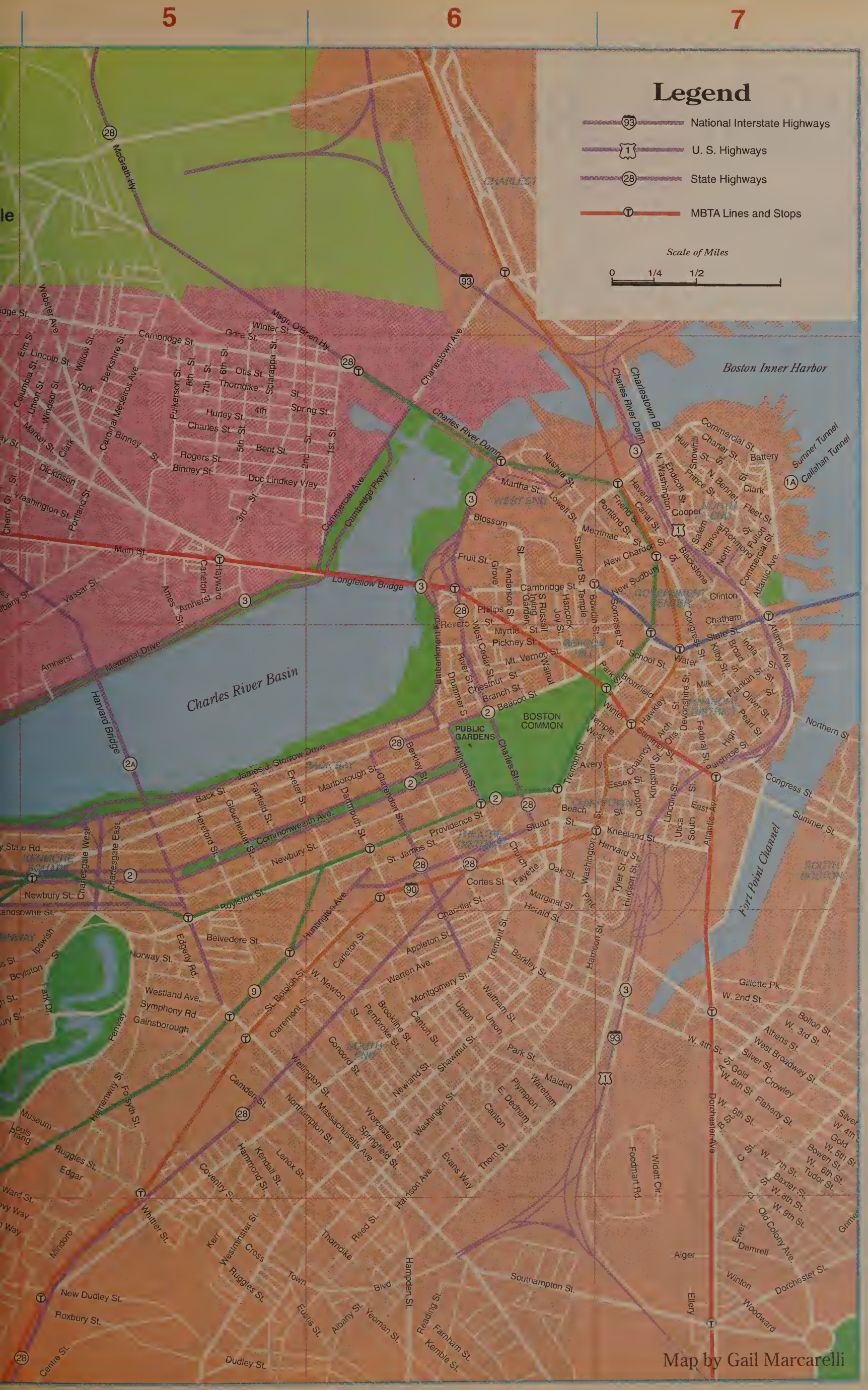
Eileen Staba and Chris Rode take a ride on the Tokyo metro.

Photos by Leslie

Over 900 people came to play at the Children's Museum on Saturday, May 22 for the annual Spring Swing event co-sponsored by *The Improper Bostonian* and The Steppingstone Foundation. Edibles were provided by restaurants such as The Cactus Club, Veronique, Bertucci's, Chan Gsho and Thai's Restaurant, while Absolut Vodka and the Commonwealth Brewery donated the liquid refreshments. Guests reverted back to their childhoods on the Children's Museum's interactive exhibits and danced to the hot music provided by DJ Izzy V and blues band Walk That Walk. The event was a great success and Steppingstone raised substantial amounts of money to fund their educational programs, which provide opportunities to inner-city schoolchildren. ❑


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Watertown
Cambridge
Brookline
Charles River
Fairview
Belmont St.
Auburn St.
Huron Ave.
Grove St.
Cushing St.
Holworthy St.
Aberdeen Ave.
Larch Rd.
Grozier Rd.
Lexington Ave.
Lake View Ave.
Standish St.
Alpine
Chilton St.
Vassel Ln.
Fayerweather St.
Reservoir St.
Gurney
Huron
Brattle St.
Garden
Fresh Pond Pkwy.
Mt. Auburn St.
Coolidge Ave.
Arlington St.
Channing
Lowell St.
Gibson
Doane
Foster St.
Hubbard
Mercer
Brown
Willard St.
Highland St.
Kennedy
Brewster St.
Appleton St.
Royal Ave.
Sparks St.
Copley
Kelly
Huron
Gray Gardens
Robinson
Bates
Fernald
Linnean
Walker St.
Avon
Gray
Bowdoin
Hurlbut
Martin St.
Bond
Garden
Shepard St.
Concord Ave.
Chauncy
Follen
Healey St.
Parker St.
Buckingham
Craige St.
Berkley St.
Berkley Pl.
Mason
Phillips
Garfield
Eustis
Crescent St.
Sacramento St.
Wendell St.
Meilen St.
Hammond
Everett St.
Jarvis
Oxford
Divinity Ave.
Frisbie
Somerville Ave.
Gorham St.
Museum
Carver St.
Beacon St.
Francis Ave.
Irving St.
Holden
Scott
Farrar
Myrtle
Magnolia Ave.
Kirkland St.
Summer
Trowbridge
Roberts Rd.
Hovey Ave.
Leonard
Elm St.
Peabody St.
Dunster
Holyoke
Linden
Quincy St.
Prescott St.
Felton
Ware St.
Trowbridge St.
Ellery St.
Dana St.
Ellsworth
Highland Ave
Maple St.
Fayette St.
Antrim St.
Chatham St.
Centre St.
West St.
Lee St.
Clinton St.
Bigelow St.
Inman St.
Green St.
Franklin St.
Bay St.
Kinnaird St.
Hayes St.
Magee
Howard St.
Jay St.
Flagg St.
Sterling
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Cowperthwaite St.
Grant St.
Banks St.
Putnam St.
Arrow
Mt. Auburn St.
Plymouth St.
De Wolf
Athens
Benner
Elliot
Winthrop St.
Acacia
Ash
Hilliard
Story St.
Church
Brattle
Appian
Hawthorne
Brewer
Glen
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J.F.K. St.
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Soldiers Field Rd. Ext.
Western Ave.
Harvard St.
McDonald
Spurr
Riverdale St.
Kingsley
Travis
Raymond St.
Reina St.
Oxford
Seattle St.
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Bayard St.
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Franklin St.
Lincoln St.
Massachusetts Turnpike
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Antwerp St.
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Gould St.
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Portsmouth
Lothrop
Arsenal St.
Wexford St.
Birmingham Pkwy.
Guest St.
Harvey Steel
Braintree
Everett St.
Blaine
Hano
Penniman
Rugg
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Linden
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Wadsworth St.
Ashford St
Gardner St.
Malvern St.
Alcorn St.
Babcock St.
Gaffney
Buick
Chester St.
St. Lukes
Brighton Ave.
Allston St.
Long Ave.
Redford
Gorham
Royce
Glenville Ave.
Greylock
Griggs
Quint Ave.
Parkvale
Armington
Imrie Rd.
Ridgemont St.
Gordon St.
Colon St.
Nevins
Warren St.
Cambridge St.
Sparehawk St.
Murdock St.
Dustin St.
Rodney St.
Mapleton St.
Glencoe St.
Elmira St.
Gardena St.
Cushman Rd.
Saybrook St.
Ridge Rd.
Domeroy
Saunders
Marketplace St.
Sanderson
Laicester St.
Arlington St.
Bennett
Hobart St.
Oakland
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Pleasant St.
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Cottage Farm
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Cumington St.
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Carlton St.
Euston
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St. Mary's St.
Monumouth
Hawes St.
Kent
Marshall St.
Chatham Pl.
Beech Rd.
Colchester St.
Chapel St.
Parkway
Beacon St.
Webster St.
Longwood Ave.
Sewall Ave.
Brookline
Mason Ter.
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Lancaster
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Orchard Rd.
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Chiswick Rd.
Chestnut Hill
Wallingford
Lanmark Rd.
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Auburn St.
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Gardner
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Brook St.
Brookline Ave.
Fenwood Rd.
Binney
Shattuck St.
Longwood
Pilgrim Rd.
Louis Pasteur St.
Albans St.
Worthington
Alphonsus St.
Calumet St.
Wait St.
Parker Hill
Parker Hill Ave.
Sachem St.
Hillside Ave.
Iroquois St.
Allegha
Huntington Ave.
Pond Ave.
Walter Ave.
Juniper
Allerton
Upland Rd.
Irving St.
Walnut St.
Cameron
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White Ave
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Tappan St.
Cypress St.
Greenborough St.
Washington St.
Kent St.
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Blake Rd.
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Tappan St.
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Druce St.
Clark Rd.
Clinton Rd.
Buckminster Rd.
Hyslop Rd.
Fisher Ave.
Holland Rd.
Seaver St.
Sumner Rd.
Clark Rd.
Philbrick
Back St.
Cumington St.
Mountfort St.
Lenox St.
Euston
Essex St.
Cottage Farm
Buick
Gaffney
B.U. Bridge
Rockingham St.
Audrey
Amherst
Florence
Tufts
Chestnut St.
Putnam Ave.
Sidney St.
Brookline Ave.
Magazine St.
Allston St.
Harrilton St.
Erie St.
Tudor
Pacific St.
Lopez
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Lawrence
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William St.
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Franklin St.
Green St.
Bishop Allen
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Prospect St.
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St. Mary's St.
Dr.
Park Dr.
Brookline Ave.
Montague
Blackstone
Memorial Drive
Soldiers Field Rd. Ext.
Charles River
B.U. Bridge
Somerville Ave.
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DINING

Restaurant Review / R.E. Brunson

Blue Room

Tried and True Blue

The first sensory impression that strikes a diner entering the Blue Room is not the sight of the colorful decor, but rather the scent of mouth-watering barbecue - meat roasting on a spit, and cooking on the grill. After your attention leaves the wonderful smell, you can look toward the comfortable dining room. Having heard of a change in both the kitchen and the menu, our party headed over for a taste.

The revealed a selection of grilled items with influences from around the world. For appetizers, we started with the clam and corn chowder ($4.50). The chowder was filled with fresh corn, red peppers, and chunks of sweet potato in a milky clam broth that was truly delicate and flavorful. Floating on the top were crunchy cornbread croutons, fresh sage, and a slice of roasted corn on the cob. All the elements combined to make a great light chowder.

Next came the Arabic salad and dip plate ($6.25). The plate was dusted with freshly-ground cumin and contained a hot grilled pita that had been sliced and arranged around two mounds of dip, and a mound of parsley lemon salad. The first dip, a smoky eggplant, was smooth and oozing with wonderful olive oil. It had a deep smoky flavor that came from grilling the eggplant. The other dip, spicy red pepper, was red and silky and gave a sharp burning tingle to the mouth. Both dips were wonderful. The final appetizer was the sweet anise-rubbed rare beef tenderloin. The beautifully done tenderloin slices were accompanied by a sesamed spinach and the condiments usually associated with sushi – soy sauce pickled ginger and wasabi (horseradish).

One of the specials, grilled grouper ($17.50), sounded interesting and was the first choice for an entree. The grouper was thoroughly blackened from its time on the grill, yet was moist and tender throughout. Simple yet satisfying, the individual who ordered this dish gave it a "10."

The other entree, garlic and herb crusted spit-roasted pork loin ($14.25), came with a thick slice of on-the-bone loin that was also moist and tender. Almost grilled out, attention turned to desserts.

Bypassing the selection of ports, cognacs, and grappas, our target was coffee and something sweet. Choices were the bourbon chocolate pecan pie ($4.95) and the lemon poppyseed cake with lemon curd ($4.95). The bourbon chocolate pecan pie came covered in whipped cream. It looked great but there was no chocolate taste evident in the filling, and it tasted like molasses to our palates. In contrast, the lemon poppyseed cake was tasty and moist – a real winner. It was covered in a wonderful tart, not too sweet, lemon curd (the kind one gets in Paris) and accompanied by fresh strawberries and whipped cream.

We returned the following Sunday for the first of what will become a Blue Room tradition on Sundays – Big Mike's Sunday supper. This is an all-you-can-eat buffet, $19.75 per person, that covers the counters in food like whole roasted pig, cheese biscuits, whole roasted grouper, smoked chicken salad, spare ribs, lasagna, vegetarian lo mein, salads, a tabie of desserts and more. A hearty recommendation! ❑

IF YOU GO

The Blue Room

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Ursula Argyropoulos



DINING

Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

"...Wet Lunches at the Colonnade Hotel, a South Shore Discovery, Dinner Avec Toulouse-Lautrec..."

LIQUID LUNCH

The Colonnade Hotel has just remodeled its rooftop pool and to kick off the summer season, the hotel is starting a **Wet Lunch Club** during lunch hours, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. For a fee of $10, sun worshippers can take a dip, enjoy the view and have lunch. The fee includes use of the pool, changing facilities and a light lunch of goodies like chilled Cajun crabmeat salad sandwiches. So don't spend your lunch hour daydreaming of the beach; pool-side paradise is just around the corner at 120 Huntington Avenue. Call 424-7000 for information.

SOUTH SHORE SURPRISE

Imagine our surprise in finding a truly wonderful new restaurant on the south shore. **Tosca,** on North Street in Hingham is creating some of the best food around – in or outside of Boston! Owners Ed and Pat Kane, with the help of chef David Tannaccio from California, are offering a seasonal northern Italian menu that makes great use of their wood-fired grill and spit. Two of our favorites were the grilled greens – grilled radiccio, arugula and fennel in a pistachio vinaigrette, and grilled butternut squash raviolis in a cream sauce with toasted pine nuts. On the Tuesday night of our visit, the place was packed, so call ahead for reservations; 740-0080.

SUMMER FOOD FUN

The Boston Chapter of the **American Institute of Wine and Food** has several things cooking. On Wednesday, May 26, from 6 to 8 p.m., an inexpensive pairing of wine and food called **Slosh and Nosh** will be hosted at B.U. by Steve Johnson of Hamersly's and Walter Clay of Langdon Shireick. Inexpensive wines will be accompanied by summer foods – including items from the grill! (Look for Steve's article on grilling pizza in the current issue of Cook's Illustrated magazine.) The A.I.W.F. has also started a monthly supper club for its members. The club rotates to a different restaurant every month for food and socializing. Look for get-togethers at Marais in June and the new West Street Grill in July. For event or membership info., call the AIWS at 427-0538.

IVY LEAGUE

Owner/chef **John Vyhnanek** of the Harvard Street Grill in Brookline has been chosen by **Restaurant and Institutions** magazine to receive the nationally recognized **"Ivy" award**. The awards were started in 1970, with food service leaders nominating individuals to the ballot and the readership casting the votes. Chef Vyhnanek is one of only eight individuals nationally to receive one of these Oscars of the food service industry this year. Along with celebrating the award, he is also celebrating his fifth anniversary at the restaurant.

ART & FOOD

In his time, **Toulouse-Lautrec** was just as well known for his love of food as for his artwork. He produced a book called The **Art of Cuisine** with M. Joyant that describes favorite recipes that he loved to prepare for friends. On June 7-19, Chef Tolini of **Le Bocage** in Watertown will recreate some of Lautrec's favorite dishes like bouillabaisse and fricassee of rabbit. At the same time, there will be a showing of Lautrec's famous prints and posters. So come on over and have dinner with Lautrec. Reservations are recommended; 933-1210.

JUICY DETAILS

Joyce Chen's on Stuart Street will soon be remodeling. **Il Nido** restaurant has just opened on 257 North Street in the North End. John Geoffrion, a talented chef, is in charge of the kitchen. The **Original Sports Saloon** in the Copley Square Hotel is looking to open two new locations. Congratulations to Steve Elmont, owner of **Mirabelle** on Newbury Street, as he becomes the new president of the National Restaurant Association. **Sorrento's** in the Fenway is now serving wine, from Chianti to Dom Perignon. **Chez Tata** has just opened at 1616 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton. Open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., the restaurant offer a full menu of Caribbean specialties such as flying fish and plantains; call 734-8192.

SAVE THIS DATE

Michael Feinstein, famous for his interpretations of Gershwin and Cole Porter, will be performing at the **Roxy** on Saturday, June 19, to benefit the American Red Cross of Massachusetts Bay. Guests will enjoy a buffet supper and desserts provided by some of Boston's best restaurants and dancing to the White Heat Swing Orchestra. Ms. Neicey Boswell and the Roxy Dancers will also entertain. Tickets are $50 and $100, black-tie is optional. Call 623-0033 extension 282 for more information. ❑

Peter McNamara has been active in Boston's food community for the past twenty years as a restaurant consultant, former owner of Boston Reservation Services and member of the American Institute of Food and Wine. He can be heard frequently on WBZ AM Radio. Peter is also a devoted fan of Weight Watchers and is currently down 17.5 pounds.

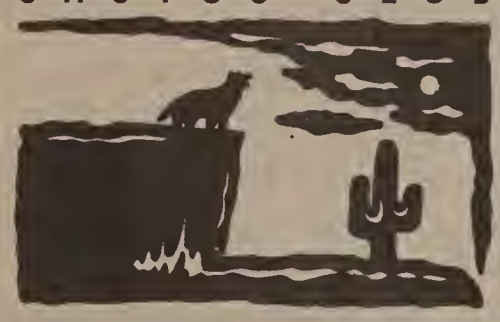
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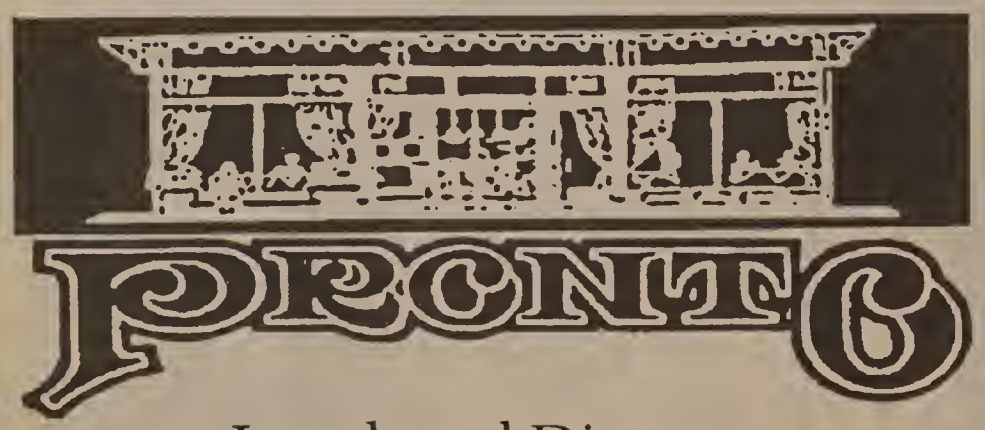
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WINING

Through the Wine Glass

DRINK THE LITE THING

". . .My Advice is Heretically Simple: Drink Whatever You Can Afford, Whenever You Like. . ."

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

As the brooding season clutched its tentacles deep into the heart of April this year, I discovered myself plunging unaware into trance-like reveries. Evenings caught me forehead-in-hand before the fireplace, grappling through musty old volumes of Schopenhauer, with Gregorian chants bleating over the raindrops, and a dirge-like glassful of Hermitage as my soul's closest companion.

Finally, I've broken out the rather fantastic collection of seersucker suits for which I am locally famous, the music has lightened a few shades and so, consequently, have the wines.

Spring is the signal for a more relaxed, joyful esthetic. Grasp it while you can. This is the time to take to the great outdoors and wander, briefly filling our lungs with crisp, salubrious air before the sweltering misery of insects and instant perspiration send us hurtling headlong towards the nearest air-conditioner.

My advice is heretically simple: Drink whatever you can afford, whenever you like. Most importantly, immediately take all publications with wine rating systems, scores and other numerical admonitions and stash them away until you go back to thinking profound thoughts.

Still and all, if we hope to get in the seasonal groove, wine-wise, where do we turn? One useful way of classifying quality quaffs by style is to differentiate the bold, organic-tasting, fleshy specimens (which seem to generate their own body heat) from wines which are mercurial and icy. While some wines burn with a spicy glow, others transmit a shiver the length of your vertebrae. Without wishing to impose unduly quirky views, it has occurred to me that if you are coming in out of the cold you might want to consider drinking something warm. And vice versa.

THE SPRING LIST

So what is the wine for springtime in Boston? Obviously, the 1990 Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Spatlese Halb-trocken from the Pfarrkirche St. Michael, a lacy Mosel danseuse with the classical perfume of blooming flowers and peaches and the stern green taste of barely ripened fruit. Why? Apart from being simple to find and pronounce, it is just heaven with the creamy goat cheese I love. Of course, if you are not fully committed to perfection, you may try any old Riesling from the great spiritual motherland of Western Christendom, and see how it does.

WHY RIESLING?

Any number of sound reasons:

1) After the muted colors of fall and winter, you surely want something bursting with brightness that actually has fresh fruit flavor. A little sugar can't hurt either, if counter-balanced by matching tartness.

2) Good Riesling smells of the gardens; sweet herbal essences, young flowers, springtime ephemera.

3) Lower alcohol, more delicately constituted wines fit with dietary shifts towards dishes emphasizing pure, uncomplicated flavors. German Riesling, especially if from the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer, most often features moderate alcohol.

WHICH MEANS...

What all this amounts to is something eminently reasonable to the student of grape varieties and their characteristics. Riesling is among the grape types which possess low concentrations of a naturally-occurring chemical substance known as polyphenols. These reside primarily in the solid parts of the grape: the skins, seeds and stalks. They dissolve into a wine, giving it astringency, color, ruggedness of flavor. Phenolic compounds are also present in oak barrels, so that wines which mature in wood acquire higher concentrations.

Grapes with particularly thin skins, like Riesling, consequently show low phenolic strength. They make wines which taste more like fruit, thereby achieving balance through refreshing acidity, rather than elevated alcohol or tannins. For these reasons, they taste most appropriate in warm to hot weather. Other wines which fit this profile and can be cool and delicious in spring:

- Chenin Blanc, particularly wines from Touraine in the Loire Valley (Vouvray, Montlouis)
- Muscadet
- Pinot Blanc (or Pinot Bianco in Northern Italy)
- Sauvignon Blanc, especially if from New Zealand or the Upper Loire Valley.
- Many Italian Whites, but particularly wines like Verdicchio, Frascati and Orvieto
- Vinho Verde from Portugal
- Low tannin ripe, fruity reds such as Beaujolais and, surprisingly, some Loire wines like Chinon and Saumur-Champigny
- And, of course, if all else fails, there is never a time when Champagne is out of season.

❑

Sandy Block was awarded the title Master of Wine in 1992 by the prestigious British Institute of Masters of Wine. Of the 162 people worldwide who hold this title, only five are Americans. Sandy is also the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood,

DINING

BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

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Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos., C-6, 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

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HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
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HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

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ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
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SERENDIPITY 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., B-7, 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

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338 Newbury St., Bos., C-5, 267-8688
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The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown, 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only two items priced over five dollars, this menu offers some of the best deals around. Choose between tender rotisseried chicken or their addictive lamb kabobs. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad, pita and hommos. Take-out is also available. Hours are 11a.m.-9p.m., Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St., Bos., 426-7878, D,MC,V $$$$, C-6
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BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear), Charlestown Navy Yard, 242-1911, MC,V $$
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BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos., 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$, D-5
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7a.m.-10:45a.m. Continental Breakfast: 10:45a.m -11:30a.m. L: 11:30a.m-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. until 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$, C-5
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CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline, 232-3303
M, V, A, $$, D-4
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from macaroni and cheese with oven-dried tomatoes and roasted garlic to red pepper linguini with house-smoked salmon and trout. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1a.m. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

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138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$, B-7
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100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$, C-7
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112 Broad St., Bos., 350-8846 $, C-7
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THE DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS
323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093
441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696
$$, B-7
This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton , 566-8590
$, D-2
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish-American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-3
Chef John Vyhnanek personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, or the house specialty, grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. The award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce . is the perfect way to top off this delightful meal. 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
MC, V $$, C-6
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

IL NIDO CASA LOCANDA
257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272
A, DC $$, B-7
If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional, authentic Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming, warm atmosphere, Il Nido Casa Locanda should be your destination for dinner. Only three weeks after opening, this new North End restaurant is one of the up and coming hot spots. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrioni to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, an abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The well-balanced wine list accomodates novices, as well as connoiseurs. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner Nightly. Closed Mondays.

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $, D-5
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties include Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super lunch Special 12 - 3p.m .Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take-out/delivery and catering services available.

JAMAICA JAMAICA
162 Prospect St., Cambridge, 864-9368 MC, V $, B-4
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, then cross the bridge to Cambridge and sample the Caribbean inspired dishes at this Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, it's hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza . Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$, C-6
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Seafood's has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

MAMMA MARIA
3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$, B-7
Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL & OAR BAR
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$, B-7
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering regional American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market. Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m. Oar bar open til 2a.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA
207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC ,AE $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

MOON VILLA
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos., 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try their fresh fish specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4a.m. for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $, D-4
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

THE ORIGINAL SPORTS SALOON
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route, C-6
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2a.m., 7 days a week.

PATISSERIE FRANCAISE
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner), A-3
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

PIZZERIA UNO RESTAURANT & BAR
20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722 (542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D, B-7
Voted Boston's best pizza by Boston magazine and voted the best deep-dish pizza in Chicago - come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full-service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches. Huge $1.50 drafts always on special. Open from 11 a.m. to late night.

PROVINCE STREET PUB
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

THE SABRA RESTAURANT & THE SABRA GRILL
45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

SORENTO'S
86 Peterborough St., Bos., 424-7070
MC, V, D $$, D-4
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

SPASSO ITALIA CAFE & BAR
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$, C-6
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history approximately 212 years. The Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country. The WarrenTavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Lunch 11:30-3:30. Dinner 5-10:30. 5-9 on Sun.

Singing Sweet Soul

An Interview with John Secada

BY DAVID FENIGSOHN

Jon Secada is the latest from a long line of great pop male vocalists, drawing comparisons to crooners such as Smokey Robinson, Lionel Richie, and Al Jarreau. And while Secada, still in his 20s, is just beginning his career, he has all ready proven himself to be more than just a great singer – he is also a potent hit songwriter.

Secada has all ready written five top ten singles, both for himself ("Just Another Day Without You" and "Angel"), as well as two number one hits for his mentor, Gloria Estafan. Secada began his career as a song writer for Estafan, who immediately recognized his talent and gave him a short solo segment on her *Into the Light* world tour. Today Emilio Estafan, Gloria's husband, manages the Secada.

"I studied with the Estefans both as a songwriter and on production, which gave birth to my own solo career." Secada explains. "They are great people. Emilio is a great manager, and both he and Gloria have been so helpful. They have given me the opportunity to work with her, something I am grateful for. Emilio has great instincts as a producer, he is great person to have by your side – we have five-year relationship which I'm sure will keep going," he says.

Secada's songs are simple and catchy, perfectly suited for hit radio. While they lack depth, both musically and lyrically, Secada's delivery and his ear for what the public wants to hear, cover any other flaws.

"In my songwriting, the way we work is that I like to collaborate with other people and talk about a concept or an idea. We tend to write about what we have been going through in our lives. Our music is a reflection of personal experience. We begin by writing ideas down, maybe I have a musical idea, and then I take it from there," Secada says.

The formula has been highly successful. In addition to multi-platinum album sales for his self-titled debut (EMI), the Cuban-born Secada has also released a Spanish version of the LP which netted him a "Best Latin Pop Album" Grammy Award.

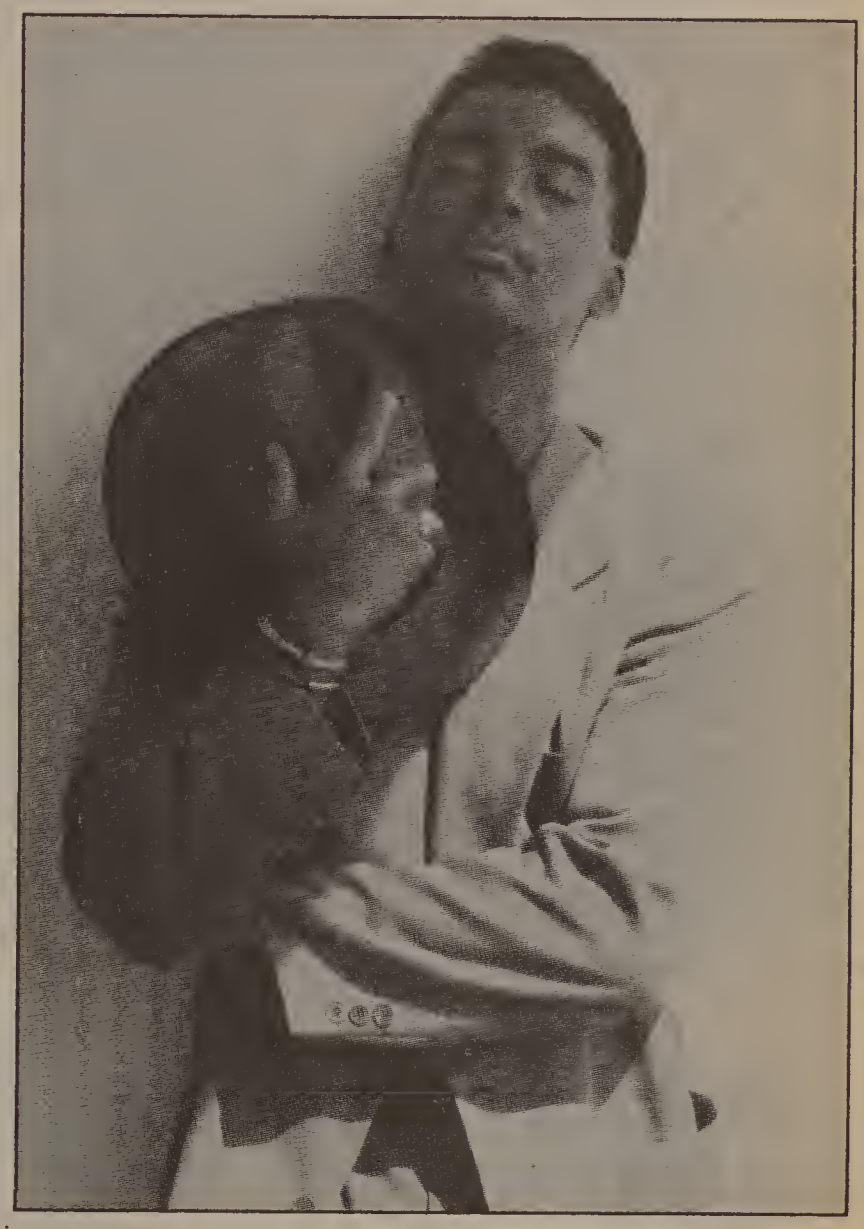
"I think, and sing, in both Spanish and English," he elaborates. "I was raised bilingually. To me, music is music, and singing is singing, no matter what language. I'm happy with my success, and I think it is partially a result of evolving in both Spanish and English. I believe the Grammy means that my career will be lasting. It is a sign of recognition and true respect after performing for a very short time period. I feel very fortunate. For me to be recognized shows I have respect in the industry as somebody who is here to stay."

Secada recently brought his live show to town, performing at the Second Anniversary Party for Mix 98.5 at Avalon. His live show proved to be soulful and dramatic, as many of his hits were performed in dramatic fashion, and often extended well beyond their studio lengths.

"I really like to stretch a song live," he says. "We create new parts. Doing so is the only way that you don't get bored. We are constantly finding new things to add in our efforts to keep it exciting."

Secada's biggest hits express the sentiment that the secret to writing hit songs is to be enthusiastic about what one is singing about. So Secada sticks to love songs.

"I like passion – I am very passionate. And with love songs, I like that I have the ability to express myself. I get into love songs more than I do any others, and so I can sell the performance of the song, merely by the fact that it is a love song, full of passion and romance." ❑



Thinking Soulful Thoughts: *Crooner Jon Secada*

"Pops" Goes The Season

Farewell John Williams, Hello Boston Pops New Season

BY STEVEN D. BROWN

As has been known for the past year, this is John Williams' swan song with the Boston Pops. However, beyond the current season, Williams does plan to return as a guest conductor and to maintain an as-yet undefined role at Tanglewood. He will continue composing and conducting film scores, and he plans to devote more time to writing concert pieces. He will be missed.

Sharing the podium with John Williams this season are the orchestra's two resident conductors, Ronald Feldman and Harry Ellis Dickson (who has been a fixture at Boston Pops concerts since time immemorial). Guest conductors include Keith Lockchart, associate conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops (June 5 and 6) and Erich Kunzel, music director of the Cincinnati Pops (June 11 and 12). Isaiah Jackson, music director of the Dayton Philharmonic, leads the Pops on June 7 and 8 and returns for Gospel Night at Pops on June 13. On June 15 and 17, Robert Bernhardt, music director of the Tucson Symphony and principal conductor of the Kentucky Opera, rides into town for Wild West Night at the Pops.

Is there a doctor in the house? There will be on June 22 and 23, when Doc Severinsen dishes up a double dose of his medicine as both conductor and soloist with the Boston Pops. Bruce Hangen, music director of the Omaha Symphony, returns on June 26 and 27 for two nights, featuring the swinging sounds of the Big Band era.

From June 7 through 12, John Williams takes the Boston Pops on the road for a tour of Japan while the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra keeps the music coming at Symphony Hall. Williams will be on hand for Boston's favorite and most famous outdoor celebration, the annual Fourth of July concert at the Hatch Shell on the esplanade. He also returns in December for the annual Pops Christmas series. Also in the works is a recording for Sony Classical, featuring John Williams and the Boston Pops in a program of music associated with Frank Sinatra.

What we have seen in John Williams' tenure as conductor of the Boston Pops is a thorough professional who is utterly devoid of pretension, self-aggrandizement or vulgarity, one who is articulate yet soft-spoken, a highly focused artist who has elicited the highest level of musicianship from the Boston Pops. As of this date, a successor to John Williams has yet to be chosen. While there is a certainly validity to Williams' self-effacing view that the Boston Pops is an institution larger than any one person, whoever waves the baton as the orchestra's next music director will be faced with the challenge of maintaining the Boston Pops tradition while bringing it into its next era. A good many names have been considered thus far, but nobody at Symphony Hall has thought of George Martin. Perhaps they should.

Tickets are priced at $33.50 and $29 for floor seats, $24 and $22 for the first balcony, and $14 and $10.50 for the second balcony. Starting times for the Boston Pops concerts vary. Tickets are available at the Symphony Hall Box office from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and between 1 and 6 p.m. on Sunday. To order by phone, call SymphonyCharge at 266-1200. For further information or to arrange for group rates, call Symphony Hall at 266-1492. ❑

Album Reviews

Key

★ Save Your Money
★★ Passable
★★★ Worth A Listen
★★★★ Buy It Now
★★★★★ Instant Hit

Coverdale/Page
Coverdale/Page
Geffen Records
★★★



John Bonham is gone, and Robert Plant will not reform. The idea of a Zeppelin recording/tour looks pretty bleak. Is there hope on the horizon for Zeppelin fans?

Regardless of the hype, the new Coverdale/Page release is outstanding. There are eleven selections, eight of which are solid, and six of which are great. The union of these two great musicians has been long overdue. There have been musical vehicles in the way, but these guys were meant to merge.

Jimmy Page's guitar work on the CD is his most inspired stuff in a long time. His Firm efforts were fine in the late eighties, but he seems more at ease with David Coverdale than he did with former Firm vocalist Paul Rodgers. Page has been yearning for that Plant-like writing style they once shared, and frontman Coverdale has just that type of quality.

The new Geffen release is chockfull of sure-fire radio and MTV hits. The first single, "Pride and Joy" has just what one would expect with the collaboration of these two. David Coverdale's raunchy lyrics harmonize wonderfully with Jimmy Page's superb acoustic and electric guitar phrasing. There's an added "Bron-Y-Aur Stomp" drum piece in there for a Zeppelin-essence, complete with some harp, thrown in for good measure. Another sure-fire hit is the opener "Shake My Tree," a real rocker about a obsessed young girl who won't give Coverdale time to rest.

Page's acoustic guitar is all over this effort, along with great electric soloing and layered track structure. Page's guitar chops in the studio are magnificent once again, and it's not hard to imagine how they will transform live. The blues ballad "Take For A Little While" brings Page back to his roots, and "Don't Leave This Way" has a blistering rapid-fire solo, with Coverdale's wailing vocals bleeding about a relationship gone bad. The lyrical content meshed with Pages' penmanship make commercial success a definite. And fans of the past should be more than happy to add it to their collection.

Michael Koski

Porno For Pyros
Warner Brothers Records
★★★

Perry Farrell never wanted to be anything as vulgar as the "voice of his generation," but organizing the immensely successful Lollapalooza tours and fronting a band that tapped the core of 90s youth angst made him just that. His response? Break up the band and head for other goals. So it's a bit surprising that, having kicked Jane's Addiction, his next record (with new crew Porno For Pyros, with ex-Jane's drummer Stephen Perkins, bassist Martyn Le Noble, and guitarist Peter DiStefano) sounds like nothing more than the next Jane's Addiction album.

Farrell's voice still dominates, screeching louder than a 20-car pile-up, punctuated with random honks on a harmonica. The rest of the band provides a noisy, tribal drone, occasionally slipping into a kind of sly jazz that doesn't last long; the audience and the band are both too eager to pounce.

Lyrically, Farrell lets some of his mystery slip. Much of the poetic, often cryptic, wordplay of *Nothing Shocking* has been replaced by a sort of common cleverness. Tunes detail Perry masturbating to the televised riots, packing a gun, getting lit on bad drugs; he's clearly aiming to illustrate a kind of national character, but the art suffers a bit for the message this time.

Robert E. Hughes

JudyBats
Pain Makes You Beautiful
Sire Records
★★★

Ultra-sweet alternative/pop is what the JudyBats pride themselves on, and on *Pain Makes You Beautiful*, their third major-label album, the band lays it on thicker than ever. From the jangly "Ugly On The Outside" to the jumbled "Intense Beige," Jeff Heiskell's smooth but awkward voice shapes eccentric lyrics (like "I love you anyway/You're an intense beige/And that's okay" from "Intense Beige" and "I want to be good but good is being simple/Simple is forgetting/And I simply can't forget" from "Being Simple") into things that seem to actually make sense. "Scarlet" with its sighing background harmonizing with Heiskell's hiccuping lead vocals is also a standout.

The JudyBats have the ability to write pop songs that are infectious and addictive, but still somewhat elusive. The band's fans don't number in the millions (at least not according to album sales) but once won over they stay hooked for life. *Pain Makes You Beautiful* gives those fans more of an inside look into what's behind the catchy songs. The album and song titles appear to tell most of the real story ("Pain," "My Dead Friend," "Wasting Time," etc.) but on this song cycle, the JudyBats put a different spin on the downsides of life: Now they like them. And after listening to the album and hearing the way the band explains it all, you will too.

Sander Wolf

Dwight Yoakam
This Time
Reprise
★★★★



With his latest album, *This Time*, Dwight Yoakam continues to produce one of the most consistently impressive bodies of work in contemporary country. Never a country rocker, but always a rockin' countrier, Yoakam draws influence from Hank Williams Sr., reminding us that this source helped quench the thirst of rock and rollers like Buddy Holly and Gary "U.S" Bonds.

Yoakam is as masterful with country ballads as he is with more up-beat songs. His "Home For Sale" draws a sketchy outline of a broken family, and lets us fill in the details: "Home for sale/Not all that old/A family's dream/Stands dark and cold."

It is Yoakam's ability to strike a balance between high energy songs and thoughtful ballads that makes *This Time* successful as an album. His great voice and strong guitar playing don't hurt either.

David M. Avery

Beethoven: Missa Solemnis
Eva Mei, Marjana Lipopsek, Anthony Rolfe Johnson, Robert Holl
Arnold Schoenberg Choir
Clamber Orchestra of Europe
Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Conductor
Telec
★★★

Known primarily as a Bach specialist, Nikolaus Harnoncourt has recently been attending to the major works of Beethoven. As he did with his landmark cycle of the Beethoven symphonies, Harnoncourt uses modern instruments with the exception of valveless trumpets, narrow bore trombones and small timpani played with hard mallets. In taking this approach, he achieves a textural transparency comparable to what John Eliot Gardiner gets in his period-instrument performance on Archiv.

Tempos are a good deal slower than Gardiner's; the "Kyrie," for example, runs nearly three and a half minutes longer, but the impression is one of breadth rather than inertia. The solo quartet and chorus are undaunted in transcending the challenges of Beethoven's thorny vocal writing. For the listener, too, the Missa Solemnis presents its own challenges; it doesn't have the instant appeal of the symphonies. But for those who take the time to know it, the rewards are bountiful. Harnoncourt's cycle of the symphonies was among last year's Grammy nominees; this should fare similarly.

Steven D. Brown

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BARS & CLUBS

About Last Night. . .

GETTING EURO'D AT EUROPA

". . .The Euro Kids are Taking Over Boston's Nightlife, and They're Having Much More Fun Than You Are. . ."

BY LAUREN DARE, AKA THE LAST CALL LADY

For anybody who's been locked in a tomb for the past few years, I've got some stunning news for you: the Euro kids are taking over Boston's nightlife, and they're having much more fun than you are. But then again, if you really have been locked in a tomb, and if you're the kind of person who hates hedonistic pastimes – like dancing on the furniture with wild, semi-clothed nubile young beauties while listening to the best dance music this side of the Atlantic, drinking up a storm and randomly spraying bottles of champagne on Bacchanalian revelers whose wanton abandon and flagrant disregard for decent bedtime hours defies mortality itself – then I give you the Surgeon General's warning: Wednesday or Saturday nights at Europa will be bad for your health.

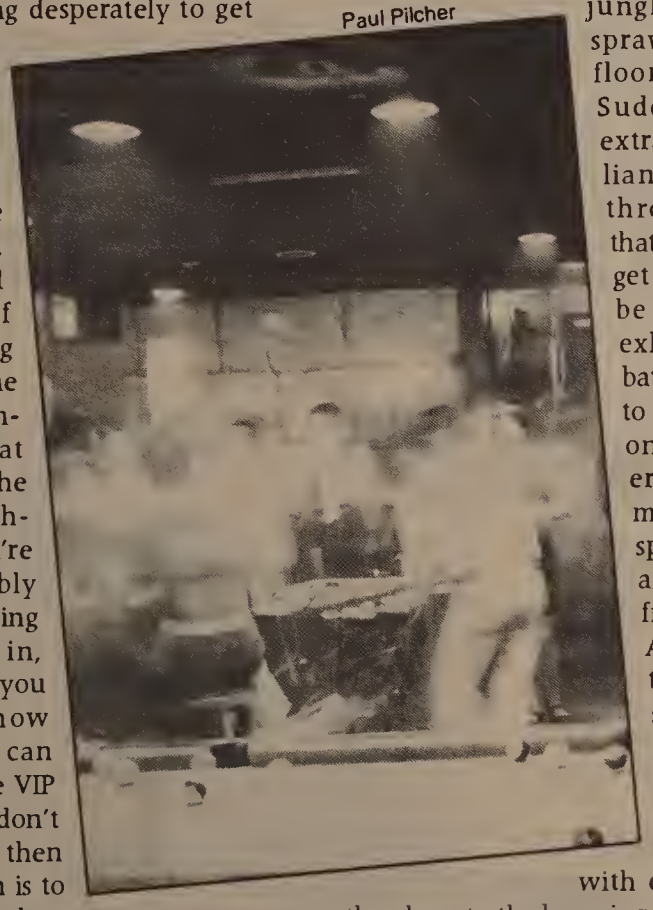
IF YOU GO

EUROPA

51 STUART, BOSTON
482-3939

Saturday night: I arrive at Europa's entrance to find myself surrounded by enough nationalities to represent the United Nations at a nightclub summit. Everyone is trying desperately to get the doorman's attention and convince him that they are important/beautiful/desperate enough to get in, and, at nearly 1 a.m., some of them are losing the fight. Everyone arrives "fashionably" late at Europa, but by the time you're fashionably late, you're also unfashionably relegated to waiting in line to get in, unless, of course, you happen to know somebody who can slide you into the VIP entrance. If you don't merit VIP status, then your other option is to arrive early enough to beat the line. You can always spend the time between your arrival and the peak club hour raising your body temperature listening to the hot merengue band in the downstairs bar, or shooting a game of pool.

Paul Pilcher



At about 12:45 a.m., seemingly from out of nowhere, slews of people miraculously appear in the club, wafting cigarette smoke behind them, kissing each other dramatically and enthusiastically on the cheeks, swiveling their Armani-clad hips, and eyeing the crowd to see who's here, who's hot, who's available and who's not.

At approximately 1:15, I downed the rest of my drink and checked around the room one last time to see if there was anyone with whom I would want to exchange meaningful dialogue or phone numbers before entering the fray. Then I navigated my way up the stairs, down a short hallway, through a door, and into the strobing, pulsing, frenetically-charged world of Europa. Bodies are whirling and spinning in every direction like dervishes, a veiled, heavily-mascaraed belly dancer jingles past, swirling her tassels. Lip-locked couples do everything but genetically combine on the dance floor. Someone rushes up to me and somehow manages to make it clear that he wants to buy me a drink.

Amazingly, we make it to the bar, where obscene quantities of alcohol are pumped across the counter and into the thirstily waiting crowd. Refreshed and re-energized, I make my way through the jungle of flesh that sprawls across the floor to the stage. Suddenly, the extraordinarily brilliant idea flashes through my brain that I should actually get up on stage and be frighteningly exhibitionistic, so I battle my way over to the stage and use one of the bouncer's legs to haul myself up. The spotlight finds me and sheer physical frenzy takes over. Any conscious thought is sequestered in some distant corner in the back of my brain, and I fall prey, along with everyone else in the place, to the booming base line.

Some time later, the lights flicker and the DJ thanks everybody for coming. This is my cue to stumble off the stage in a daze and fall into the arms of a group of dark-eyed Latin types who want to whisk me off to some fabled after-hours party. Somehow sanity reasserts itself and I reel towards the exit, hoping to make it home and into my bed before getting totally swept off in the Euro "scene." ❑

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BAR & CLUB LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

GENERAL

ALLEY CAT
451-6200, 1 Boylston Place, Bos, C-6. A wild mix of twenty to thirty somethings who are encouraged to get up and dance on the bar late-night to the Top-40 DJ tracks. A serious place to start an unserious relationship or just work up a sweat at the crowded bar. The take-out pizza window in the alley outside does a booming business after last call. Cover varies, casual dress.

ALLSTON SPORTS DEPOT
783-2300, 353 Cambridge St., Allston, C-2. With 2 satellite dishes and over 20 TV sets, this may be the best place to catch a game outside of Fenway or the Garden. No cover and no dress code. Just a plethora of sports fans chatting- and arguing about, what else, sports - over beers, appetizers and killer burgers.

BEACON HILL PUB
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

BLACK GOOSE
617-720-4500, 21 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A relaxed jazz club situated a stone's throw from the Statehouse. Sit back and enjoy superb live jazz at its best. It's casual, unassuming and you don't have to wear an "I love jazz attitude" on your sleeve. No cover. Live piano music Monday through Friday from 5-7.



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TONY PARKER - King of Sing-a-longs starting at 8:30PM

SATURDAY
Piano & vocals by Brookline's own fabulous DOTTIE DEAN
8:30PM TO 12:30AM

Mondays
PIANO BAR
Holiday Inn
1200 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA 277-1200

BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

CACTUS CLUB
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

CANTAB LOUNGE
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

FROGG LANE BAR & GRILL
720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos, B-7. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

THE LITTLEST BAR
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

MARKET PLACE CAFE
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m.. "Street Magic" A cappella every Wednesday at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

MIRACLE OF SCIENCE BAR & GRILL
868-2866, 321 Mass. Ave., Camb, B-4. It is a miracle: the Cambridge Brain Trust actually does go out and have a good time, and this is where it happens. The theme is something like "Where Science Meets Beer." Where else can you go to brush up on your quantum physics and down a brewskie or nibble on some cool snacks? But don't worry, you don't have to pass an IQ test to get in. The dress is casual, the crowd is young, fun, and post-collegiate. Last call 12:45 a.m.

PROVINCE STREET PUB
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

SMALL PLANET BAR AND GRILL
536-4477, 565 Boylston Street, Bos, C-6. Eclectic multi-cultural cuisine and clientele are the draw in this recently revamped Back Bay hotspot. Very hip and friendly wait and bar staff, cool tropical decor, central Back Bay location and funky beer list make this a great place to hang out. Casual funky dress is the norm. Last call at 1 a.m.

WARREN TAVERN
241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, B-5. A funky little bar whose clientele includes young professionals & athletes. Also claims to attract Boston's most beautiful women (?!) Local celebs don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

POP/JAZZ/ BLUES/REGGAE

BUNRATTY'S
254-9804, 186 Harvard Ave., Allston, C-2. A rock club favorite featuring top local talent nightly. The atmosphere is dark and smoky, but once the music starts jamming the place comes alive. Moderate cover varies depending on the act(s). No dress code.

NIGHTSTAGE
497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb, A-3. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

PARADISE ROCK CLUB
254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos, C-3. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

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RATHSKELLER
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos, C-5. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

RYLE'S JAZZ CLUB
876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb, B-5. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryle's. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

SCULLERS LOUNGE
783-0811, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Camb, C-3. Renowned Jazz singers entertain here nightly. The bar is well stocked, the chairs are comfortable and the walls are paneled, evoking a mellow mood. The nighttime view of the Charles adds an air of romance. Heavy cover. Casual dress but no jeans or sneakers.

WESTERN FRONT
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multi-cultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

DANCING

AVALON
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

AVENUE C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

PIANO ROOMS

MONDAY'S PIANO BAR
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

BREWERIES

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

IRISH

BLACK ROSE
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

O'LEARY'S
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

BARS & CLUBS

LIVE CLUB LISTINGS

To send schedule updates for our 6/9- 6/22 issue, fax them to Christopher Francescani at 232-4305 by May 28th. All schedules must be legibly typewritten.

WEDNESDAY 26TH

Bill's Pipes/ Parade/ Killer Buicks Boston Beach Club Mighty Charge-Live Reggae Bunratty's Candy Colored Clowns/ The Flinstones Diamond Jim's Al Vega Talent Showcase Johnny D's Acoustic Underground Midway Cafe Acoustic Wally Scullers Purple Toucan Trio Sticky Mike's Sticky Mike & The Jam The Middle East Lost Generation/ Bug Juice/ Doc Hopper/ Earl Downstairs- Lost Tribe/ Joe Morris' Raquet Club The Tam The Quarers The Western Front British Yankees Tuesday's Ice Cream The Lydian People's Front Willow Jazz Club The Fringe Zachary's Joey Calderazzo Trio

TUESDAY 27TH

Bill's American Bar Music W/ DJ Stew & 7 Bunratty's Restless Souls/ Hallowed Ground/ Wrench/ Cannibal Kings Diamond Jim's Sing-Along w/ Jon Mansfield Great Scott's The Candles Grog Boston Baked Blues Band Linwood Grille The Strayhorns Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley Band Midway Cafe The Burning Sensations Ryles Batteries Not Included Scullers El Eco Sticky Mike's Chuck Morris & Sidewalk Blues The Middle East Spunk/ Flowerland The Tam Dennis Brennan & the Iodine Brothers The Western Front Rumbafrica Toad Dave Herlihey Venus de Milo Progressivehouse/ Tribal/ Funky Grooves w/ DJ Debo Willow Jazz Club Bert Cotton Quartet Zachary's Joey Calderazzo Trio

FRIDAY 28TH

Cecil's The Armstrong Brothers Diamond Jim's Sing-Along w/ Jon Mansfield Great Scott's Lounge 2000 Grog Madhouse Hard Rock Cafe Laurie Sargent/ Glorious Union Johnny D's Heavy Metal Horns Kinvara Pub Dennis Healy Band Linwood Grille Part-Time Lovers Midway Cafe Little Frankie and the Premiers Nightstage The Heretix & Modern Farmer w/ Reeves Gabrels Ryles Myanna Scullers The Yellowjackets Sticky Mike's Barbecue Bob & The Rhythm Aces The Middle East Queer/ Ambulance Driver/ Thinner/ Alloy The Tam Downtime The Western Front Uprising Toad Mark Sandman Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz Willow Jazz Club Joe Maneri Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

SATURDAY 29TH

Cambridge Brewing Co. Chuck Morris Colonial Inn Devonsquare Diamond Jim's Sing-Along w/ Jon Mansfield Great Scott's Lounge 2000 Grog The Motorvators Johnny D's Anson Funderburgh Kinvara Pub Screaming Cadillacs Linwood Grille Burning Sensations Midway Cafe The Part Time Lovers Band Ryles Peter Calo Group Scullers The Yellowjackets Sticky Mike's Two Bones & A Pick The Tam Chuck The Western Front Uprising Toad Hypnotic Clambake Venus de Milo Disco w/ DJ 7 & Dave Casanave Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

SUNDAY 30TH

Bill's Reggae Night-Mighty Charge Brendan Behan Pub The Pearls Grog Blues w/ Parker Wheeler & Fly Amero Market Place Cafe & Grill Street Magic Venus de Milo South American Night Willow Jazz Club Jeff Covell Trio

MONDAY 31ST

Bill's Movie Night Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & The Hot Ribs Brendan Behan Pub Eoin Woods and Guests Market Place Cafe & Grill R.D. Riddim The Middle East Matt Darrian & Paradox Trio Venus de Milo Mind's Eye Cafe & Night Gallery Willow Jazz Club All Star Sextet

TUESDAY 1ST

Bunratty's Burning Circle/ Freeze Green Market Place Cafe & Grill Dave B. & the Hot Shots Nightstage Portrait & Shante Moore Willow Jazz Club It's About Time

WEDNESDAY 2ND

Boston Beach Club R.D. Riddim Brendan Behan Pub Spitting Magnets Johnny D's Heather Myles Nightstage Joe Sample

THURSDAY 3RD

Great Scott's The Candles Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley Band Nightstage Plan Be/ Slide/ Elements Watson Scullers New York Voices Toad Paul McGann Willow Jazz Club Tony Corelli Quintet

FRIDAY 4TH

Bunratty's Turbulent Daughters/ Mr. Stone's Country/ Large/ Glass Cu Hure Great Scott's Toadhouse Hard Rock Cafe Sidewalk Gallery/ The Gravel Pit/ Ultima Thule Nightstage Daniel Lanois Regattabar Stephane Grappelli Scullers New York Voices Toad Sextiles Willow Jazz Club Harvey Diamond

SATURDAY 5TH

Bunratty's Crazy Alice/ Chloe/ Chum/ Pusher Colonial Inn John Herald Great Scott's Toadhouse Nightstage 4 Non Blondes Scullers New York Voices Toad Tarbox Ramblers Willow Jazz Club Harvey Diamond

SUNDAY 6TH

Brendan Behan Pub The Pearls Bunratty's The Bellyachers Nightstage Ellen Bennett Willow Jazz Club Collective Experience

MONDAY 7TH

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & The Hot Ribs Brendan Behan Pub Eoin Woods and Guests Bunratty's Rockhouse Rebels Market Place Cafe & Grill Street Magic Willow Jazz Club Midlife Crisis

TUESDAY 8TH

Bunratty's Bald Guys/ The Joywheel/ The Dirge Market Place Cafe & Grill R.D. Riddim Willow Jazz Club Charles Kohlaze Quintet

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER

MAY 26 - JUNE 9, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)
Maintain or, if your weekend has already started, regain your equilibrium without the Librium, get your road act together or make vacation plans before Mercury settles into housebound Cancer Tuesday night. Not a thrilling assignment, but once benevolent Jupiter turns direct Monday the good times, the hopes for a rosier future should return. Nobody benefits from this change of direction more than Bill Clinton, since it was optimistic Jupiter on his Libra ascendant that got him elected in the first place, but when Jupiter turned retrograde, shortly after the inauguration, his rising star took a dive.
A clue to what we'll remember about the Clinton Administration appears next Wednesday as Mercury trines Saturn, but it'll take a while to get with the program that will shape all governments from 2/94 through 3/96, the main transit of Saturn through Pisces. A total lunar eclipse at 14 Sagittarius, not visible on the East Coast, is set for next Friday morning. The entire weekend could be a trip. Venus enters Taurus on the 6th, so romantic and social matters will beat to a steadier pulse and we won't be as curious or as willing to put our hearts on the line.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)
Early Aries born in March may experience a reversal of fortune when generous Jupiter moves forward again. Look to a partner or lawyer to improve your chances for success. Personal desires are mixed up with issues of public acceptance, artistic inspiration and freedom, nothing you can control or, for that matter, understand fully. But a few more days of feeling weird and you'll be fine. Because Venus is in your sign until the 6th, your look and the people who are attracted by it matter a lot.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)
While your confusion might not be obvious to others, it's making you a bit nuts. A long relaxing weekend could cure relationship jitters better than booze and drugs would, plus there'll be constructive, maybe even cheery words about work when you return. The additional responsibility/authority you've assumed may lead to talk about money, but talk is cheap and, thanks to the lunar eclipse, your expenses loom large, like that mountain made out of a molehill.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)
Happy birthday. Your present, if you choose to accept it, can be a major addition to the house, something big, beautiful and très expensive. But if it's not yet your birthday, then your folks might benefit from Jupiter's surge upward and onward instead. Never fear, a significant gift is on its way. The facts that arrive as your Mercury ruler slips into Cancer midweek bolster your position and earn you more respect and responsibility, but probably no bucks for now. Keep an eye on your sweetie during the eclipse; s/he may disappear.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)
That woman (the bitch goddess Success?) is still making waves, upsetting relationships and causing your partner justifiable worry. During a langorous Memorial Day weekend, outside influences wane and you see your way more clearly. Having Mercury in your sign helps you organize thoughts and words as well as your itinerary. Mercury is in Cancer from 6/1-8/9, retrograde from 7/1-7/25, time enough to write a song, but not the Great American Novel. Factor these dates into your travel plans.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)
Success should come fairly soon once Jupiter turns direct after four months of retrograde disappointment and delay. But don't push for payment or spend what is not yet in hand just because the turnaround on Monday kicks off a wave of enthusiasm. Excitement builds as the lunar eclipse nears, yet the encouraging words you hear might not jibe with the bottom line. Saturn turning retrograde in your partnership house makes your public less demanding, your opposition and your mate less formidable.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)
Bright, beautiful and brittle. Personal relationships are subject to unexpected shock waves which will subside if you both try to keep the peace over the holiday weekend. But if you don't, go for a breakthrough instead of a breakup. Constructive dialogs about maintaining good health and official info about employment midweek, and there's nothing you can do to screw this up. Unless, of course, you let the crazy full moon eclipse send you off into the wild blue yonder into business for yourself.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)
Other signs seem to recover when their illusions are shattered, why can't you? This romantic, idealistic vision of yours, your version of progress through harmony is being challenged. What to do: take your Aquarians and run for the hills, create a idyllic weekend for yourselves in a sylvan setting? A Libra moon insures that this social experiment will be a success in your book, no matter what happens, and Jupiter turning direct in Libra can provide intelligible signs (a bit of good luck) that you're on the right track.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)
Most Scorpions feel Jupiter's change of direction in your social sphere. Good friends bestow good things again - trips, financial opportunities, books that'll change your head. For some, it's the political arena that'll offer the plums ripe for plucking. The rest might not notice that guardian angels and spirit guides are showing up in dreams and meditations again and that they are nudging you back on the path you were so enthusiastically trodding when 1993 began. Finances matter very much during the lunar eclipse; pay more attention.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)
More celebrations. Jupiter, our beloved, benign ruling planet, turns direct Monday night at the top of our solar charts. Will careers bloom, reputations blossom again? Will we be our lucky old selves, stepping in shit as we blithely follow the rainbow? If I say "yes" and you say "yes," we'll have a done deal. The lunar eclipse at 14 Sag polarizes personal relationships - what you want can be cancelled out by what your partner demands. Adjustments, however, should come fairly easily if you talk.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)
Younger is better or so it'll seem when Mercury trines your Saturn ruler midweek. Listening to the latest tips from teens can be a money maker *Saturn sits in your money house*, but it's not something you can quickly process into profit. It'll take time, emotional rapport and a better diet before you realize the rewards of this association. Jupiter turning direct at the top of your solar chart brings back an opportunity that slipped out of your hand when it went retrograde in late January.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)
Getting through the long weekend could be tricky because normally loving Venus is sending off/on signals to your Uranus ruler. Patience, if possible, is the key to a peaceful Memorial Day, but if not, then enjoy the adventure, the weird eroticism and strange trip you're taken on. It will be memorable. Jupiter brings an enlightened attitude about and money from investments and other joint ventures. Maybe not now, probably in September when lucky Jupiter and your Uranus ruler make contact. Plan accordingly.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)
Don't get distracted by a schizy Mercury in Gemini, showing you two sides to every story this weekend; by Tuesday it'll be gone. Concentrate, instead on your partnership and the rosy future you see before you. Optimistic Jupiter in Libra brings more happiness to relationships and greater luck with joint assets. The upcoming lunar eclipse can make you more nervous, more emotional, so remember that, when it's a matter of self preservation, it's better to be a cold fish than a loose cannon.

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Angel & Sunshine,
Here's to the summer! A time for philanderin', manhandlin', & suntannin'!
Lover
XOXO

D.P.
You're an asshole and you have a tiny dick!

Kelley,
Can you believe this guy?
JC

The 2-Can Man,
Well I must say you've come a long way, a true booze hound! Can't wait for the wedding. You and me and N.Y.City. Well, you've lost two years because you were a complete ass and let me tell you they were my peak years! Shit or get off the pot! I have a deadline! Do you know what time it is?
Ms. J.J. Folly

Tom,
You are slime. You know why. Next time you sweep someone off their feet, be prepared to fly, because falling off a 10-story building sucks. Maybe you'll learn something *now*!!
Peace!
MJN

Ross,
Every time I close my eyes, I have only one wish in mind – you would disappear. I so strongly dislike you, it's kind of funny.
Stef.

Hey Lanya,
Loser! Nicole and I have been waiting to hear from you *too* long. When you get a minute give you old roomies a call.
Isabel

Peter W.,
You are a lazy, chicken-hearted slimedog from Hell! By the way, you'll never make it past your freshman year. See ya, slob.
Brian J.

To Kyle, Mark, & Chris,
HA HA HA!!!
Luv,
Liz

Tom and Vetchel,
For a couple of "manly men," you're real shiners and complainers. Being court officers is inside work and there's no heavy lifting, so quit your complaining and start putting in a full day instead of ducking out early.
The Boys in Blue

The guy on the Rollerblades,
You were obnoxious, loud, and two-bag ugly. Here's your stinkin' impersonal.
The Blonde Chic

Dearest Larry,
I'm sorry. I just can't take it any more. Whenever I hear you stagger past the bedroom door on a hot Allston evening, I simply lose control. I dream of pressing my moustache-clad nose softly into your sweaty Chamburgesque armpit as you gently undo my pretentious wish-I-was-a-yuppie ponytail. Quite frankly, you are to die for. My guru agrees.
Your handsome Himalayan guide, Brad.

Dear Elaine,
The time we spend together has made me realize that I care for you a lot more than friends. I also know that you are bored with him and want to be with me just as badly as I want you. Why the cowardice? Isn't loove a noble enough reason? You know that we would have an incredible, passioante and fulfilling relatioship together. It's your call, but let me remind you of one thing: the clock is ticking, and time stops for no one.
L'amour, Benjamin

M.I.A. 4/9/93
Jack H. & Karen R.
Where did they go, overnight bags in hand? Inquiring minds want to know!! Looks like a real *working* relatioship, K.R. – how much do you *charge*? "The Don" believes in team work (but he means during busimess hours!).

To all of you Franklin and Marshall assholes (especially DC), who only cared enough to listen to one side of the story – @%#$* YOU!
T.O.W.

Ding Dong, Cheers is DEAD!
Can anyone else say "Overhyped?" We thought you could.
Disgruntled Once-a-Fan

Patty,
What time is it? Where is the Kit Clark ticket? Go to Glass Madic & get it. Don't bother me, I can't leave this desk for one minute, I have five cars and only two slips. Hello! Hello! Why don't you just go home!
Snydley Whiplash

Helloooo Kingpin!
You're the bloke with the mostest. Know what I'm saying? The absolute dopest. Tell you somethin', you don't already know? Love you, love you, love you from from lid to soul. You do have it happenin', you got it goin' on looong past the break of dawn. And you don't stop. Always quick to put me back on track if I get out of whack with a royal sugarsmack!

Happy New Year, Easter Bunny. Always will believe in you. You've got my total faith in everything you do. Love you very, very much,
Your "sweetie" (yikes!) H.

Joby,
I know you're reading this.
Mike

Sheila,
Wake up, ma, I love you but you have to remember who really wears the bra in our house. Take them away from her, she's never home, besides, her boobs aren't that big. Mine have better curves then her poor excuse for development. I bet you thought you had only one daughter. Think again.
Love, your "pretty" son,
David

You were the guy at the April 30 show at Brandeis U. You had green hair, a pierced eyebrow and I believe you had a nosering. You were the guy in the mosh, weaqring a green long-sleeved shirt. I was the girl with the short blond hair. I had on plaid pants, a white shirt with a black Bosstones t-shirt over it. I wore black boots.
You gave me the lift up, after stagediving failed. You helped me up after I fell. This was during Dogzilla set. You reminded me of someone I usd to know. Someone I really liked, actually. I haven't seen him for quite a longwhile.
Media.
I thought for a second that you were him. Forgive me if I stared too much, that's the reason...I thought you were really cool, and I wish I could have found words or strength to talk to you...
I don't even know your name...Goodbye.
Sever 'Sxe

Q Outta Be In Pictures
Q's wonderful to see...
If one more person air-kisses me, POW! To the moon!
The balloons have wilted and the streamers are sagging, but the sentiment's the same.
Sis

Babs,
Keep running and your troubles will be far behind you...unless you get tired and rest. In that case, they will creep up quietly and engulf you in misery until you're able to break free and run again. I'd write more, but I've got to run.
T from the V

Three cheers to Pam of Brookline: the first girl to let me shove a popsicle up her rectum!
Randy

Media,
I miss you.
Freak

Post,
Five minutes. Isn't that a personal land speed record?
Stevens

Olive Clark,
Imagine me and you...I do...so happy togetheeeer-rrrr.
Miss you - I'll call you *right back*.
Butthead

Terry,
Real security is someone who loves and adores you, and stands by you, no matter what! I have *always* been there for you and Marc. I hate it when you leave – we're not the same, but so what. Let's talk any time/any place. Let's walk barefoot in the park. I love you, cutie-pie.
S.O.

Milkman, Milkman
Have you any cheese?
Yes sir, yes, sir.
But not after TODAY. I'm sick and TIRED of cheese.
Dammit.
Back to you, Kathy Lee.
Regis

To the Cliffs of Doomneen,
Do yourselves and everyone a favor! Learn to play original music! Phony hype gets you nowhere! Your music stinks, but not as much as your attitudes!
The public is always right!

Anne,
Only twice?
Stud

Paul,
What makes you think the accident was my fault? Considering the stupidity of your manuver, I should have sped up so that I could more damage than hit your fender. It's a good thing there were witnesses to your idiocy, because what you did was so asinine that nobody would believe me otherwise.
Mike

Deb,
Even LeeAnn thinks I'm in love with you. Imagine that.
Harvey's friend

Lady Behind the Window,
First you feed me tons of food, then you take it all away? Stop playing games with my mind. I have enough to worry about.
Mr. Squirrel

I read and enjoy this paper, but there's definitely something lacking. You really ought to consider giving the Poodle scene more coverage
A Concerned Reader

Trix
Thanks for the fax. I've added it to my collection. Good luck with whatever it is you're doin'. Yip. Yip. Yip.
-D



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IN THE LYONS DEN

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Patrick Lyons

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Bingeing On Bargains In Bins

Before school begins, this place is packed with mothers, their children and their feet, looking for (among many other things), running shoes, cleats, work boots, roller blades, plastic jellies and those touchingly plain canvas things we used to call sneakers. On an ordinary weekday, it is also merrily crowded with people stalking the wild deal. The stock here includes brand-name clothes (they can't be named, but they are the big and nudging-bigness names one is usually paying vastly too much for) that may be over-stocks, close-outs and, occasionally, the mildly-used. Pricing is done in an amusing way; a 10-letter word signifying one of the name brands you'll find here is written on the wall, with each letter of the word corresponding to a number from One to Zero. On the item there will be written two letters, from which you derive the often-shockingly low price of the item. This skinflint, whose last pair of running shoes seemed miraculous at $25 found the same shoes here for $12. Footwear includes sports, dress, casual and athletic shoes. Under $40 is the norm, often going as low as $5. Filling the bins of the hodgepodge here are sweats, socks, some baby clothes (those zip-up 'All-Over Suits') and raucously declarative sweat shirts, also some college ones. Brightly-colored high heels are probably the dressiest items here. The stock changes, is of course random and unpredictable in terms of size, but what a little bit you have to gamble to hit the jackpot. Open Tues.-Sat. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

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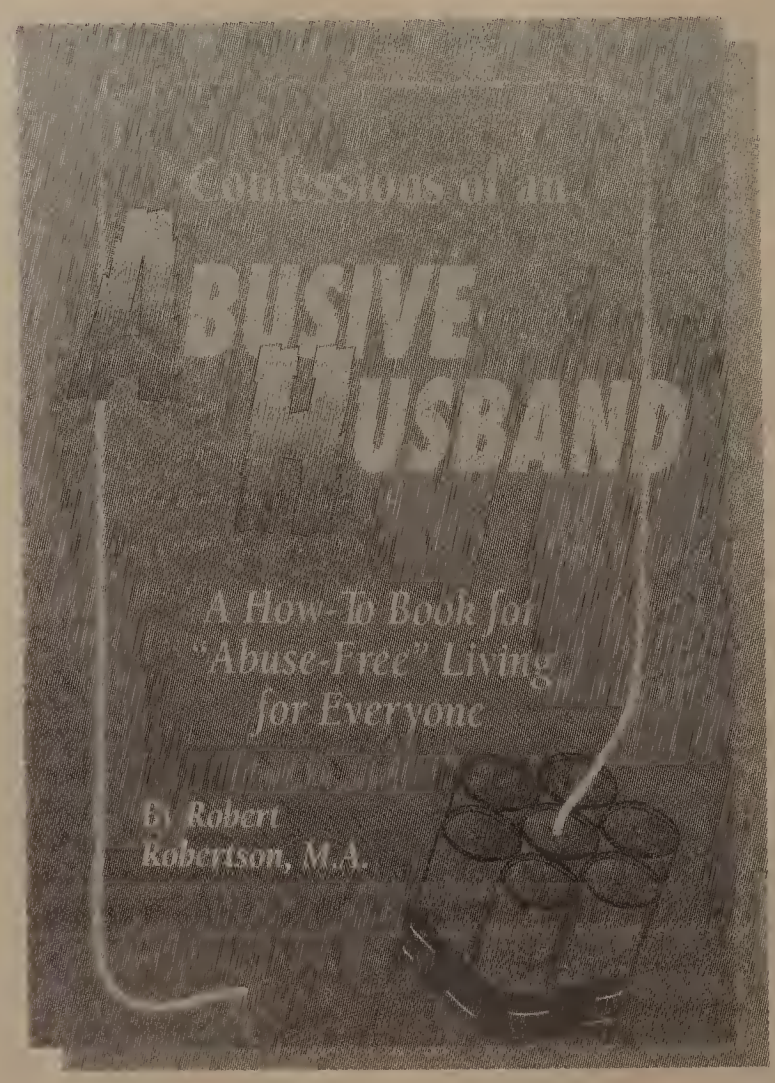
Society Of Arts And Crafts; Garden And Ocean, One Flight Up



Cooling relief from urban scorch can be found in the evocations of gardens and gardening (hold the actual nature) upstairs at the Society Of Arts And Crafts. Using a variety of media, these artists have brought together the whimsical and artistic with the practical. Katherine Pearson has, in a sort of pun of materials, made a bubbling fountain full of large stoneware "stones, set inside a pleasingly rounded bluey-black container; the "music" of the water can be changed by rearranging the stones ($525). Decorative recyclings of brightly-colored shovels, rakes and garden parts have become what Laura Utley calls "Yardbirds." Roxanne Lorey has used a built-in gardening self-reference by making large painted clay watering cans into – if not actual irrigators – decorative planters. Overhead fly Karen Rossi's outdoor tin sculptures; one is a golden-haired mermaid who has glopped and shopped a feast of lipstick and jewelry. Bill Heise's wittily flattened dark beasts include a tall metal impala. A fascinating indoors-only bench by Robert Mack displays asymmetry at every point, a study in pleasing lopsidedness. Across the hall from these pieces are seaside gardening pieces, including Eric O'Leary's table-that-could-be-a-seat (it's indented.) Michelle Van Slyke's large weather vane has a cat intersecting tantalizingly with a mouse; it's madly colorful and deliciously smooth, made of melted glass on steel. And theatrically suggestive are David Kiernan's Japanese Harmony Lanterns, in which the mere heat of a lightbulb causes a decorated paper inside a round lamp to swirl, casting pictures of fish, a mystery dream of the sea. A landlocked walk-up in summer could get a lift – so could a sea-theme party – from these salty visual riffs.

Garden Treasures II / The Society Of Arts and Crafts / 175 Newbury Street / (through July 3) / and 101 Arch Street / enter at 34 Summer St. (through July 30)

Condemned To Repeat It – Or Recover



Customarily, it is the victim of abuse who writes about her (or his) experience, so this book is surprisingly different. A man, chastened and cleansed in the fire of the suffering he has caused, and the suffering he has endured from his own father, has written the boldly-titled book: *Confessions of An Abusive Husband*. Robert Robertson describes, from the inside of both sides of abuse (the getting and the subsequent giving) how irrational and costly abuse is, sundering families, self-esteem, and human connection. After reading about how his father whipped him, to the point of producing welts, when he was 'teaching' the then-baby Robertson to walk, it doesn't seem too surprising that Robertson grew up to become a berating, explosive husband himself later on. Nor that what he describes as 12-years of hell, with himself as the guiltier party, ending in divorce. A worried baby picture and another post-roughing-up picture, with Robertson in an askew jacket, his terrified arms held stiffly at his sides, are sadly apt illustrations. He coins the term Emotionally Repressed Male (or ERM) for men who, while bursting with unresolved pain and shame, become abusers and batterers, and offers his own 12-Step Program to help them resolve their past feelings and change their present behavior. Both klieg-lit with anti-denial intensity and yet gentle in tone, the book names the fierce facts: abusers are self-centered, threatening, scornful, controlling, deceitful, addictive and, of course, have short tempers. Their arms may be full of the Mea Culpa Roses of Reconciliation, but they have short memories for the patterns that are horribly predictably, soon to happen again. Robertson deals with the forgiveness necessary to settle the past, and, along with help for the internal process of healing, also gives very concrete advice for dealing with ones' spouse, and handling ones' anger in the ongoing present where the dangers of relapse need to be vigilantly monitored. That Robertson made major changes is inspiring testimony that others can, too. One copy, mail order, is $10.95 plus $2.50 postage; 2-5 copies are $10 each plus $3.00 postage per order. Six or more copies are $9 each, no postage.

***Confessions Of An Abusive Husband* / Heritage Park Publishing Company / P.O. Box 126 / Lake Oswego, OR 97031 / (800) 275-2606 or (503) 697-1767**

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, The Boston Globe, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. *Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146*

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6 In The Lyons Den



Patrick Lyons rules Lansdowne Street with a velvet, claws-sheathed paw. He and his organization, the Lyons Groups, entertain you every night you're at the Alley Cat, M80, Stitches, Avalon and many, many other clubs. Who is this man who would rule your social life?

By Korina Kontogianni and Chad Sanborn

25 Where the Fig-were-we?



The calm, sweet island of Nantucket is annually transformed, on Memorial weekend, to a place of civilized chaos in the form of the Figawi sailboat race. Controlled debauchery, tasteful craziness and general feelings of sun-blessed goodwill make this a weekend not soon for-got (or recovered from). Lauren Dare takes a red-eyed look back..

.by Lauren Dare

27 Shop 'Til You Drop



For those who can never buy enough wonderful baubles, bubbkes and delights – those who could spend 13.5 hours a day merely working their way, with skill and care, through the wilds of off price shopping – we present Boston's Best Buys. Finally, one definitive spot to find those fantastic things, at fantastic prices.

by Sharyn Fireman



On The Cover

Pat Lyons

Hair by Vincent Cox

Photographed by: Mim Michelove

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The Issue at Hand



Mim Michelove

It seems that I am going to have to exceed my one-column-per-year quota due to a few recent jibes taken by the cantankerous twist-and-tell gossip twins at the *Herald*.

Their column condemns I.B. writer Mopsy Strange Kennedy for writing a piece about Super Socks in Kenmore Square, of which I.B. Food Editor Peter McNamara is a part owner. Seems kinda suspicious though; the *Phoenix* and *Globe* thought enough of the store to each do a piece on it. Maybe the *Herald* was just too busy digging up "dirt."

Yep, Gail and Laura, you caught us red-handed, fingers in the cookie jar. The *Columbia Journalism Review* may have to overlook the *Improper's* foiled attempts at a Pulitzer. But life's full of disappointments. While on the lesson of *proper* journalism, tabloid queens: Biba has not signed the deal to go into Pastavino's location, yet. Check your sources before, or did you not have enough material to fill Thursday's column?

On the other side of things, this issue marks further change in the makeup of the *Improper*. We now welcome a few new names to our growing masthead: Music scribe, Paul Robicheau who will be writing a column entitled the "Sound View" and Sharyn Fireman, shopping maven extraordinaire, who will be riding the bargain circuit in search of *Boston's Best Buys* for her new column. Additionally, take a peek at the writing of a "daring" woman imbibing and scribing her way through Memorial Day Weekend's Figawi boat race to become the Hunter S. Thompson of the 20-something gen. Lauren Dare takes a raucous romp through the bars and boats of Nantucket to bring this vodka-tonic inspired excuse for missing the race.

So read on, and watch out for the cheap shots.

Improperly Yours,

Mark Semonian

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The Improper Bostonian

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PROFILES

DUSTY RHODES

Boston's Main Event

BY NICOLE L. MILLS



On the wall behind her desk is a framed quote that says "The world is not interested in the storms you encountered...but did you bring in the ship?" Dusty (it's a nickname left over from her tomboy childhood) Rhodes, the president of Conventures, the biggest special event planning firm in New England, brought in the ships all right. Last summer, as the director of Sail Boston '92, she brought tall ships from around the world, hordes of tourists, international recognition, and millions of dollars to Massachusetts.

When asked how she pulled off "the biggest event in New England history," she replies, "With a lot of patience, a lot of diplomacy, and a great sense of humor." She uses sports analogies frequently to describe her command strategy: "[My business] is run like a pro-football team. Pro football has been much more instrumental in my business strategy than anything else, because in football, it's a business, and it's based on only one thing, and that's winning. Week to week and season to season, you either win enough games, or you're fired...and so that's sort of the strategy around here, and has been from day one."

Sail Boston was not only a huge financial success (it generated over half a billion dollars in revenues) but set a precedent for future endeavors by proving that Boston could pull off an event of this magnitude. Making an event that size run so smoothly goes a long way towards convincing people that Massachusetts is a great place to hold events and festivals, and Dusty has almost single-handedly put tourism on the state agenda.

"Tourism is the industry of the future, and one that everyone can grow. You can't grow the bio-technology field in Massachusetts, but we can bring tourism here."

For new projects, Dusty has teamed up with veteran concert promoter Don Law to plan festivals for 1993 and 1994. "As far as the Don Law connection, it's kind of strange, he's been in business twenty-five years in New England," she says. "We've been in business 17-going-on-18 years, and we'd never met...but there was an instant business 'click.' We saw a great future in public festivals."

Some of their upcoming events include the Boston Shootout showcasing outstanding high school basketball players, and the American Bar-B-Q Boston Round-Up. What are the similarities between promoting a concert and doing a special event?

"They're both a logistics nightmare!" she laughs. "Both our staffs laugh at us because it's like, 'I don't care if you're tired, I don't care if it's four o'clock in the morning, let's go.' That's what the plan was, and we're doing it!"



SARA EDWARDS

T.V. Diva

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

Sara Edwards is part actress and part stunt woman. On any given day, she can be seen square dancing, fire walking, skydiving, or yes, even sumo wrestling across your television screen. For years, Boston has watched as she's introduced us to quirky characters and kept us abreast of the latest trends. "I don't quite understand my job," Edwards says, as she shrugs her shoulders and lifts one eyebrow inquisitively. "I just go with the flow...I get paid to be a good sport."

Edwards has the chameleon-like resilience and the adventuresome spirit it takes to be the lifestyles reporter for WHDH-TV, Channel 7. She is a self-proclaimed ham and curiosity-seeker, and it is hard to imagine her ever being the "gawky, shy" adolescent she says she was.

"I like going out and doing stories where I can participate," she says, her hands gesticulating with every word she utters. "Then the viewers can vicariously come along."

On certain days, Edwards does admit to feeling more than her share of sensory overload. "I do some of the weirdest stuff," she says, as her voice rises. "One day it's the Boston Pops...and the next day I'm walking on hot coals. I've learned," she adds, "to be open minded."

Edwards exudes enthusiasm and energy. She seems to thrive on the spontaneous and frenetic lifestyle of a reporter. And though she is a "high-energy" person, she is far from being anything like skittish.

Quite the contrary; she has found the delicate balance between earthy and eccentric. "I could be very cool and sound like I've just taken EST courses and meditated," she says as she critiques her on-air personality, "But that's not me."

Edwards thoroughly enjoys what she does, but it's the long-form interview that she wishes to explore more in-depth. "All I have time for now are cute little five-second sound bytes," she says slightly exasperated. "There are times when I wish I had more time to talk...to find out what makes people tick."

She stops a moment and reminisces about past interviews she found exceptionally gratifying. "I mean, when you interview people and you get to that moment where you break through...you connect...it really is special." ❑

HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

9 Feeling lucky? Want to roll the dice and play the odds? Head to Europa (51 Stuart Street) for a little mid-week gambling at the **Give Kids a Chance Casino Night**, supporting the MSPCC. Starts 8 p.m., $10 at the door. Call 227-2280.

THURSDAY

10 Work is through; it's almost the weekend. What better way to kick it off then by heading over to Copley Square Park and relaxing as the WBOS/92.9 FM **Earthwatch Concert Series** presents "1964," a special Beatles tribute. The two-hour, free concert start at 5:30 p.m. Call 254-9267.



CROON
Michael Feinstein wows them at the Roxy, June 19

FRIDAY

11 Mickey Mantle. Baseball fans shudder with delight at the mere mention of his name, and today, from 4-10 p.m. at Boston College H.S. (Morrissey Boulevard), his most-sought-after Rookie Card (worth $45,000) is on display at the **New England Card Show IV.** Tickets are $4; call 247-4112.

SATURDAY

12 Guitar freaks young and old, dealers, displayers and collectors should sprint over to the Park Plaza Hotel today and tomorrow for the **First Annual Boston Guitar Show.** A $6 tickets gets you an eyeful of the best acoustics and electrics around. Show runs 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Call 766-8657.

SUNDAY

13 There is no excuse for missing an event as glorious as the 9th Annual **Tailgate Picnic at Myopia Polo Club,** Hamilton. The $35 ticket benefits the National Kidney Foundation, as does the silent auction and wine tasting. Note: you *must* wear a fantastique hat. Starts at 1 p.m.; call 326-7225.

MONDAY

14 The title **"Love, Lust & Laughs, Shakespeare Style"** is enough reason to go see tonight's 7 p.m. Full Moon Theatre show (at the Tsai Performance Center, 688 Commonwealth Ave.). A better reason is the cast of local theatrical luminaries who are putting on this creative black-tie event. Tickets are $25; call 353-8724.

TUESDAY

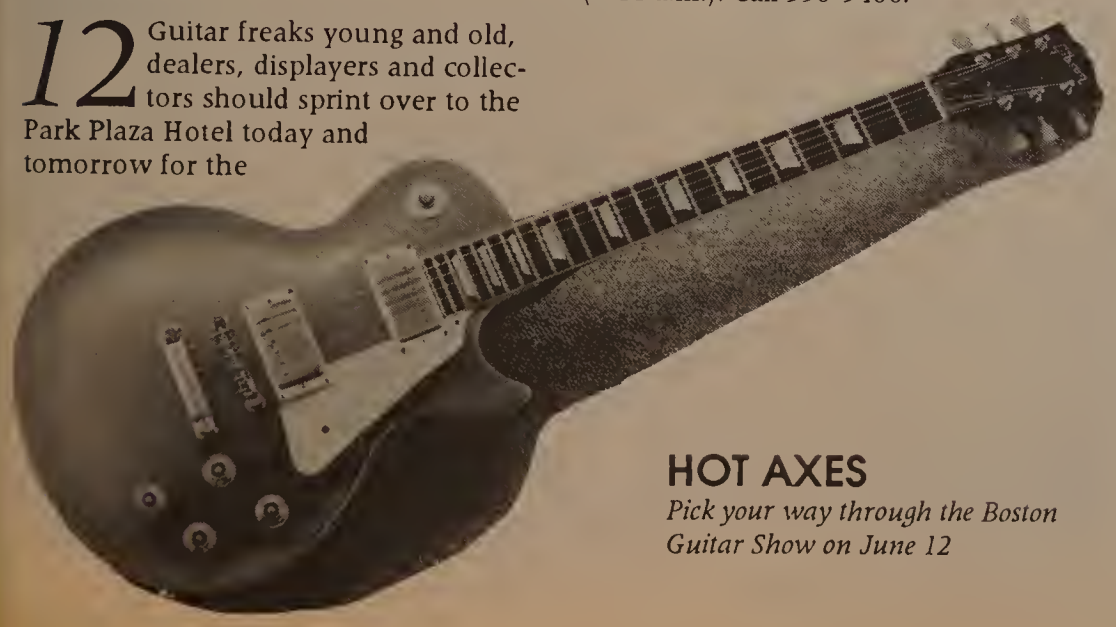
15 One never loses the love for the jiggly, squiggly joy that is jello. So grab this opportunity to hop into 1100 gallons of the gelatinous. At 7 p.m. at the Hilton at Dedham Place **Gello Jump**, you can take the plunge, while benefiting the Leukemia Society of America. Call 329-9944 for info.

WEDNESDAY

16 Bloomsday now at the Beehan (celebrating the 1904 Dublin Spring Day), presents an actors' **Tribute to James Joyce**, including readings of *Ulysses, Portrait of an Artist As a Young Man* and *Finnegans Wake.* Starts at 9:30 p.m., at 378 Centre Street, Jamaica Plain; free. Call 522-5386.

THURSDAY

17 If you know, love or just plain want beautiful, antique jewelry, rush over to Heritage on the Garden, 63 Park Plaza at noon for the **Skinner Fine Jewelry Auction.** If you want a sneak peak, attend a preview first (9-11 a.m.). Call 350-5400.



HOT AXES
Pick your way through the Boston Guitar Show on June 12



HOT PICK
Beautiful hats, antique autos, pounding hooves and flowing champagne...live the good life at the Myopia Polo Club Tailgate picnic, on June 13

FRIDAY

18 Wacky, weird and generally pretty damn entertaining, **The Amazing Jonathan** zips into town tonight for a show at Nick's Comedy Stop for two shows (8:30 and 10:30 p.m.). Tickets to see this mouthy magician/juggler/ sword-swallower/comic are $14. Call 338-8337.

SATURDAY

19 No matter what happens, do *not* miss the **Michael Feinstein** concert at the Roxy (279 Tremont St.) tonight. Feinstein is fabulous, crooning Gershwin and Cole Porter classics to only you. This show ($50 a head) benefits the American Red Cross, a most worthy cause. Show starts 7:30, dancing follows. Call 227-ROXY.

SUNDAY

20 The 21st Annual **Boston Shootout Championship**, the nation's premier high-school basketball tourney, wraps up today (began Friday). Raw b-ball talent will blow across the Boston Garden floor in the championship game, Slam Dunk and Three-Point competitions. For tickets ($6 and $8, benefiting the Boys and Girls Club), call 931-3100.

MONDAY

21 Head straight to the Theatre Lobby (216 Hanover Street) for an **"Old Fashioned Mayoral Rally,"** from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Former boxer Tony DeMarco will help Tom Menino, Rosaria Salerno, John Nucci, Bruce Bolling, Bob Rufo, Jim Brett and others throw their hats into the ring. Entrance is free; call 242-3715.

TUESDAY

22 Do the words "free food, door prizes, dancing, volleyball" attract you? Then how about loosening up mid-week and hitting the **Muscular Dystrophy Association's Coors Summer Splash**? This summer blowout will be held at the Tent at Marina Bay from 6:30-11 p.m.; tickets are $10. Call 461-0310.

IN THE LYONS DEN

By Korina Kontogianni and Nicole L. Mills

With Help From J.D. Tuccille and Chad Sanborn

The heat pours off every sweaty body within twenty feet, the bass pumping a beat so hard and so furious that the room seems to move with every pulse. It's dark, it's humid, it's fantastic. Off to the side, patrons stand, staring at the action, drinking, screaming to be heard into each other's ears. The flirting is hard and heavy. It's a Saturday night at Venus di Milo, in the heart of Lansdowne Street, and the crowd is going nuts.

Off on a balcony, a discerning pair of eyes soaks in the scene, processing and dissecting the nuances of the cavorting masses below. Sycophants approach him: "How's it going, Patrick, how's business?" He smiles politely with his Kennedyesque jaw and piercing stare, makes small talk, looks away impatiently. Adrenalized and ready to move, he glides off with one word to a young, attractive blond clinging to his arm. They're interrupted numerous times by hangers-on and wannabe FOP's (Friends Of Patrick) on their way out.

Boston is a city notorious for early closing hours, contentious neighborhood activists and a communal suspicion towards passing trends. A city where liquor licenses are rationed like war-era sugar by officials who were nursed on the twin teats of Puritanism and Irish Catholic Guilt. Yet it is in this very city that Patrick Lyons and his Lyons Group Management Company have created an unrivaled entertainment dynasty, whose roster of establishments is almost as long and impressive as the lines to get in them.

You can't spill a drink in this city, without hitting one of the Lyons' dens, which are always on the rising tide of the public's demand for hot, hip, night-time entertainment. The current roster includes all the obvious names in Boston bar-hopping.

Avalon, Axis, Bill's Bar and Venus di Milo on Lansdowne Street. M80 and Paradise on Commonwealth Avenue. Zanzibar, Avenue C, the Sweetwater Cafe, Sticky Mike's and the Alley Cat Lounge in the Boylston Place alley. Stitches and Universal Joint on Beacon Street. Quest in the Fenway. And, as if all these weren't enough, Lyons is also rumored to be a silent partner in Boston's Hard Rock Cafe, House of Blues in Cambridge and Marais/Esmé in the Theater District.

When it comes to the world inhabited by denizens of the dark, Lyons is native smart. As one of the stories swirling around him has it, Patrick Lyons single-handedly created Boston's nightlife in six days, and on the seventh, he remodeled. What accounts for his uncanny ability to read the social scene and predict the rise and demise of trends?

His newest venue is a club based on author Douglas Coupland's "Generation X" concept. Targeting the twenty-something generation and keying into this generational vibe – a distaste for low-pay, dead-end McJobs, contrived music, and all things baby boomerish – Lyons struck pay dirt again. Marketers have just come to understand the collective economic clout of the 46 million members of this X generation, the second largest group of young adults in US history, and as usual, Lyons has a jump on the competition.

If Lyons seems pleased with the club (located inside Quest on Thursday nights), he has reason to be so. With its labyrinthine dark, narrow corridors and multiple levels, Gen X is succeeding with the channel-surfing-as-a-way-of-life crowd. The place pulses with hip-hop life, its different levels offering the easily-



The Heart of His Kingdom: Patrick Lyons on Lansdowne Street

Interviewing Club Impresario Patrick Lyons

bored with options, options, options. It's designed, as all his clubs, with great attention to detail, not unlike the way master of fantasy worlds, Walt Disney, might have done it if he were into nightclubs.

Lyons has been characterized as a wunderkind and a seer in a business not customarily known for grand creative foresight. "People tend to credit Lyons with almost supernatural instincts for knowing how to attract spendthrift sybarites at play," Boston Globe columnist John Robinson notes. Lyons' tastes are diverse, refined by his penchant for world travel and the good life.

Lyons is known to move about as often as possible, jetting off for a Martha's Vineyard restaurant opening, or for an idea-generating jaunt in middle Europe. He golfs, and spends times with charity organizations. He dines out in Boston's trendiest: Olive's, Jae's Cafe, Biba. There's always a new and beautiful woman on his arm. Not bad for a kid from Buffalo.

Patrick Lyons got his start in the blink-and-you'll-miss-it night club business where he grew up in upstate New York. The former altar boy (Lyons was raised, along with his four brothers, by his mother alone – his father left the family when he was a child) opted out of the college route and landed a bartending job at a bar owned by Cincinnati-based Avents Corp. Avents allowed him to cut his management teeth in several cities, Detroit, Minneapolis and eventually Nantasket Beach.

In 1977, he was hired away by a competitor, Beta Corporation, to manage their disco clubs New York-New York in New York City and eventually Boston-Boston (presently Avalon) here. Paying his dues in the late-1970s New York glam nightclub scene and exposed to the likes of Studio 54's Steve Rubell and a host of imitators, Lyons learned the ins and outs of the business.

Then, in Boston, Lyons orchestrated the sale of Boston-Boston from his new boss to his old employer, and took over as manager. By 1980, he was the regional manager of four clubs. When the whole nightclub chain came up for sale, Lyons was ready to make his move on the Boston locations.

Understanding the importance of relating the hype and glitz of nightclubs to the bottom line, Lyons carefully forged a partnership with CPA Ed Sparks. Sparks, through solid financials stemming from his big eight corporate background, was able to attract an impressive group of investors which include the rock promoter Don Law, George Lewis of the swank eatery 29 Newbury and adventurer Richard Wilson. Quite a roster, and quite a reflection on the man. As Sparks said in an earlier interview, "We weren't investing in a nightclub. We were investing in Patrick."

The rest is golden history, with the popularity of the Lyons Group clubs attested to by the throngs of libidinous patrons waiting to get in to Avalon or M80 or Zanzibar on any given weekend night. Diversity pulls at the masses; there's a Lyons club for practically everyone. To further the variety of options, Lyons now rotates nights at the clubs. On one night a club caters to the flashy, Euro crowd; the next, you may find a gay target audience.

Each club has a carefully-chosen personality, and a coinciding marketing focus. Like Avalon, with its disco-gone-nineties feeling. Or Sweetwater Cafe, with its rough-floored Southwestern charm. Or even Axis, with more body parts pierced per inch than you'll find anywhere else in Beantown.

Though Lyons is elusive when the talk of revenue figures arises, he does state that he wishes the Lyons Group were one-tenth as successful as some people think. "If we are not profitable, we don't have an organization," Lyons says flatly. "[But] there is a popular misconception about the money we are making – the reality is different."

While the actual balance sheets remain shrouded in rumor and gossip, some estimates have placed his empire's worth in the thirty million dollar range. The highest percentage is derived from the bar, followed by admission/door revenues, memberships and the hosting of corporate events.

You could say that the sun never rises on the Lyons empire. But suggest that Patrick Lyons is the man who controls Boston's nightlife, and you'll get an earful. "People are misinformed if they believe that," Lyons bristles. "There are 700 licenses in Boston. We operate a dozen of them. That is not what I call control."

"Ten years ago," he adds, "when we started, there were three nightclubs in town. We had one of them....As far as I'm concerned, bring [on] all the nightclubs, restaurants, social situations. It doesn't hurt us. People gain from competition, more options; everyone wins."

With the nightclub industry in general characterized by shoebox accounting and a lack of effective management, it's easy to see why Lyons is so successful. More than his innate ability to smell out the coming thing before it hits, it's Lyons' ability to focus on the bottom line that makes his organization tick. That, and a business philosophy that would do management guru Tom Peters proud. Case in point: Patrick is always quick to deflect praise and compliments away from himself, onto the people in his organization.

"Part of today's success is getting the right people from the start," he says. "[The members of our group] are all nice guys, and successful business people themselves."

His managers are said to be tied into an elaborate bonus and incentive system, and are given a heavy level of autonomy and independence. It is not uncommon to find people in their young twenties managing clubs for Lyons. And his staff is surprisingly well-educated, clean-cut and capable, an uncommon denominator in the club business.

His corporation is also known for an uncommon level of community involvement and interaction. "This is a corporate understanding, that we have to...give back [to the community]," Lyons explains. "It's a way of doing business.

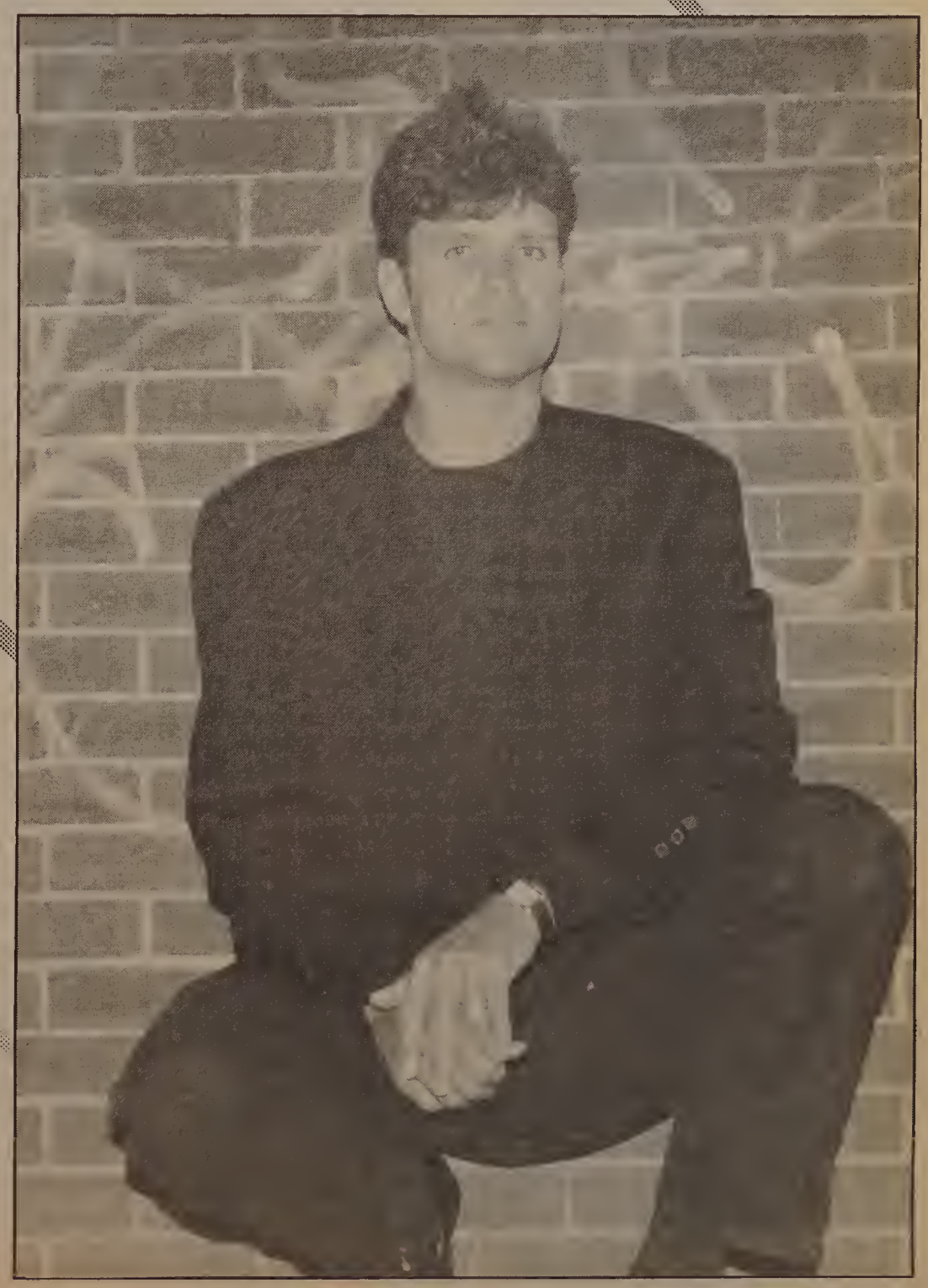
The Lyons clubs (especially Avalon) are some of the hottest spots to host a charity fund-raiser these days. Boston, home of the conservative venture, has few venues that offer as flashy or as hip a place to host benefits. Since many established Boston charities are in need of fresh, younger blood (both in terms of membership and in terms of donors), a cutting-edge location appeals.

"We have not just decided to do that because it's the 90s, we were here since 1978. We have our differences of opinions [with the community], but that's fine too. It is a controversial business we operate in. You have to mix the needs of the neighborhood, your guests, the regulatory agencies and your profitability as a company. Multiply that out with a number of places we have," he adds, "and it becomes very complicated."

Even with all his successes, Lyons still has his share of frustrations and disappointments. "I get disgusted sometimes with certain sections of people that have opinions that are opposed to entertainment. New conservatism," he says heatedly, "is a dam of bullshit.

"I'm sure the people that think this way never did other things. As soon as they got out of the monastery," he sarcastically adds, "they moved right in their little jobs and their neighborhood."

So what's next for the club czar? In the wake of the caffeine-fueled Seattle scene, and with the decline of alcohol consumption, Lyons' next project might be coffee houses. Since a recent trip to Czechoslovakia, he's been talking about a real "Kafka and Mozart" coffee house, with the "real flavor [based on] the people who originally hung out in coffee houses." Keep your eyes peeled.



Comedy / Ross Garmil

Kevin Meany Returns to Town

". . .He walks onto the stage as ball of energy, singing, dancing and poking his eyes out. . ."

Told by the oracle of Apollo that their child was destined to grow up to kill his father and marry his mother, the parents of Oedipus left the infant alone on a hilltop to be killed by the elements. However, a shepherd discovered the baby and adopted it. When Oedipus learned of the prophecy, he fled his home to be to far away from who he thought were his parents, in order to avert his destiny.

Along the way he unknowingly killed his natural father, the king of Thebes, and assumed the throne of the city by marrying the queen, his natural mother. When he realized that he had indeed murdered his father and married his mother, Oedipus blinded himself and fled Thebes, where he had committed his crimes against man, nature and the gods.

Kevin Meaney's relationship with his mother is not as close as Oedipus,' but they talk often. She's also a major part of his comedy routine. From poking his eye out to wearing big pants, his comedy mother comprises a large portion of Meaney's act. But, according to the comedian, his real life mother is much different. The mother on stage is a character he developed while living in Boston, where he began his comedy career. "She knows it's not her," Meaney explains. "It's a little bit of my mother, and a little bit of my mother if she raised us in Boston."

IF YOU GO

Kevin Meaney

Comedy Connection
at Faneuil Hall
Thursday, June 10
7:15 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.
Fri. June 11 & Sat. June 12
8:30 p.m. & 10:45 p.m.

Meaney's ties to the city are almost as strong as if he grew up in Boston. He developed not only characters but also his entire brand of comedy during his tenure here during the early eighties. That was during the height of Boston's comedy empire, back when the Boston comedians were among the larger stars on the American comedy scene, and had the ability to control the quality of the talent in the city. "It was like Al Capone was running the town," Meaney jests. "I was let in because I was Irish Catholic; I lucked out."



STRIKE A POSE: *Kevin Meaney seated like his "good friend" Madonna*

He recalls another of his trademark routines, his "Man on the Street" interviews which involve not only the club audiences, but at times rigging a monitor in the club and leaving the premises to speak with people on the streets outside. "I used to do that in Boston," he reminisces. "Every Wednesday night I'd take the camera out on Comm. Ave., and I would stop traffic. A cop once actually handcuffed me to the meter and left me there, and the audience left. I had to finish the show outside handcuffed. The cop thought it was really funny."

Meaney's comedy is difficult to define. Like his influences, Jonathan Winters and Steve Martin, his jokes are the highlight of his act. Meaney's humor comes from his performance. He walks onto stage as a ball of energy, singing, dancing, and poking his eyes out, keeping the momentum until he finishes the act with his now-famous impersonation of the entire chorus of singers in "We Are the World."

"I did it the first night [the song] came out and I got an unbelievable reaction. It just grew from there," boasts Meaney. The upshot is, while his material is great, it's really his energy and personality that are the highlights of his talent.

Since his performance relies so strongly upon his hyperactivity, Meaney's preparation for shows is essential. So how does he ready himself to go out on stage and give an audience his all? "Well, I travel with a crack pipe," he jokes. Because after all, joking is what Kevin Meaney does best. ❑

"A great club... NICK'S COMEDY STOP ...My Old Stomping Ground."- Jay Leno

Coming to the Stop!!

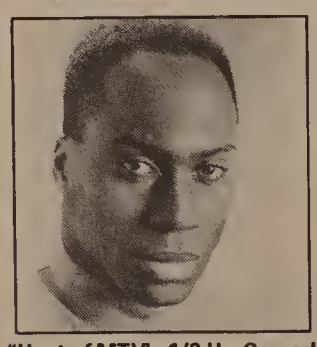
Jimmy "J.J." Walker — "He's Dyn-O-Mite!!!" (June 11-12)



Amazing Johnathan — "Penn & Teller As A Solo Act" (June 18-19)



Mario Joiner — "Host of MTV's 1/2 Hr. Comedy Hour" (June 25-26)



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Fri. 6/11 thru Sun. 6/13- Steve Hurley, Chuck Sklar, Warren Hutcherson. Fri. 6/18 thru Sat. 6/20- Political Impressionist Jim Morris.

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B7, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 6/9- Mike McDonald, Jim David. Thu. 6/10 thru Sat. 6/12- Greg Fitzsimmons, Kevin Meaney. Sun. 6/13 7:30p.m.- Rich Ceisler. Sun. 6/13 9:30p.m.- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 6/14- Kevin Knox, Al Ducharme. Tue. 6/15- Al Ducharme, D.J. Hazard. Wed. 6/16- Al Ducharme, Mike McDonald. Thu. 6/17- Al Ducharme, Anthony Clark. Fri. 6/18- Anthony Clark. Sat. 6/19- Don Gavin, Anthony Clark. Sun. 6/20- Chris Rock. Mon. 6/21- Tony Gilmore, Kevin Knox. 6/22- Tony Gilmore, D.J. Hazard.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $8. Always packed and second hand smoky.
Fri. 6/11 & Sat. 6/12- Dave Westahl, Jon Steiner, Tom Pourrier, Brad Mastrangelo. Fri. 6/18 & Sat. 6/19- Bob Sheehey, Sue Bartlett, Larry Norton.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's
C6, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 9:30p.m. Admission $10. Fri. 6/11 & Sat. 6/12- "Boston's Best Standup Showcase" featuring John David. Fri. 6/18 & Sat. 6/19- "Boston's Best Standup Showcase" featuring Dick Doherty.

Nick's Comedy Stop
C6, 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.
Wed. 6/9- Vinnie Favorito, Nick Gaza. Thu. 6/10- Paul DiAngelo, Jimmy Walker. Fri. 6/11 & Sat. 6/12- Frank Santorelli, Ed Regine, Jimmy Walker. Sun. 6/13- Kevin Knox. Mon. 6/14- Billy Martin. Tue. 6/15- Jim Lauletta, Peter Berman. Wed. 6/16- Peter Berman, Vinnie Favorito. Thu. 6/17- Paul DiAngelo, The Amazing Jonathan. Fri. 6/18 & Sat. 6/19- Steve Sweeney, Paul Gilligan, The Amazing Jonathan. Sun. 6/20- Kevin Knox. Mon. 6/21- Billy Martin. Tue. 6/22- Jim Lauletta.

Stitches
D4, 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu.: The Dating Game, Hosted by Billy Martin. Every Sun.: Comedy Riot Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.
Wed. 6/9- Women in Comedy featuring Janine Ditulio. Fri. 6/11 8:30p.m.- Frank Santos. Sat. 6/12- Chris McGuire, Tony V. Tue. 6/15 & Wed. 6/16- Headliner Showcase. Fri. 6/18 8:30p.m.- Frank Santos. Sat. 6/19- Rich Ceisler, Tom Hayes..

CITY RAVE

COMPILED BY JON KOOKER

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

RECORDINGS

***janet.* by Janet Jackson.** Musical boundaries fade into one bold collection, as Michael's favorite sister comes back with a vengeance, plus an innovative new style of her own. From rock to funk to jazz to rap, listeners get a little bit of everything in this CD, which also features *Public Enemy's* Chuck D. and opera great Kathleen Battle.



***Earth and Sun and Moon*, Midnight Oil.** Australia's finest rock and roll activists are back and stoking the political flames with a new CD. Listen for tunes that harkens back to their early surf-punk days. Drummer/songwriter Rob Hirst puts it best: "It's quite grungy."



SCREENINGS

***Midburb*,** directed by Zachary Stratis. Donut shops, Trans-Ams, and big, big hair all highlight the cultural landscape of Everett, MA, in Stratis' award-winning film. Based on his own home town, *Midburb* reminds us that identity is something deeper than superficial appearances.



BOOKS

***Notes From The Underground*, Eric Bogosian** (Hyperion, $9.95). Through the somewhat disturbing diary entries of an urban recluse, Bogosian mixes social commentary with a ferocious sardonic humor, probing the dark side of American pop culture. Also included is the author's new play in three acts, snapping at the absurdity of the Hollywood studio system.



GETAWAYS

Designed for beginners and experts alike, the **"Great Escape Downhill Weekend"** offers Bostonians a release from the corporate confines, for a weekend of cycling and white-water rafting high in the scenic Berkshires. Fee includes four meals, accommodations, and the time of your life, all only two hours away. For information, call Explorations in Travel (802) 257-0152.

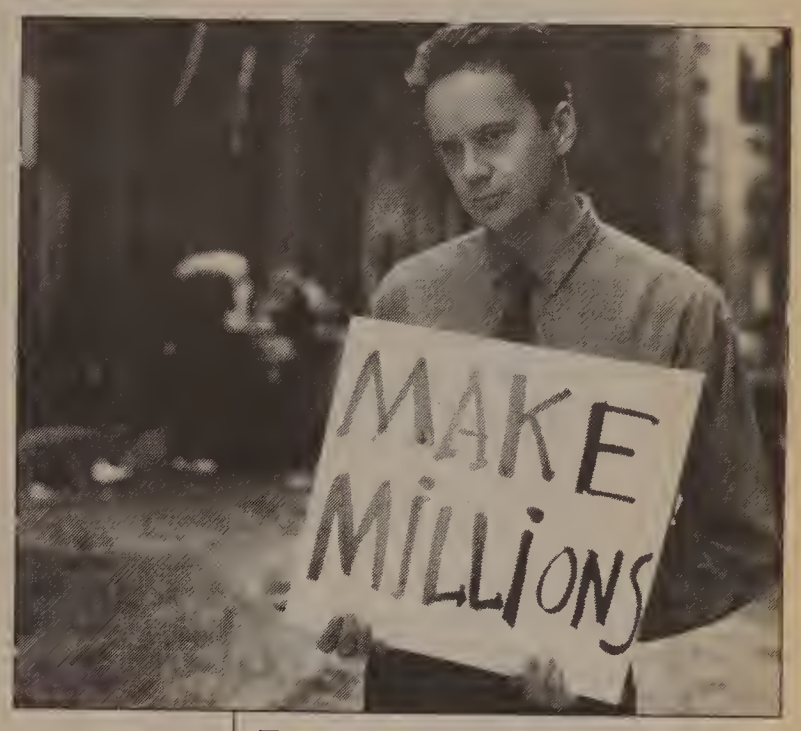
CHARITY TEE

Elton John Hard Rock Cafe Signature Series T-Shirt. Pop's keyboard crooner joins the likes of John Lennon, Stevie Nicks, and Queen with his own original T-Shirt design. On sale now at the Hard Rock (131 Clarendon), a portion of the proceeds benefit the Elton John Aids Foundation, Inc. Go now, before the lines form.



VIDEO

***Bob Roberts*,** directed by Tim Robbins. If you liked *The Player*, you can't miss Robbins as the folk-singing , right-wing rebel politician in this timely political satire, that hits the nail (and the viewer) right on the head. Shoulda won awards...



RESTAURANT

Il Nido, 257 North Street. (Map, 7B). Boston's hottest new authentic Italian eatery is located in the old Ottavio's location in the North End. Be sure to arrive early to beat the lines, this place is going to be big.

TECHNOLOGY

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FASHION

Walk to the beat of your own drummer? If so, jump into hyper space with Vidal Sasoon's latest hair creation, **"Jet Girl."** Beam down to Newbury Street for this international new look that will be sure to help you live long and prosper. Or at least, get stares.



FLICKS IN A FLASH

KEY	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

DRAGON: THE BRUCE LEE STORY
★★★

As do so many bio pics, *Dragon* promotes the legend more than it portrays the man, and it keeps up a rushed "and then he...and then he...." pace, as music swells to let you know something important is happening. Jason Scott Lee as Bruce Lee (no relation) is a charmer. The kung fu fights are flashy, if bloody, set pieces which propel the story. Above all, the movie is an exposé on racism: Lee watches Mickey Rooney play a buck-toothed Oriental buffoon in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*; he promotes the idea for the successful TV. series, *Kung Fu*, but loses the lead to a Caucasian; Chinese martial arts masters condemn Lee for teaching whites. Ironically, Bruce Lee comes across as an all-American hero. K. WILSON

DAVE
★★★★

Ivan Reitman's Capra-esque comedy gleefully sticks it to the Republicans. Kevin Kline is a delight as Dave Kovic, an exuberant,-generous, small-town guy who so resembles the President (a mean, tight-assed Yalie) that he becomes his full-time stand-in. Dave's agenda – giving people in need top priority – pits him against Bob, his reptilian Chief of Staff (the wonderful Frank Langella) and allies him with the estranged First Lady (Sigourney Weaver). Like its hero, the film is high-spirited, but it loses its edge and becomes cloying whenever more than one "nice" person is on the screen at a time. *Dave* is to the Fourth Estate and the Beltway what *The Player* is to Hollywood.. K. WILSON

EL MARIACHI
★★★★

Twenty-four-year-old director Robert Rodriguez made this action picture for $7,000, and it's great fun. A young mariachi singer (co-writer Carlos Gallardo) gets caught in the middle of a deadly feud between a vicious drug lord (Moco who always wears white) and his partner Azul (who always wears black, even though his name means "blue"). The movie opens with a cleverly edited prison ambush sequence and speeds towards its *Road Warrior*-like conclusion. Rodriguez gets good comic mileage out of inanimate objects such as portable phone and beer bottles, and he even paves the way for a sequel. The amateur cast is surprisingly good. In Spanish. K. WILSON

INDECENT PROPOSAL
★

Diana (Demi Moore) and David Murphy (Woody Harrelson) are deeply in love (they have sex and say "I love you," a lot). But they are desperate for money, so when a handsome billionaire (Robert Redford) offers them a million dollars for a night with Diana, they take him up on it and then have to pay the piper. There's no denying director Adrian Lyne's considerable talent; he keeps this insubstantial soufflé rising until the very end when it collapses into a sweet and sticky puddle. Like *Pretty Woman, Indecent Proposal* is a cynical paean to our consumer society disguised as a romance. So why weren't Demi's clothes as nice as Julia's? K. WILSON

LÉOLO
★★

Fat, raw meat, flies, and feces: all figure prominently in Jean-Claude Lauzon's *Léolo*. As do words, dreams, poetry, madness, and sunken treasure. A young boy from a Montreal slum calls himself Léolo (he dreams of Italy) and writes obsesslvely about himself and his grotesque family: his stupid, piggish father who's obsessed with bowel movements; his lewd grandfather who pays the young girl next girl to suck his toes; his dear, slow-witted brother whose overgrown muscles can't protect him from his own cowardice. You know things had gotten out of hand when the untimely death of Léolo's pet flies is upsetting. The film is surreal, dark, and despairing. In French. K. WILSON

MAP OF THE HUMAN HEART
★★

Director Vincent Ward's latest film about an Innuit Eskimo (Jason Scott Lee) and the half-Indian, half-European love of his life (Anne Parillaud), who become caught up in the marvels and the horrors of the white man's world, is a clunker. Big chunks of the movie don't connect; they're like icebergs breaking off from the mainland and floating away. Ward bombards us with images: X-rays and maps appear so often that they lose their meaning; too many show-stopping aerial shots do just that: stop the show and overwhelm the viewer. But better a magnificent clunker than a mediocre "success" any day. K. WILSON

MENACE II SOCIETY
★★

The comparison with *Boyz N the Hood* is inevitable, except that *Boyz* gives you reason to hope; *Menace* doesn't. Twenty-year-old directors Allen and Albert Hughes show how one generation passes on to the next a legacy of violent, destructive behavior, emotional numbness, and hopelessness. Caine (Tyrin Turner) is an LA gang member. The son of drug addicts, he saw his father shoot a man to death at home. His friends and family offer him some ways out, but try as he may he can't escape the cycle of violence. The Hughes brothers are talented, and you can see them experimenting and borrowing. Sometimes they hit, sometimes they miss, as In their brief, unsuccessful Spike Lee sex scene. K. WILSON

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
★★★

The opening of director Kenneth Branagh's latest film is full of fun and promise as both men and women prepare themselves for the battle of the sexes. Beatrice (Emma Thompson) and Benedict (Kenneth Branagh) are worthy adversaries, precursors to all the smart, snappy, sexy, big screen couples we love. Hero (Kate Beckinsale) and Claudio (Robert Sean Leonard) are beautiful young lovers. When the vindictive Don John (Keanu Reeves) tricks Claudio into believing his love is a wanton hussy, the battle turns ugly. Finally, all's well that ends well. The movie slows down as the director relies more and more on close-ups to tell the story.

K. WILSON

THIS BOY'S LIFE
★★★

Michael Caton-Jones' film of Tobias Wolff's autobiography presents a triumph of the human spirit. Toby, a young teenager (Leonardo DiCaprio), moves all over the country with his mother (Ellen Barkin, doing her best acting in years), as she tries to escape abusive relationships and find a decent job. When her spirits flag temporarily, she marries a bullying auto mechanlc (Robert De Niro) from the remote town of Concrete. Although De Niro is convincing when he's flinging Toby against the refrigerator or brutalizing Barkin in bed, he gives a surprisingly one-note performance. However, DiCaprio's performance is simply outstanding: honest, heartfelt, and utterly without guile. A. LEIBS

VISIONS IN LIGHT
★★★★

A dizzying paean to a host of ace Hollywood cinematographers, from *The Birth of a Nation*'s Billy Bitzer to *Blue Velvet*'s Frederick Elmes. This wonderful documentary insists that it's the unheralded cameramen who often deserve the real credit for making movies soar as "art." *Visions* backs up its claim with scene after scene of magisterial visual splendor illustrating the signature talents of various Hollywood cameramen: among others, Lee Garmes, William Daniels, Arthur Miller, Gregg Toland, then, and Caleb Deschanel, Vilmos Zsigsmond, Nestor Almendros, Gordon Willis, now. Do these names register? Only the cinematographers really know, and appreciate each other's work.

G. PEARY

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

SUPER MARIO BROS.

"...Not The Glitziest Ride in the Park, But It's Fast, Jerky and Gives You Some Laughs and Thrills..."

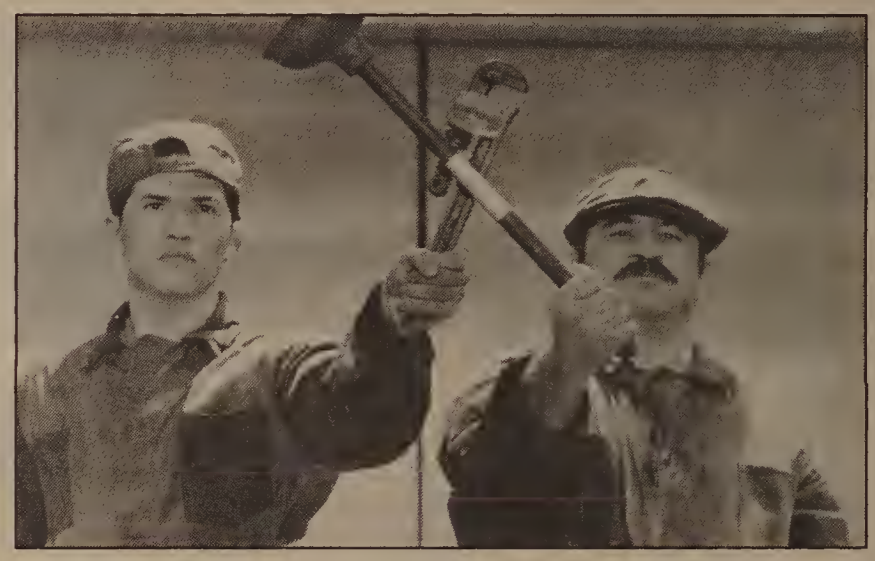
SUPER MARIO BROS.
★★★

Directed by Rocky Morton and Annabel Jankel. Written by Parker Bennett & Terry Runté and Ed Solomon

Super Mario Bros. has the look and feel of a grade B amusement park ride – it's not the most exciting or the glitziest ride in the park, but it's fast, jerky, disorienting, and gives you some laughs and thrills.

Two Brooklyn plumbers, Mario and his younger brother Luigi, tumble into Dinohattan, a decaying city in a dying parallel world, inhabited by reptilian descendants from the dinosuars. Their mission? To rescue Daisy, a young paleontologist /princess from the clutches of the lizardly King Koopa.

The movie is based, of course, on the high-tech Nintendo video game whose heroes are decidedly low-tech. The brothers' arsenal includes plungers mounted on the wall like rifles, wrenches, and screwdrivers. Fittingly, the movie has a bright, cheesy, grungy look. Dinohattan is New York City turned upside down. Even middle-aged ladies are muggers, and sticky beige fungi hangs over everything. From a distance the city looks sinister, but beleaguered – a lonely survivor whose days are numbered.



PLUMBERS IN ARMS: *Luigi (John Leguizamo) and Mario (Bob Hoskins) star in* ***Super Mario Bros.***

Super Mario Bros. is no *Blade Runner* or *Batman*, however. A dying world and urban decay are not really metaphors for anything; this is a fun-house, not film noire.

As usual, Bob Hoskins is perfect. His good guy, working stiff Mario plays well with John Leguizamo's appealing Luigi. Samantha Mathis' Daisy is smart and feisty. Also noteworthy are Yoshi, a little dinosaur, and the Goombas, Koopa's Praetorian Guard: tall, erect, dumb-as-dirt creatures with tiny reptile heads peering out of the collars of their military jackets and spikes coming out of their massive shoulders. Dennis Hopper is surprisingly tame as Koopa but then, a movie that has younger kids shrieking with laughter (during a sneak preview), first when a villain is "devolved" into a monkey and again, when Luigi compares a fungus to boogers, doesn't really have much room for Hopper's unique brand of sexual menace.

MADE IN AMERICA
★★

Directed by Richard Benjamin. Written by Holly Goldberg Sloan.

The kids who got such a charge out of the monkey in *Super Mario Bros.* should enjoy *Made in America*. You will, too, if your idea of a good time is watching a monkey and a trained bear upstage Ted Danson, and an elephant chase bicyclist Whoopi Goldberg down the streets of San Francisco.

A brilliant, beautiful black teenager (Nia Long) discovers that her father was an anonymous sperm donor. She and her smart, independent mother (Goldberg) are horrified to learn that the sperm donor was not an accomplished black man, as the mother assumed, but a white yahoo car dealer (Danson) who's seen daily on TV, hawking his wares with the help of his four-footed friends. Mother and daughter have a few run-ins with the yahoo and – surprise, surprise – they grow to love him and vice versa.

Made in America attempts to explore the question of what is a family and what are real family values and even throws in a bit of mother/daughter rivalry for good measure. But it's superficial at best. Too much time is squandered on the animal acts, broad, not-very-funny comic routines, and sentimental scenes, all of which would play better on TV.

Made in America brings to mind other movies and suffers from the comparisons. A funny sex scene between Goldberg and Danson is a short, tepid version of an hysterical sex scene from *The Tall Guy*. Danson's annoying, childish girlfriend makes you long for Sara Jessica Parker's character in *L.A. Story*. It's a shame the movie isn't better. It's upbeat and portrays black women positively. But *Made in America* is an appropriate title; it's an unintentional comment on the quality of too many Hollywood movies. ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

CELEBRATING THE BIG SCREEN

"...Unimaginable Spectacle. Lustrous Stars. Casts of Thousands...Does the Act of Film-Going Get Any More Pleasurable?..."

★★★★

An ongoing series of 35 and 70 mm films at the Coolidge Corner Moviehouse, through June.

David Kleiler, programmer of Brookline's Coolidge Corner Moviehouse, never tires of describing his flagship Art Deco theater. "We have the second largest screen in the Boston area," he says. "This is the way movies are supposed to be seen: on the big, big screen." For June, Kleiler has booked the Coolidge to show off great 35 and 70 mm prints of classic studio films. Vintage Hollywood. Unimaginable spectacle. Lustrous stars. Casts of thousands.

Does the act of film-going get any more pleasurable?

You may even brave the series' commercial kick-off, a restored print of *The Sound of Music*, playing June 11-17. Yes, the kitsch family classic, in which the hills are alive and kicking with Julie Andrews, gooey Rodgers and Hammerstein songs, and the Trapp Family sugarplum kids. More likely, drop in on Natalie Wood's un-politically correct Puerto Rican lead in *West Side Story*, June 13-17, composer Leonard Bernstein's and choreographer Jerome Robbins's ever-spirited stab at kick-up-your-heels multicultural song-and-dance.

At this point, the Coolidge series really gets interesting.

June 17-20, don't miss an amazing double feature of the 1927 *Sunrise* and the 1978 *Days of Heaven*. The former, by German émigré director F.W. Murnau (*Nosferatu*), is among the greatest dozen films ever made. Who is not moved by this passionate tale of love lost and love redeemed?

Days of Heaven, the monumental epic set in the Texas wheat fields of 1905, is one of only two films directed by the truly legendary Terence Malick, a one-time Bostonian who mysteriously dropped out of movies. The handsome stars are Richard Gere and Sam Shepherd, the stunning cinematography by Nestor Almendros, cameraman for Francois Truffaut.

June 21-22, another formidable double bill. Orson Wells' rococo, Mexican-border, ride into mayhem and danger, *Touch of Evil*, combines with a rare, rare treat, *The Big Combo*, a hard, tough little gangster picture with genius ingenious "B" black-and-white camerawork by yet another cinematographic legend, John Alten.

If all of this isn't enough, stay tuned at the Coolidge for the 25th anniversary screening of *2001: a Space Odyssey*, starting July 2.

The Story of Qiu Ju

★★★★

Directed by Zhang Yimou. Written by Liu Heng. At the Brattle Theatre through June 24.

With his trio of historic dramas, *Red Sorghum*, *Ju Dou*, and *Raise the Red Lantern*, the Chinese, Zhang Yimou, born in 1950, has risen to the top rank of world film directors. The expectations are so high for his work that audiences and critics anticipate a masterpiece every time. And that explains the disappointment in some quarters for Zhang's newest film, *The Story of Qiu Ju*, a comic morality tale set in contemporary, post-Maoist China.



Qiu Ju (Gong Li) in "The Story of Qiu Ju"

Naysayers miss the formal elegance of Zhang's earlier works, plus a chance to stare into the radiant face of Zhang's wonderful actress, Gong Li, whose countenance dominated *Ju Dou* and *Raise the Red Lantern*. But *Qiu Ju* is shot in rough, almost documentary-style long shot. And though Gong stars as *Qiu Ju*, Zhang keeps his camera far, far away from her. In all cases, she is hidden under crude peasant pajama clothes, and her *Qiu Ju* body is twisted and deformed from a life of rural poverty. Audiences new to Gong Li will not imagine that the hard, bent creature before them is played by one of the most sensual actresses in the world.

But that's the sublimity of Gong's performance, how she completely disappears into Qiu Ju. As for Qiu Ju, here is a true people's hero. When the village mayor refuses to apologize for kicking her husband in the groin, Qiu Ju journeys into the city, to fight her way through China's Byzantine system of criminal court. Again and again, she butts against a wall of interlocking, chummy patriarchs, but never gives up. Always, she keeps her Eyes on the Prize.

Meanwhile, Zhang shows us a China never before seen in his films, his frame bursting over, ethnographically, with today's street life. Rather than a falling off, *The Story of Qiu Ju* reveals new facets to Zhang's inspired talent. ❑

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching film at B.U.

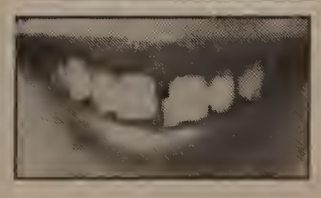
CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Fantastic

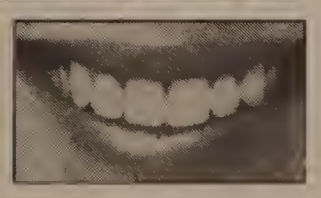
	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Benny & Joon	★★	★	★	★	★	-	★
Dave	★★★	★★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Groundhog Day	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Hot Shots! Part Deux	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	-	★★★
Indecent Proposal	★	★	★	★	★	★★	★
Lost in Yonkers	-	★★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★
Posse	-	★★★	★★	★★	★★★	★★	-
Sidekicks	★★	★★★	★★	★	★	★★★	★
Sliver	★	★	★★★★★	★	★★★	★★★	★

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Theater Review / Nancy Leonard

ARMS AND THE MAN

". . .Lovely Comic Soufflé, of Which Shaw No Doubt Would Be Proud. . ."



WARTIME LOVE: *Raina (Katy Selverstone) finds flirting with her chocolate soldier, Bluntschli (Kenneth L. Marks), a heady experience.*

George Bernard Shaw's "Arms and the Man," which closes the season at the Huntington Theatre Company, is simply and thoroughly delightful. The splendid acting, delicious irreverence, spirited direction and glorious settings, make this theater at its finest – and truly a grand finale.

The comedy, which premiered in 1894, established Shaw's playwrighting reputation, although many did not understand his serious intentions to satirize social restrictions and notions of warfare as a patriotic ideal (a prevailing view prior to the carnage of World War I).

The action takes place at the Petkoff residence, in a small town in Bulgaria, at the end of the Serbo-Bulgarian War of 1885. In this production, there's no mistaking the satire. From the opening moments, when Raina and her mother are rapturously extolling the battlefield exploits of her fiancée Serglus, something's askew in the rapture. It's not broad disbelief that's aroused (or, as in some productions, a sense of crude melodrama), but subtle, tantalizing suspicion. We eagerly await what's to come.

Raina's romantic dreams are interrupted by the sound of approaching gunfire beyond her tightly shuttered balcony window. Bluntschli, a Swiss mercenary serving in the Serbian army, climbs into her bedchamber for safety. He's dirty, but hardly a threat since his revolver is unloaded and he carries chocolates instead of cartridges. Summoning the honor of the Petkoffs as a mark of civilized hospitality, Raina hides him from discovery, and feeds him chocolate creams, which he devours as he expounds on real-life soldiering. Unlike her romantic ideal, he'd prefer to avoid further combat, and just sleep off his overwhelming weariness.

Of course, Bluntschli's level-headedness captures the young girl's fancy – though Shaw wends his way through some further complications and social commentary before the happy ending. Peace is declared just a few months later, and the armies disband. Sergius, whose exploits by now have been seriously faulted, returns to strut his vainglorious way across the Petkoff landscape.

The engagement quickly falls from its pinnacle of a "higher love" with the unexpected arrival of Raina's "chocolate cream soldier," and with her fiancee's pursuit of the maid Louka. In this subplot – Louka is engaged to Nicola, another servant, but is eager to rise above her station – Shaw articulates some of the ideas which will inspire his later "Pygmalion." The peacetime alliances and the position of Major Petkoff also allow for some swipes at his British countrymen.

Larry Carpenter's breakneck direction – it may be just a tad quick – keeps the production perfectly focused in its wry comic tone. Veering to farce without getting there, the evening is great fun, with occasional lines and some physical business standing out in even higher comic relief. Bluntschli's unexpected return, with many double takes and miscues, is hilarious.

The performances are impeccable: nicely understated, but coy and satirically suggestive all the same. Katy Selverstone endows Raina with a plausible mix of giddy romanticism and modern self-sufficiency. She is splendid drawing herself up to the full honor of the Petkoffs; even better when she suddenly realizes that she is being taken seriously by the man she loves. Kenneth L. Marks is good as Bluntschli, particularly when he returns scrubbed and confident in the dress uniform of a professional soldier, adeptly drafting orders for the troops, while admitting to an "incurably romantic disposition."

Jeff McCarthy, in crimson and gold braid, is properly pretentious and self-loving as Sergius. Laurie Walters, whose accent occasionally falters, is tart and funny as the ambitious Louka. Frances Cuka is riotous as Mrs. Petkoff, who is entranced even more than Raina with the chocolate-cream soldier. Her apoplexy on his return and her vigorous efforts to send him away are high points of the evening. Humbert Allen Astredo brings sweet bluster to Major Petkoff. Robert Pemberton's loyal Nicola has intelligent detail.

The Huntington production has glorious physical beauty that's almost worth the price of admission. James Leonard Joy's richly detailed scenery includes Russian and Turkish elements in three handsome sets (Raina's bedchamber, the Petkoff garden in springtime flower, and their strangely bookless library). His interiors are partial constructions, soaring to the sky and backed by distant mountains. David Murin's period costumes are varied and opulent (satins, bustles, braid, gold trim, etc.). Marcia Madeira's lighting casts a romantic glow upon the enterprise. It's all stunning and splendid.

The Huntington's "Arms and the Man" is a lovely comic soufflé, of which Shaw no doubt would have been very proud. It's lots of fun. Don't miss it. ❑

IF YOU GO

ARMS & THE MAN

WRITTEN BY
GEORGE BERNARD SHAW
DIRECTED BY
LARRY CARPENTER
THE HUNTINGTON THEATRE COMPANY
264 HUNTINGTON AVENUE
BOSTON
266-7900
THROUGH JUNE 20
TICKETS $18-$36

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WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY LESLIE

"What's your favorite article of clothing?"



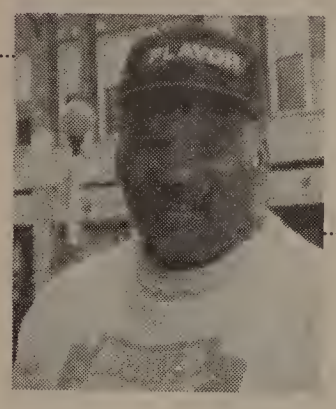
Stacey, 26, Somerville
"Bras. You can feel sexy and nobody knows why. Except my husband , of course."



Ike, 27, Brookline
"My leather jacket . It would come in handy if anyone wanted to knife me or lend me their motorcycle."



Bernadette, 38, Woburn
"Jeans are my life. I can't go anywhere without them."



George, 51, Mission Hill
"My underwear, because it's very personal."



Deborah, 27, Brookline
"Shoes, because no matter what my body form, they always fit.



Don, 27, Boston
"I have a fetish for shoes. I always end up buying more pairs than I should."

THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22				

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
The Wang Center
270 Tremont St.
Tickets are on sale for Shakespeare's tragic love story, *Romeo and Juliet*. It's the Ballet's last production of the season, so don't miss it: June 3-20. Call 931-2000 for details.

JACOB'S PILLOW
Becket, MA
The annual Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival is here again – 12 weeks of dancing, workshops, conferences and more. In the Studio/Theatre, Cie Herve-Gil performs June 11 at 8 p.m., June 12 at 5 p.m. and June 13 at 7 p.m.; and Sarah Skaggs performs June 18 at 8 p.m. and June 20 at 7 p.m. On June 19, at 3 p.m., the festival officially kicks off with a non-traditional gala. Call 1-413-243-0745 for more details.

MARK MORRIS DANCE
Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St.
Dance Umbrella sponsors a series of concerts by the world-renowned Morris troupe through June 12. Included in the performance will be the world premiere of a specially-commissioned dance. Call 931-1300 for times and ticket prices.

PROMETHEUS DANCE AND NUCLASSIX
Cambridge Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge
Five compelling dance pieces will be premiered June 18 & 19 at 8 p.m., including *Pillowtalk*, where pillows are props, and a piece for three men called *Candidates*. Tickets are $8 and $10. Call 577-1400.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square
With June comes a slew of weddings, some of which are chronicled in "For Better, For Worse: The Contemporary Wedding," through June 29. Featured are photographs of seven weddings by seven Boston-area photographers.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St.
Take a cheap trip to France when you view "Summer Sojourn," images of France by Michael Berger. On display through July 30. The exhibit is free. Call 266-4351 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Commonwealth Ave.
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball," which features fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. It runs through July 30. Call 353-0700.

TOURS

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – while circling overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St.
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past—this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

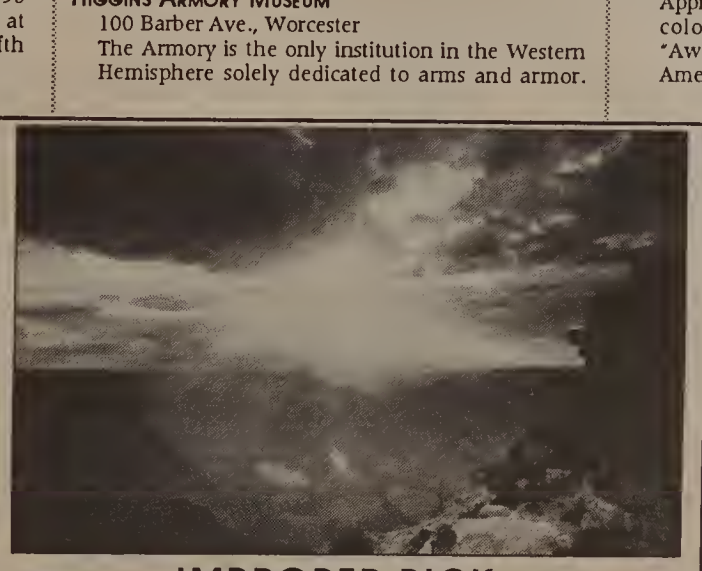
COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St.
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For details, call 423-6758.

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART
123 Union Ave., Framingham
The Danforth shows work by American women artists of the 1920s-30s through June 20. Call 508-620-0050.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor.



IMPROPER PICK

WHY THEY CALL IT GRAND: *The Mugar OMNI Theater, located in the Museum of Science, presents* ***Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*** *from June 18 through October 14. The film documents six million years of history carved into stone; call 723-2500.*

Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St.
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave.
Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors will be presented through Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." On view through Aug. 1 is John Singleton Copley's "Watson and Shark," the two large versions of his famous shark attack painting. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 4 and part two until September.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle—all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Call 589-0270.

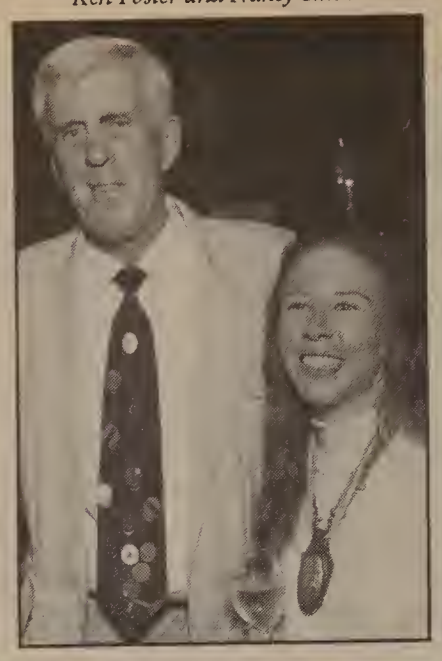
MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. June 19 & 20, the MOT celebrates the Corvette's 40th birthday. On the 19th, Corvettes from all over the Northeast will be displayed downtown at Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park; on the 20th, they will be displayed at the MOT, and awards will be given. Call 522-6547 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious—and dangerous—sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St.

(continued on following page)

Ken Foster and Nancy Smith



Al Stankus and Tracey Desmond





Gretchen Miller, Mike Valerio, Kim Johnson, Linda Valerio



Eric Werth, John Robinson, Tony Haglegans

Improper Bostonians

Photos by Peter Shankman

Scenes from an Improper Bostonian Party at Yvonne's

Amanda Spooner, John Spooner, Susan Spooner



Leon Semonian, June Withington, Nate Withington





John DiPiero, Bob Gaines, Robert McDevitt



Michelle Maffei, Carrie McLellan, Tina Chioncio, Kristie Raymond, Sharmon Pedonti, Melanie and Elizabeth Mari

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For More information call (617)232-3507

(Museums continued)

This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Elaine Stritch stars in the world premiere of **"Cakewalk"**, a semi-autobiographical work by Peter Feibleman about his turbulent, 40-year relationship with playwright Lillian Hellman (*The Children's Hour*). Runs through July 17. Concurrently, the ART stages Philip Glass' opera **"Orphee."** Call 547-8300 for more information.

Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Famed author Beth Henley (*Crimes of the Heart, Miss Firecracker*) brings her newest, critically-acclaimed play **"The Lucky Spot"** to the Boston area through May 29. It's Louisiana in 1934 and a guy who won some property is determined to turn it into a dance hall that will "bring the glamor, magic and music of city life to simple country folk." Call 576-1253 for reservations.

Beau Jest Moving Theatre
Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St.
Beau Jest presents **"A Midsummer Night's Fun Raiser"** (no, it's *fun*, not *fund*) June 21 at 8 p.m. The show is a variety revue of comedy, music, dance and theatre. Tickets are $20, $25 at the door, and all proceeds will go to Beau Jest, which has been producing innovative, original theatre since 1984. Call 437-0657.

Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St.
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. **"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline"** is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St.
Acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, **"Shear Madness"** is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, **"Shear Madness"** allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

Huntington Theatre Co.
264 Huntington Ave.
HTC presents George Bernard Shaw's **"Arms and the Man"** through June 20. It's an irreverent spoof about a romantic young lady and the soldier who tries to hide in her bedroom. Call 266-0800 for times and tickets.

Kendall Cafe
233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge
Well, it sounds kinky to us: Steps Theater Company presents **"The Throb of Life,"** an ongoing, continuing radio drama for adults only. Admission is $7; call 499-9580 for reservations and information.

Lyric Stage
140 Clarendon St.
Renowned actor Nehemiah Persoff performs his award-winning one-man show, **"Tales of Sholem Aleichem,"** through June 27. Enjoy some of the most charming, wise and humorously touching stories about Eastern European Jewish life in the last century. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket information.

Medieval Manor
246 E. Berkeley St.
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St.
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents **"Murder at Rick's Cafe"** and **"Let's Kill the Boss."** Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

North Shore Music Theatre
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly
Rodgers and Hammerstein's first collaboration, **"Oklahoma!,"** is now in Massachusetts from until June 19. It's the musical's 50th anniversary, so mosey on out to North Shore. Call 508-922-8500 for times and ticket prices.

Out of the Blue
Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
A shipwreck leads to love, mistaken identities and, well, cross-dressing in Shakespeare's romantic comedy **"Twelfth Night,"** performed through June 26. Shows are Thurs.-Sun. at 8 p.m. and there is a 4 p.m. matinee June 26. Call 576-1253 for more information.

Terrace Room
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
64 Arlington St.
"Forever Plaid," a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St.
Those zany nuns from **"Nunsense"** have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at 1-800-382-8080.

Underground Railway Theater
41 Foster St., Arlington
URT is proud to announce the premiere of a serious comedy (seriously!), **"Washed-up Middle-aged Women"** June 10-12 and 17-19 at 8 p.m. The script is based on scores of interviews with middle-aged women, and moves from song to comic sketch to dramatic monologue—just like a real life. Call 643-6916 for more details. Tickets are $10 in advance, $12 at the door.

U.S.I.T.L.
The Roxy
279 Tremont St.
The U.S. Improvisational Theatre League meets June 9 at 8 p.m. to compete in a Battle of the Sexes. Based loosely on hockey, the improv teams try to out-act each other; WBZ-TV's Joyce Kulhawik will be on hand to pick the evenings Most Valuable Player. Tickets are $12. Call 227-7699.

(continued on following page)

ARTS

(continued from previous page)

WORKSHOPS

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
808 Comm. Ave.
Non-cooks (with a pretty significant cash flow) should consider BU's four-part series on creating healthy, tasty meals at home. Restaurant consultant and cook Linda Criss teaches busy people with little time to shop each Tuesday through June 22. In room 117; tuition is $240. Participants will cook and eat a full meal each class. Call 353-9852 to register.

M.I.T.
Kresge Auditorium
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
M.I.T. hosts a national conference June 18-19 that most improper Bostonians will want to attend: "The Public Patron: Drafting a mandate for a federal arts agency," which will examine the roles and responsibilities of a federal arts agency in the U.S. today. Scheduled speakers include Ted Kennedy and *Time* magazine art critic Robert Hughes, to name a couple. Call 253-2341 to register; it'w $25 before June 14, $35 after.

NOW
971 Comm. Ave.
Get involved in planning the National Organization for Women's annual conference, which will be held right here in Beantown July 2-4. They're looking for volunteers to help before and during the conference. Call 782-1056.

LECTURES/READINGS

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE
10 Brookline St.
Central Square, Cambridge
T.T.'s presents Stone Soup Poetry every Monday: June 14 it's Chris Dunn & Laureen Evans performing poetry and music, and New York poet Jack Veasey; June 21 come see the Cape Cod Performance Poets with Tony Rain and a musical cameo by Don White. Call 492-0082. Donation is $3; show begins at 8 p.m.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA GALLERY
154 Newbury St.
Through June 28, see the interesting, iridescent Raku vessels of Ed Risak.

BROOKLINE FESTIVAL IN THE PARK
The Brookline Council for the Arts and Humanities is currently seeking craftspeople for its 7th annual Festival in Larz Anderson Park, a day-long event featuring 50 juried craftspeople with works for sale. For applications and more information, call (508) 887-3291. The festival will be on Sept. 12.

CRYSTAL BLUE BEADING CO.
565 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown
This special show features an exhibit of pictorial beadwork by Doug Johnson – beautifully crafted "canvases" made entirely of tiny glass beads woven together on a bead loom. Through June 26; closed Sundays and Mondays. Call 923-2337.

DANFORTH CRAFTS FESTIVAL
Framingham State College
The Danforth Museum of Art will host a juried exhibition of contemporary crafts from 100 artists throughout the country, including jewelry, ceramics, clothing, textiles and more. Call (508) 620-0050.

MILLS GALLERY
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St.
Mills presents "Welcome to Asian America: Challenging the Myths," a series of works, puzzles and adventures representing the various complexities of the Asian-American experience. Through June 20.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St.
French post-Impressionist Bernard Lamotte's estate will be on display throgh July 15. Featured are more than 100 oils, watercolors and works on paper that depict the cafes, parks and boulevards of the artist's homeland.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

BOSTON SKI & SPORTS CLUB
Commonwealth Pier
Next to World Trade Center
The BSSC presents a Boston Harbor Party Cruise on June 11 at 7:30 p.m. with a DJ, cash bar, dancing and room for 500 revelers. Tickets are $13 in advance; $15 on the boat. Call 789-4070 for more information.

FLY-AWAY BALL
Omni Parker House
60 School St.
The Fly-Away Ball is sure to be a world-class event, as guests are invited to dress as their favorite destination's inhabitants—Jamaican rastamen or English royalty at teatime. Sponsored by the Volunteer Fundraisers Association to benefit One on One, an organization that offers literacy, job skills and cultural competency to people new to the U.S. The gala takes place June 11 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $20, or $25 at the door. Call 572-2778.

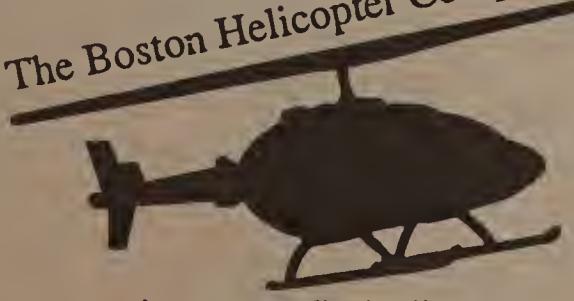
H.M.S. BOUNTY
Battleship Cove, Fall River
The tall ship *H.M.S. Bounty*, built in 1960 for MGM's film *Mutiny on the Bounty*, arrives at her permanent berth in Fall River's Battleship Cove on June 18 at 11:30 a.m. Currently en route from Miami, the ship will be greeted by the many special celebrities, and tours will be given. Call 676-8226.

JAIL & BAIL
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Cambridge
The Cambridge chapter of the American Cancer Society will be making citizens' arrests June 16-18 in an effort to raise funds. It's really cool: for $25 you call the ACS, tell them you want a friend, coworker, spouse or boss arrested for anything from "indecent exposure from the neck up" to "unfair labor practices." These people are thrown in a mock jail (so you win) and have to pay a bail of about $100 to the ACS in order to get out (so the ACS wins, too!). Also, there will be a Jailhouse Rock party at the Hyatt June 18 at 7 p.m. to benefit the ACS; tickets are $20. Call 643-3010 for more information.

MACCABI YOUTH GAMES
various locations
The Jewish Community Center of Greater Boston, sponsors of the Maccabi Youth Games, is looking for families to host some of the 800 young Jewish athletes (ages 12-16) during the week of Aug. 22-27. Call 341-2016 x102 or 965-7410 x138 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND CARD SHOW
at Boston College High
Morrissey Blvd.
The 1952 Mickey Mantle rookie card (worth a whopping $45,000!) highlights the largest event of its kind for collectors, national dealers and the public, slated for June 11-13. Celtic Robert Parish, Red Sox Mo Vaughn and Andre Dawson, and Bruins Andy Moog and Cam Neely (among many others) will be there, also. Admission is $4; hours are as follows: Fri., 4-10 p.m.; Sat., 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 1-508-822-2223 for more information.

(continued on following page)

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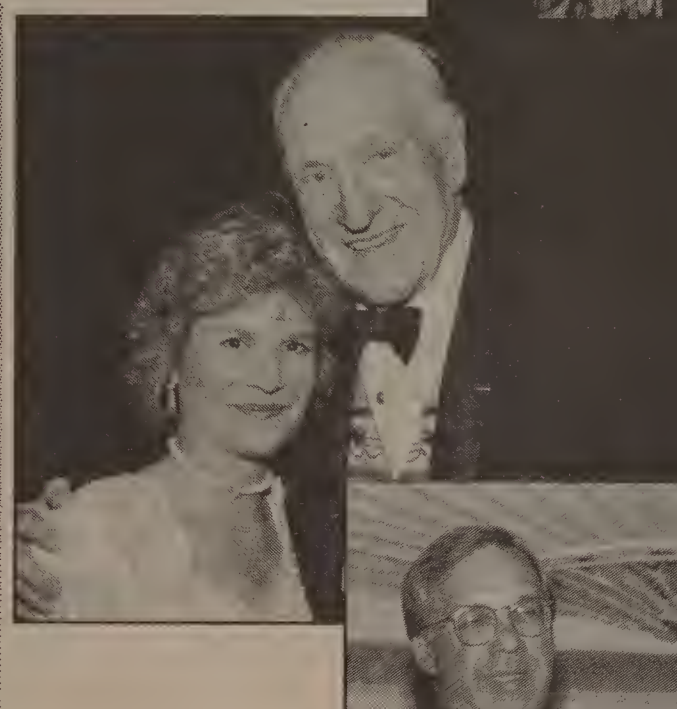
PROPER BOSTONIANS

PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS
THE BOSTON PARK PLAZA HOTEL
MONDAY, MAY 17



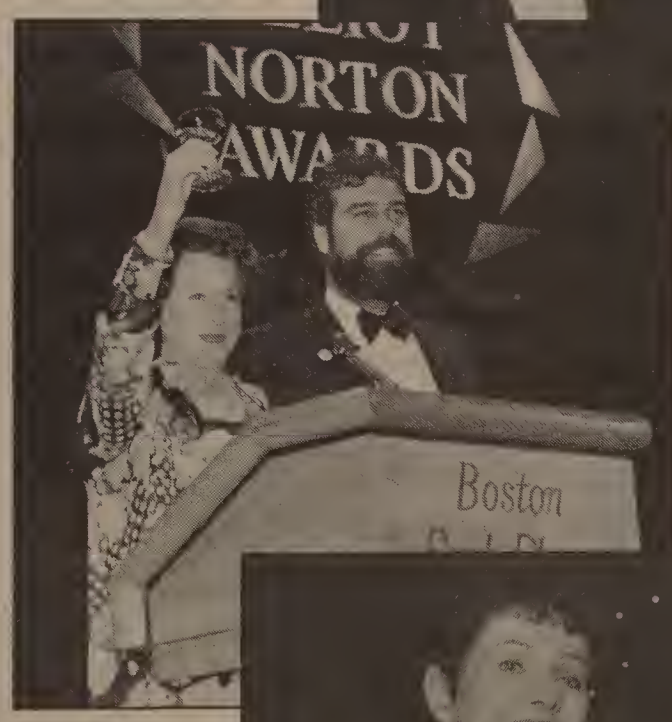
What a galaxy: (left to right) Playwright / Tony Award nominee Terrence McNally, New York State Council of Arts/guest of honor Kitty Carlisle Hart, actress Julie Harris and birthday boy Elliot Norton.



Patron Spring Sirkin and Norton Awards Founder, William Morris Hunt.



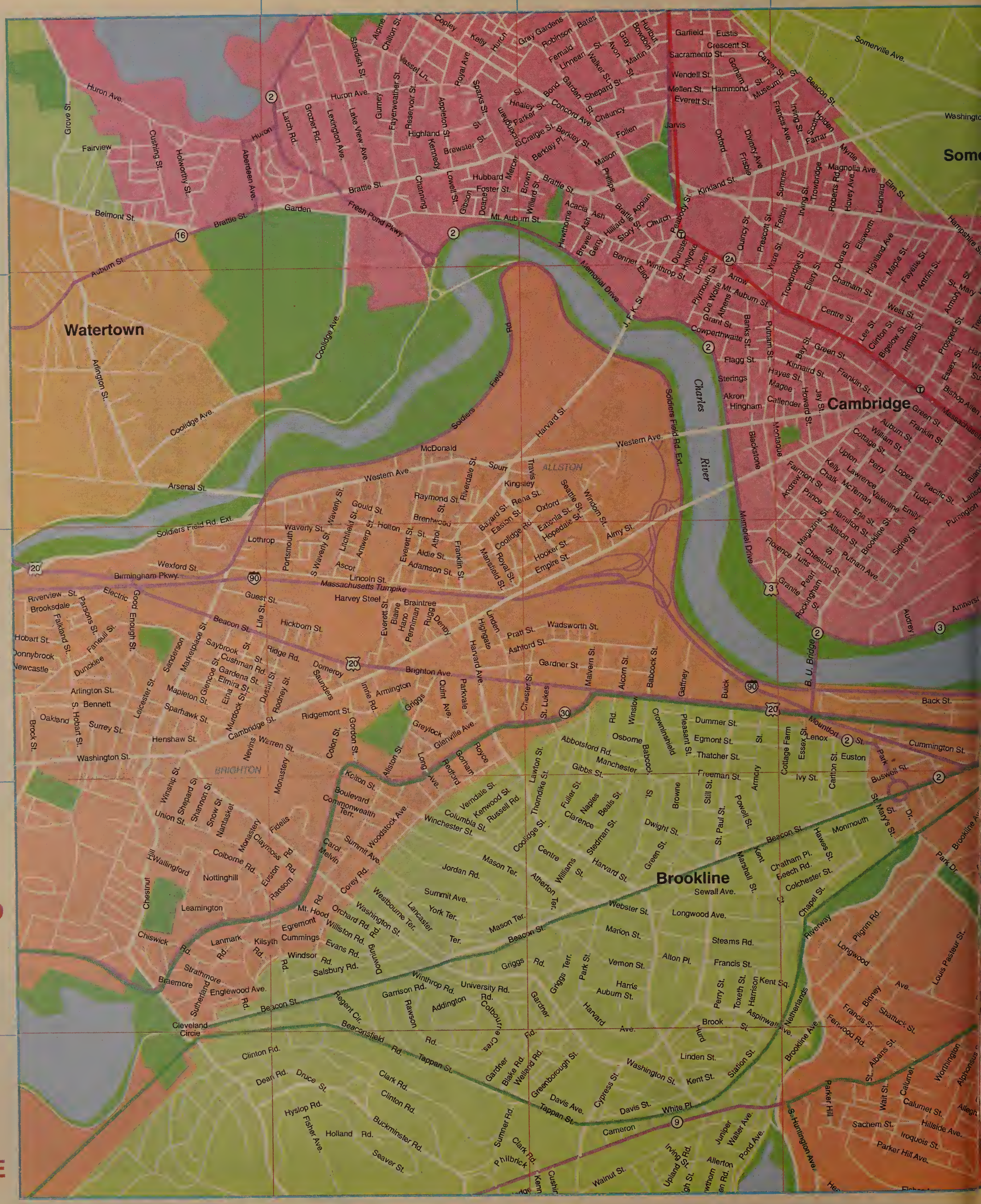
Boston City Council President Thomas Menino presents Mr Norton with a surprise gift from the city of Boston.



Salute! Kitty Carlisle Hart toasts the crowd, as The Wang Center president and GM Josiah Spaulding smiles on.



Surprise guest/actress Lynn Redgrave welcomes (who else) Elliot Norton.


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Watertown
Cambridge
Brookline
BRIGHTON
ALLSTON
Charles River
Somerville Ave.
Huron Ave.
Fairview
Belmont St.
Brattle St.
Garden
Fresh Pond Pkwy.
Mt. Auburn St.
Auburn St.
Memorial Drive
Coolidge Ave.
Arlington St.
Soldiers Field Rd.
Harvard St.
Western Ave.
McDonald
Arsenal St.
Soldiers Field Rd. Ext.
Lothrop
Wexford St.
Birmingham Pkwy.
Massachusetts Turnpike
Guest St.
Harvey Steel
Braintree
Hickborn St.
Beacon St.
Brighton Ave.
Ridge Rd.
Cambridge St.
Ridgemont St.
Henshaw St.
Washington St.
Oakland
Surrey St.
Arlington St.
Bennett
Hobart St.
Donnybrook
Newcastle
Riverview St.
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Electric
Good Enough St.
Parsons St.
Faneuil St.
Falkland St.
Duncklee
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Marketplace St.
Saybrook
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Gordon St.
Kelton St.
Boulevard
Commonwealth Terr.
Woodstock Ave.
Summit Ave.
Carol
Melvin
Corey Rd.
Ransom
Euston Rd.
Colborne Rd.
Claymoss Rd
Fidelis
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Nantasket
Snow St.
Shannon St.
Shepard St.
Winship St.
Union St.
Wallingford
Nottinghill
Chestnut Hill
Learnington
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Cummings
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Mt. Hood Rd.
Orchard Rd.
Williston Rd.
Evans Rd.
Windsor Rd.
Salsbury Rd.
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Westbourne Ter.
Lancaster
York Ter.
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Braemore
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Rawson
Addington Rd.
Colbourne Cres.
Garrison Rd.
Winthrop Rd.
University Rd.
Griggs
Griggs Terr.
Park St.
Vernon St.
Alton Pl.
Francis St.
Steams Rd.
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Fuller St.
Naples
Beals St.
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St. Paul St.
Powell St.
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Essex St.
Lenox
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Ivy St.
Freeman St.
Gibbs St.
Manchester
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Osborne
Babcock
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Thatcher St.
Dummer St.
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Chester St.
St. Lukes
Malvern St.
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Babcock St.
Gaffney
Buick
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Cummington St.
Buswell St.
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Marshall St.
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Colchester St.
Chapel St.
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Upland St.
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ARTS

(Social Calendar continued)

N.E. Wheelchair Championships
UMass Boston
This event will bring 200 athletes to Boston to compete in archery, shooting, swimming, table tennis, track & field and weightlifting. Winners will advance to the national championships, also being held in Boston this summer. Volunteers are needed for the games June 11-13; call 446-7183.

Yard Sale
Brookline Arts Center
86 Monmouth St., Brookline
Start your summer treasure-hunting or finish your spring cleaning this month at the BAC's 13th annual yard sale, running from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 19. Furniture, small appliances, jewelry, toys, sports equipment, books, etc. BUT NO CLOTHES, will be on sale at bargain prices; or, you can drop off your unwanted items to be sold. Call 566-5715.

CLASSICAL

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave.
The world-renowned Pops perform every Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., through July 11. Call 266-1492 for program information and ticket prices.

Ford Hall Forum
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave.
Ford Hall Forum, the country's oldest free public affairs lecture series, has scheduled an evening of music by the Boston Pops July 6 at 8 p.m., but tickets ($60 & $85) must be purchased by June 10. Special guest NBC newsman John Chancellor, and a reception will follow. Call 437-5800.

French Library
53 Marlborough St.
The Pierre Hurel Quartet will perform a jazz concert June 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10; reservations are recommended. And—get this—your ticket includes a complimentary glass of wine or non-alcoholic beverage. Call 266-4351.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

FILMS

Boston University
GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave.
BU's summer film festival continues June 15 with *The Bodyguard* (Kevin Costner, Whitney Houston) and June 22 with *Presumed Innocent* (from the mystery-thriller book by Scott Turow). All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're FREE! Call 353-3635.

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features. For further film information, call 876-6837.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park
The world of Omnimax treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Call 723-2500 for show times. Also, running each Saturday and Sunday in June at 6:30 p.m., try the innnovative *Blind Trust*: Visitors sit in Hayden Planetarium and let sounds and smells defin various locations in Boston. Get it – you get to use your imagination! Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

Other Side Cafe
407 Newbury St.
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9 p.m. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

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DINING

Guest Dining Review / Victoria Jones

CHEZ NOUS

"...The Praise is Well Deserved...[but] a Few Items on the Menu Defied Descriptions and Turned Out to Be Strangely Disappointing..."

Two hours exactly. That's how long Chez Nous allocates to its diners. This is presumably because it is so small, nestled in what looks to have once been the living room of a small house in Cambridge. Chez Nous has been raved about for some time both by yuppies and more establishment types. Much of the praise is well deserved, although a few items on the menu defied their descriptions and turned out to be strangely disappointing.

The same contrast was found in the waitstaff, from our server, Steve, who could not have been more helpful or knowledgeable – even going to the trouble of going out and buying frozen yogurt from Sage's for two diners with special dietary needs – to the oh-so-bored hostess, who gave the impression the diners were interrupting her fascinating evening of self-contemplation.

IF YOU GO

CHEZ NOUS

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RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED

But on to the meal. Of the appetizers, smoked native bluefish salad with caper vinaigrette and fresh beets is for those who really like bluefish, though the capers cut some of the richness of the fish. Tiny, sizzling Maine mussels with almond-garlic butter and a hint of lemon reminded us of how delicate this apricot-colored mollusk can be. A spicy shrimp with black bean salad added a Southwestern flavor. Can anyone explain why black beans refuse to be pronged by a fork and always have to be chased around the plate?

On a previous occasion, the crispy goat cheese cake (warm) with roasted red peppers and an arugula salad with a delicious vinaigrette had been the highlight of my meal. Only out of a sense of duty to *The Improper Bostonian* readers did I sample something different the second time around.

A 1990 Puligny-Montrachet, I'm reliably informed, was crisp and correctly chilled. The wine list is being revised, but will continue to be varied and contain an unusually good selection of half bottles, something too many restaurants neglect.

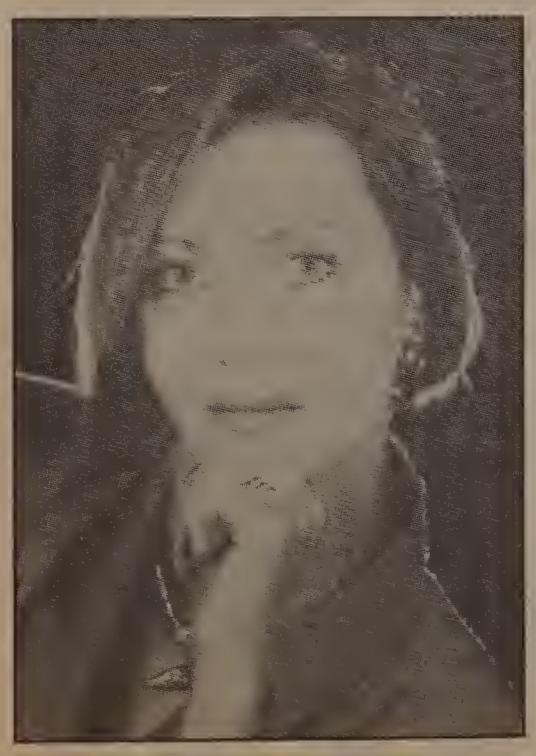
Entrees range in price from $13 to $18 and of the eight selections, one is vegetarian and three are seafood. Mediterranean fisherman's stew, which contained white fish, mussels and shrimp in a powerful tomato and fennel sauce, was served on pasta, and I would certainly order it again. Roast duck with ginger and orange sauce was a welcome variation on the tired duck with orange, and the ginger cuts the cloying sweetness of the orange.

Tender loin chops with a lamb sauce with garlic, rosemary, tomato and black olives evoked images of Provence and, like the other entrees, was accompanied by the evening's vegetable selection of snow peas, julienned carrots and red onions as well as pan-roasted potatoes. Chicken in a restaurant can so often be disappointing, but the free-range roasted chicken with a sun-dried tomato and garlic sauce was unusual and unusually good.

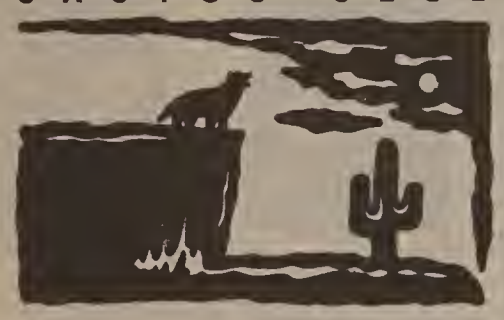
On a previous occasion, we had raved about the desserts – an excellent creme brulee, a rhubarb crepe with caramel sauce and other innovative selections. On this evening, however, we were limited to three rather pedestrian choices: strawberry shortcake, creme caramel, and hazelnut ice cream with ground hazelnuts and warm chocolate sauce – the winner in my book.

So is Chez Nous worth the raves? Yes, allowing for the menu's occasional inconsistencies, if you can eat in two hours and if you don't mind the feeling that some of the staff think they're doing you a favor by waiting on you. ❑

Victoria Jones is the outspoken talk show host whose program airs 8-11 p.m. weeknights and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays on WRKO, AM 680.



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Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

SOME LIKE IT COLD

"...The Only Possible Point of Drinking Wine is to Derive Maximum Pleasure..."

"Oh, my Lord!" I cried, suddenly remembering as the doorbell rang twice. "Don't tell me you forgot to chill the wine?" Words alone could not express my embarrassment.

When I finally got the locks unbolted, everyone swarmed in past me at once, chattering away. It was pointless trying to hold them at bay; despite fair warning, they all attacked the white wine. To my amazement, however, the bottles of tepid Meursault I had provided were devoured to the last ounce without one complaint – and this from a crowd which did not always observe the usual niceties.

Although I barely managed to salvage half a glass for myself, I noted the striking flavors this white Burgundy showed. Despite this, however, I was strangely disappointed on each occasion I was able to find the wine again and properly chill it for dinner.

Years later, these memories came storming back. The Master of Wine examinations I had begun preparing for required a detailed exposition of wine characteristics. With the exception of sparklers, wines are analyzed at room temperature.

Practice tastings constituted a new and wonderful experience analogous, I thought, to removing a puzzle from a person struggling to speak; it was as though I was hearing for the first time in vivid and dramatic form what it was the various wines had to say. Important distinctions among grape varieties, regional styles and winemaking techniques began to emerge and I was reminded of the special savoriness of the Meursault everyone had once so unexpectedly enjoyed.

Although I had long paid lip service to the idea that better wines require less chilling, the reality was that when dinnertime arrived, so did the ice bucket. To me, a white wine's major function was to refresh and quench my thirst. Why, I wondered, were the abundant flavors I could now perceive so muted by the cold?

Most of what we describe as flavor, it turns out, is actually aroma. Our taste buds themselves are rather primitive, able to discern only sweet, sour, salty and bitter sensations. All the essential flavor nuances we perceive (e.g. the "peach" or "vanilla" or "strawberry") in fact register on the olfactory nerve, not the tongue. Prove this to yourself the next time you have a head cold; your blocked nasal passages render everything bland. In normal circumstances, what we call the retro-nasal aromas waft upwards as vapors from the back of our palate to the brain's olfactory center.

Aroma is the heart and soul of any wine's personality. Holding a glass up to your nose constitutes the introduction. But aroma compounds become more volatile (i.e., they are released and made available to us as gases) the higher the surrounding temperature. Aromas in the mouth are so pronounced because with the first sip your body's heat immediately warms the liquid, liberating more of these compounds.

It follows that, within important limits, the warmer the temperature of the wine you drink, the more of it you will taste. Needless to say, this is not always desirable. Along with suppressing aroma, chilling specifically reduces impressions of sourness, sweetness and alcohol. Wines displaying aggressive acid, cloying sugar or a harsh finish then will probably taste better cold. Simple wines without much flavor to mask are also candidates for refrigeration. But in order to appreciate them fully, I rarely chill finely-balanced white wines anymore.

Summer temperatures somewhat change the equation. Alcohol evaporates more readily at higher heats; in these conditions, it may dominate wine aromas. Unpleasant off-flavors may also be encouraged. To minimize this, a light chilling of even the best wines makes sense. Once in the glass, temperatures will quickly rise anyway.

The only possible point of drinking wine is to derive maximum pleasure. This commodity comes in many different forms, of course, all the way from the enhanced self-esteem some feel when buying "the right wine" to the satisfaction of enjoying delicious flavors. If the latter is your goal, try this: pour out two glasses of a good white wine; cover each with plastic wrap; refrigerate one for two hours and put the other aside; remove the plastic and then smell and taste them together. Are they the same? ❑

Sandy Block was awarded the title Master of Wine in 1992 by the prestigious British Institute of Masters of Wine. Of the 162 people worldwide who hold this title, only five are Americans. Sandy is also the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood,

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Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

"...It's About Time That the Out-of-Town Press Realized That There Are Other Good Places to Eat Besides the Usual Gang of Four..."

Everybody's A Critic

What do you think of Boston's restaurants? *The Boston Zagat Restaurant Guide* is being revised and the editors are looking for in-the-know diners to tell all for the new Zagat restaurant survey. Volunteers who contribute their views by completing the survey will receive a free copy of the new *Zagat* guide when it is published. To receive a copy of the survey, please send your name and address to:

R. E. Brunson
c/o *The Improper Bostonian*
17 Station Street, Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146



Ice, Ice, Everywhere

Bottled spring water drinkers know that one of the most important criteria for choosing a bottled water is the location of the spring. Is it in a protected natural state far from civilization or is it downstream from a nuclear reactor or toxic waste dump? **Akva**, a new bottled water, comes from a remote and isolated source in Iceland and the purity of the water is beyond question. Even though few may be aware of it, Iceland is a land known for its hot springs, geysers, and volcanoes. Boston is the first city in the US to get this water from the far North. So try a sip of a glacier - without ever leaving the city.

Chill Out

There is a new product out called **Rapid Ice** that won't take care of all life's stresses but will certainly relieve any anxiety that arises over not having a chilled bottle of wine in the house. To use it, just pull the reusable sleeve-like device from your freezer, put it around the bottle, and the cold gel in the device will take the bottle from room temperature to serving temperature in just five minutes. Afterwards, it will keep it cool for several hours. So when the Queen Mother drops in unexpectedly and there's no chilled chardonnay, just pop Rapid Ice around the bottle and before you can ask "who's the family firebug," the wine will be ready. Rapid Ice can be found in the Wine Enthusiast catalog for $11.95. (800) 356-8466 for catalog or to order.

Juicy Details

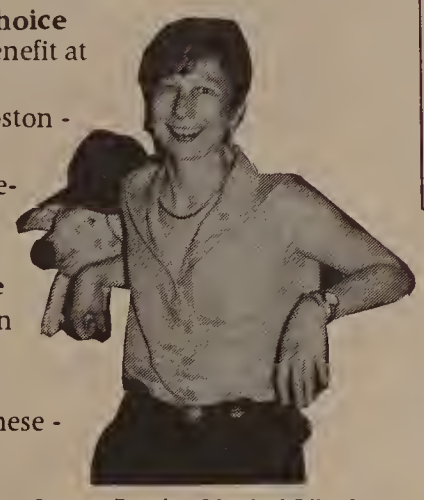
It's about time that the out-of-town press realized that there are other good places to eat besides the usual gang of four - Biba, Olives, Jasper's and Michela's. Congratulations to both **Il Panino** and **On the Park** for being mentioned in the *New York Times* travel section as great places to eat in Boston! **Newbury College** is offering a limited summer series of culinary courses with subjects like Italian confections and seafood cookery. For information, call 730-7172. Reasonably priced on Newbury Street? **Milano's Italian Kitchen** is now open at 47 Newbury Street with every item on the menu under $10. **Cara Vera's** at 372 Commercial Street has opened for dinner and offers inexpensive Italian dishes and pizzas. And lastly, the most expensive detail, the **Meridien Hotel** is planning an eight million dollar renovation. Congratulations to **Joseph Ribas,** executive chef of the **Omni Parker House**, who was named Regional Chef of the Year by the Chefs of America Foundation.

Joseph Ribas, Executive Chef of the Omni Parker House

And the Winners Are...

People's Choice Awards Benefit at Silverado

- Best in Boston - **Biba**
- Best Barbecue - **Porterhouse Cafe**
- Best Italian - **Mamma Maria**
- Best Japanese - **Gyuhama**
- Best Seafood - **Skipjack's**
- Best Desserts **Aujourd 'hui**
- Best New Restaurant - **Anago Bistro**

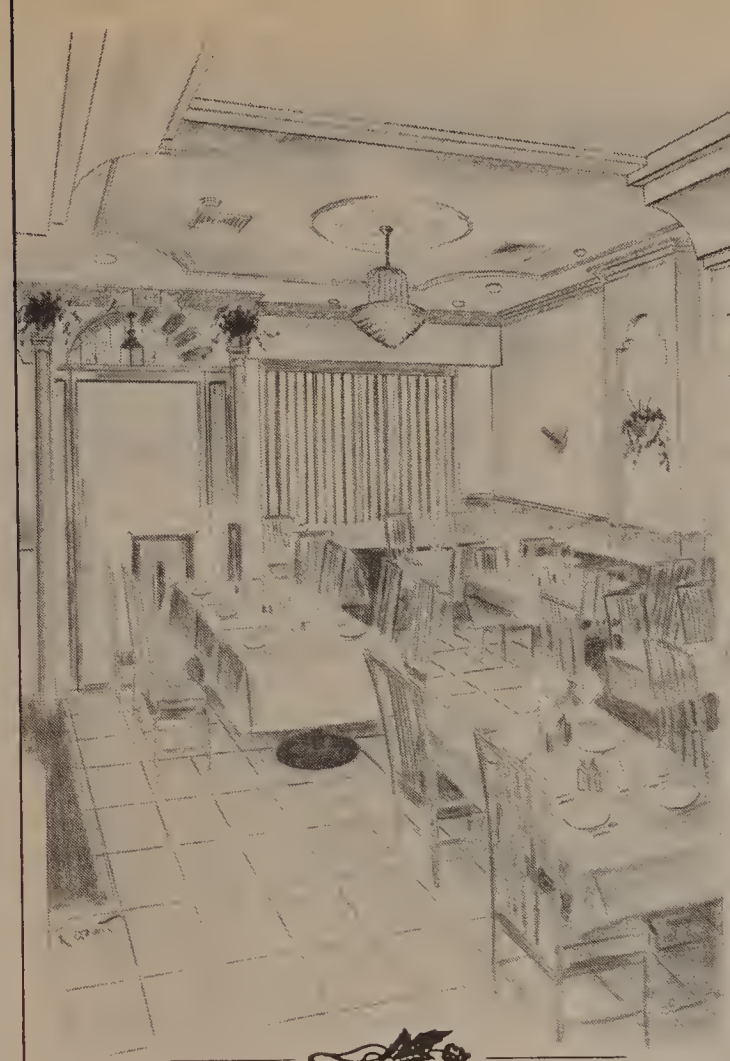


Susan Regis, Chef at Biba's with an unlucky friend

Save This Date

There is no better way to celebrate the promise of summer than with a picnic in a vineyard. **Les Amis du Vin** and **Westport River Vineyard** are presenting such a picnic with their 1st annual spring picnic on Sunday, June 13, from noon to 3 p.m. The event will feature wines from over 15 New England vineyards and wineries, along with food from 10 of coastal New England's favorite restaurants. Arts and crafts from local artists will also be on display. Tickets are $20 and advance reservations are required. So BYOB (Bring Your Own Blanket) and head to Westport, Massachusetts for a picnic with friends - the friends of wine. Call (508) 636-3423 for tickets. ❑

Peter McNamara has been active in Boston's food community for the past twenty years as a restaurant consultant, former owner of Boston Reservation Services, member of the American Institute of Food and Wine and frequent guest on WBZ AM radio. Peter is also a devoted fan of Weight Watchers, and is currently down 25 pounds.



MASSIMINO'S
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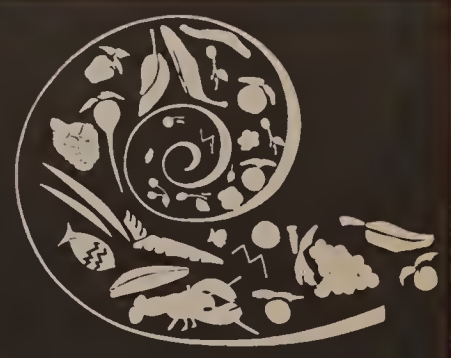
"Consistently about the best Italian Restaurant in the North End."
—Boston Magazine

"For superb food in a family atmosphere try Massimino's."
—Travel & Leisure

"The best value in Italian food."
—WBZ Channel 4

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

ARARAT
71 Arlington St., Watertown, 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only two items priced over five dollars, this menu offers some of the best deals around. Choose between tender rotisseried chicken or their addictive lamb kabobs. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad, pita and hommos. Take-out is also available. Hours are 11a.m.-9p.m., Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

BIBA
272 Boylston St., Bos., 426-7878, D,MC,V $$$$, C-6
Overlooking the Boston Common, this mod restaurant offers outstanding service, chic colorful decor and an eclectic menu. Where else can you sample offal (innards) and venison cooked to perfection, flavored with figs? Chef Lydia Shire offers delectables such as saddle of rabbit, dark roasted in honey and fresh juniper. Specials vary daily. Dining at BIBA is pricey, but worth its weight in culinary nostalgia. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Sat., dinner only. Call ahead for reservations.

BLOSSOMS CAFE & CATERING
One First Avenue, Building #34 (Rear), Charlestown Navy Yard, 242-1911, MC,V $$
This casual yet elegant European Bistro is a real find in Historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In this quaint cafe, you can dine on mouth-watering contemporary Italian cuisine, made from only the freshest ingredients. Sample the intriguing cutlets of veal sautéed with sea scallops, prosciutto, sun dried tomatoes and mushrooms and served over homemade fettuccini with a basil butter sauce. Private functions available in our cafe. Open for Lunch Mon - Fri 11:30 - 2:30 / Dinner La Trattoria Fri - Sat 5 - 10.

BLUE WAVE
142 Berkeley Street, Bos., 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-6
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. The Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

BOODLES
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos., 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$, D-5
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7a.m.-10:45a.m. Continental Breakfast: 10:45a.m -11:30a.m. L: 11:30a.m-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. until 11p.m..

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$, C-5
Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors." Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, and prarie oysters are just a sampling of the traditional staples that are served daily. Call to reserve for parties of eight or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFE MONAGENE
1032 Beacon St., Brookline, 232-3303
M, V, A, $$, D-4
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from macaroni and cheese with oven-dried tomatoes and roasted garlic to red pepper linguini with house-smoked salmon and trout. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1a.m. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$, B-7
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30a.m. to midnight Sun.-Thurs. and until 1:00a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$, C-7
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located on the waterfront. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.
Country Life Vegetarian Buffet
112 Broad St., Bos., 350-8846 $, C-7
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00a.m.-3p.m.

THE DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS
323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093
441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696
$$, B-7
This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a dear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

EL PHOENIX ROOM
1430 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton , 566-8590
$, D-2
Self-proclaimed as the "oldest Mexican restaurant in Boston," El Phoenix Room provides Spanish-American ambiance and cheap eats to regulars daily. Wash down superb chili and bulging burritos with a few Dos Equis. 16 oz. drafts for just $1.50.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-3
Chef John Vyhnanek personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, or the house specialty, grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. The award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce . is the perfect way to top off this delightful meal. 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HUNGRY I
71 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
MC, V $$, C-6
Voted Boston's most romantic restaurant, the Hungry i is located in Beacon Hill on one of Boston's favorite streets. The cuisine is French country and the ambiance is marriage proposal material, whether in the outside courtyard or next to one of the dining room fireplaces.
Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch.

IL NIDO LOCANDA ITALIANA
257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272
A, DC $$, B-7
If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional, authentic Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming, warm atmosphere, Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Only three weeks after opening, this new North End restaurant is one of the up and coming hot spots. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrioni to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, an abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The well-balanced wine list accomodates novices, as well as connoiseurs. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner Nightly. Closed Mondays.

INDIA SAMRAAT
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
Visa, MC $, D-5
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties include Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super lunch Special 12 - 3p.m .Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take-out/delivery and catering services available.

JAMAICA JAMAICA
162 Prospect St., Cambridge, 864-9368 MC, V $, B-4
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, then cross the bridge to Cambridge and sample the Caribbean inspired dishes at this Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, it's hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza . Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. There's plenty of free parking too. Call to reserve for parties of 8 or more. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

LEGAL SEA FOODS
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$, C-6
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Seafood's has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

MAMMA MARIA
3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$, B-7
Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL & OAR BAR
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 227-1272
MC, V, AMEX $$, B-7
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering regional American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market. Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m. Oar bar open til 2a.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA
207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC ,AE $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

MOON VILLA
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos., 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try their fresh fish specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4a.m. for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $, D-4
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

THE ORIGINAL SPORTS SALOON
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route, C-6
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2a.m., 7 days a week.

PATISSERIE FRANCAISE
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner), A-3
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

PIZZERIA UNO RESTAURANT & BAR
20 Clinton Street, adjacent to Faneuil Hall, 523-5722 (542-2121 for deliver)
MC, V, AMEX, D, B-7
Voted Boston's best pizza by Boston magazine and voted the best deep-dish pizza in Chicago - come in and find out for yourself why we are so good. A full-service restaurant with a nostalgic atmosphere, great service and a wide variety of pasta, appetizers, desserts and sandwiches. Huge $1.50 drafts always on special. Open from 11 a.m. to late night.

PROVINCE STREET PUB
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

THE SABRA RESTAURANT & THE SABRA GRILL
45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

SORENTO'S
86 Peterborough St., Bos., 424-7070
MC, V, D $$, D-4
Enjoy a wide variety of scrumptious Italian dishes, at very reasonable prices. The gourmet pizzas are mouth-watering. The casual atmosphere and quick and friendly service all make for a quaint little Italian restaurant. Free delivery is also offered in a limited area.

SPASSO ITALIA CAFE & BAR
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$, C-6
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history approximately 212 years. The Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country. The WarrenTavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Lunch 11:30-3:30. Dinner 5-10:30. 5-9 on Sun.

DINING

BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos., C-6, 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, C-2, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$, C-5
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, C-6, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's Grande Dame of Hotels - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., and is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelettes and waffles, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, C-6, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, D-4, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

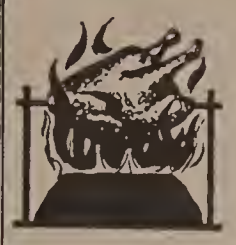
SERENDIPITY 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., B-7, 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bost., C-6, 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ
338 Newbury St., Bos., C-5, 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

ARARAT RESTAURANT
House of Middle Eastern & Armenian B.B.Q. Center
Special Offer Special Offer Special Offer



FREE SOFT DRINK with Purchase of
Half Rotisserie B.B.Q. Chicken Plate
includes Rice Pilaf, Salad & Garlic Sauce.
Eat in $4.99 plus tax Take Out
Ararat Restaurant 71 Arlington Street, Watertown, MA
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Boston's Best Japanese Restaurants



Gyuhama Of Japan
827 Boylston St.
(Opposite the Prudential Center)
437-0188

Gyosai
MarketPlace Ctr.
Faneuil Hall
345-0942

Inside Music / Paul Robicheau

The Sound View

"...[Gabriel's] new show shapes up to be a flamboyant in your face ride; Apart from the main festival fare, tips for clubs include Brazilian saxophonist *Ivo Perelman*..."



GLOBE JAZZ FESTIVAL: *Saxophonist Ed Wilkerson Jr's octet, Eight Bold Souls*

Leave it to Peter Gabriel to plan a stage spectacular for his first tour in six years. Theatrical staging has always been a staple for his concerts, from his early 70s tenure with Genesis to his steamrolling solo career. In his Boston solo debut at the Paradise in 1978, he donned fluorescent face paint and an umbrella hat. On his last tour, in 1986-87, he was "attacked" by hydraulic lighting towers that swept down like mad, mechanical giraffes.

But that's nothing compared to this singer's current tour, which hits the Worcester Centrum June 19 and 20. Gabriel's 1992 album *Us* may sound like a murky, toned-down affair in contrast to his past records (with the big exception of "Steam," which seems like an obvious clone of previous hit "Sledgehammer"). But his new show shapes up to be a flamboyant, in-your-face ride.

The staging stretches 120 feet, and features two stages, a round one with a floating overhead dome and a square one. They're connected by a conveyor belt that transports Gabriel and his band, and – get this – they represent opposing worlds (i.e. the square stage represents the male, the urban and the water, while the round one represents the female, organic and fire). Guess the gender thing must relate to the relationship songs on *Us*; Gabriel must feel like he's been burned by the fire. There's also a projection screen which can move from the back of the stage to the front, from vertical to horizontal, and rapidly spin 360 degrees above the band while images are projected on it.

If this sounds like a real circus, let's just hope it doesn't become the mess that "Steam" was on the Grammy Awards: Gabriel's fake he-man chest and the over-busy dancers were bad enough, but those loud geysers that shot up when he sang the word "steam" were an anti-musical annoyance.

Musically, Gabriel's band still includes Brookline-bred bassist Tony Levin (who'll rejoin King Crimson after the tour), guitarist David Rhodes and drummer Manu Katche, plus keyboardist-vocalist Joy Askew (Joe Jackson, Laurie Anderson) and Indian violinist L. Shankar (underused on Gabriel's recent "Saturday Night Live" appearance, but a haunting virtuoso on double-necked violin).

Elsewhere

The next two weeks are really a bonanza for jazz fans, largely due to the Boston Globe Jazz Festival. The big shows include Ray Charles at a free afternoon Hatch Shell concert on the Charles River Esplanade June 13, and the Jackie McLean Sextet at the Berklee Performance Center June 19. Connoisseurs of creative jazz should also be eyeing a trio with saxophonist Joshua Redman (who'll release an album with Pat Metheny this fall) June 16, and saxophonist Ed Wilkerson Jr.'s octet Eight Bold Souls June 17. Both of those shows are at the Museum of Fine Arts courtyard.

Apart from the main Festival fare, tips for the clubs include Brazilian saxophonist Ivo Perelman (with pianist Joanne Brackeen, bassist Fred Hopkins and drummer Barry Altschul) at Nightstage June 13 and drummer Marvin "Smitty" Smith's new septet (including fellow Steve Coleman associate Robin Eubanks on trombone) at the Middle East June 16. Unless, of course, sax piper Kenny G is more of your idea of jazz. He'll be at Great Woods June 13.

Other recommendations on the rock/folk front would include wry folk-gospel hipster Lyle Lovett and his band at Great Woods June 17 and pointed art-Goth rockers New Model Army at the Paradise June 19. ❑

Freelance writer/photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe.

Classical Music / Steven D. Brown

Early Byrd

"...Is there anything you ever wanted to know about a crumhorn or a viola de gamba but were afraid to ask?.."

Not unlike the great fairs of medieval Europe that drew artisans and merchants from the far and near corners of the old world, the Boston Early Music Festival and Exhibition is a Mecca for the global community of musicians, instrument makers and publishers specializing in early music. And like those great and fabled fairs of the past, the Early Music Festival affords not only an opportunity for vendors to sell their wares, it is also a venue for the exchange of ideas and the presentation of entertainment, both lavish and intimate.

This year marks the seventh biennial Boston Early Music Festival and its primary focus is on the music of William Byrd and Claudio Monteverdi. In terms of the performance schedule, it promises to be the most ambitious to date. This year's main event features Boston Early Music Festival co-director Andrew Parrott leading an international assembly of instrumentalists and vocalists - some of the brightest stars in the field of early music - in a fully-staged production of Claudio Monteverdi's opera, *L'Orfeo*. Performances take place at the Sanders Theater at 8 p.m. on June 15, 16, 18, and 19. Tickets are priced from $40-$19.

Other concerts include Colin Tilney performing music of William Byrd on harpsichord and virginal at First Church in Cambridge at 8 p.m. on June 16. At 8 p.m. on June 17 members of BEMF *L'orfeo* cast lead by lutenist Paul O'Dette present a program of madrigals and instrumental music by Byrd, Monteverdi and their contemporaries at Sanders. Joel Cohen and The Boston Camerata are at the First Church at 8 p.m. on June 18 to continue their exploration of ballads and folkhyms of 18th and 19th century England and America.

Seventeenth century Italian music for brass is on the menu for Concerto Palatino's program at Sanders on June 19 at 2 p.m. And at 2 p.m. on June 20, John Finney leads the Handel & Haydn Society Chorus in liturgical music by Byrd at the First Church. Tickets are for the above concerts are priced at $25, $20, and $15.

IF YOU GO

Seventh Biennial Boston Early Music Festival

June 15 -20

Call 661-1812 for more info

If it's something romantic and intimate that you seek, one of the BEMF Late Night Concerts at the First Church, all beginning at 10:45 p.m., may be the perfect interlude between dinner and whatever romance may follow. Festival co-director Paul O'Dette can be heard in a solo lute recital of music by Dowland and Byrd on June 16. The following evening the string band, the King's Noyse, performs ballad-inspiring instrumental music of English renaissance. On June 18, Elisabeth Wright performs English and Italian keyboard music on harpsichord and virginal. The final Late Night Concert features master harpist Andrew Lawrence-King in a 17th century program. Tickets for all Late-Night Concerts are $15.

Is there anything you've ever wanted to know about a crumhorn or a viola de gamba but were afraid to ask? Instrument makers are a dedicated breed and are passionate about what they do. They want you to know about their artistry, so if there is something you would like to know, by all means ask!

Also on hand at the exhibition will be the A&R directors from some of the leading CD companies that focus on early music. They will be selling selected titles from their catalogues at discount prices. Hours for the BEMF exhibition are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., June 16 through 18 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 19. A one-day pass is $7. A weekly pass for the real devotee is $30.

Time was when the term early music conjured up images of dowdy intellectuals sitting around in coffee houses playing out-of-tune recorders, or of bespectacled scholars who, never singing even a single note, hunched themselves over dusty manuscripts in dimly lit libraries. Each year, the world of early music reaches a continually expanding audience that is enlightened, fascinated and entertained by the sounds of a world long past. The sphere of early music today has gone beyond what anyone might have dreamt of twenty years ago, having engendered period-instrument and historically informed performances of music from the classical and romantic eras that have provided us with fresh perspectives on the standard repertory. Scholarship, to be sure, continues to play a vital role in bringing to light long forgotten manuscripts. Equally important are the artisans who reconstruct musical instruments of the past and the musicians who perform this music, take risks with it and make it truly come alive. ❑

About Last Night. . . / Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

THE LOST WEEKEND...WHERE THE FIGAWI?

". . .This Thing Was Floating Hedonism, a Veritable 24-Hour Debauch Festival. . ."

Somehow, we survived. Don't ask me how. It takes more than just skill or luck to navigate your way through the Figawi weekend on Nantucket. It takes endurance and the ability to put your body through some of the most grueling tests known to mankind. Looking back, it all kind of blurs together, but I'm attempting to pull up some memories from the depths of my polluted brain. It all started at 5 a.m. Saturday. . .

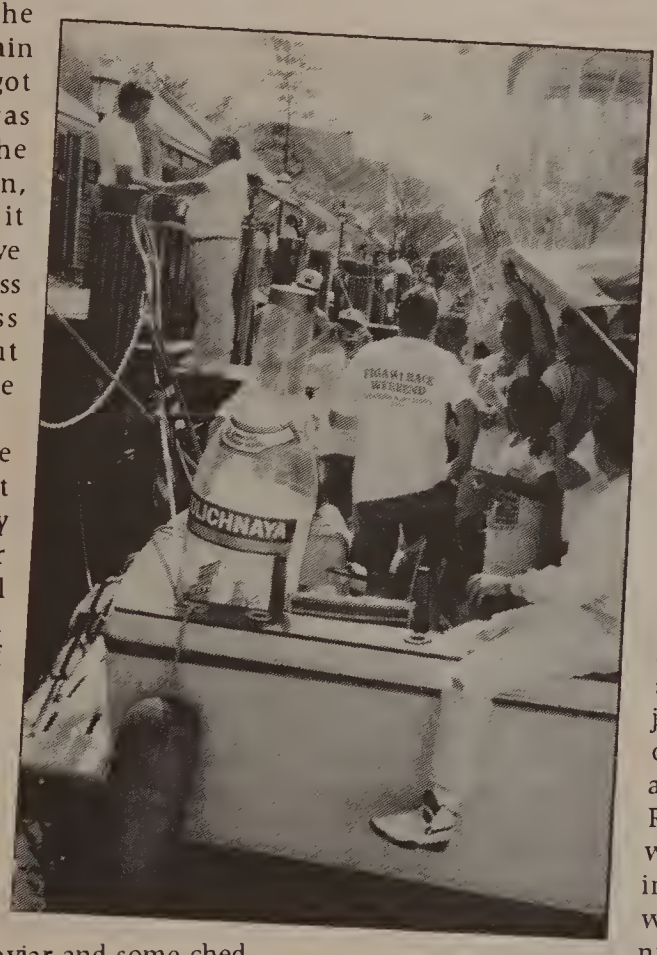
My lovely friend and I rushed to haul our butts down to the Hyannis Marina to catch a boat that was actually sailing over in the Figawi race. Contrary to popular belief, there is more to this weekend than just an excuse to get away from the city for three days and destroy brain cells. The main event is a regatta from Hyannis to Nantucket, and I had been assured that I was going to be on the winning boat, kindly provided by Tom Donnelly of SmartBoats.

But, like some awful dream sequence, we wandered around Hyannis Harbor, beginning to feel uncomfortably like we would never be able to put these damn bags down, and wouldn't you know, we missed the boat by that much. So we were relegated to cattle-car class on the ferry, where the only discernible advantages were that a.) it was raining and we enjoy being relatively dry, and b.) there were drinks. After our second cocktail of the morning we were congratulating ourselves on missing the sailboat, and finding the bar as quickly as we did.

The sun broke through just as we entered Nantucket Harbor. It lay before us: the Promised Land. We grabbed our bags, which had somehow gotten 15 pounds heavier during the trip over, and headed out to find some action.

We found it. *Mon Amour*, a.k.a. the Love Boat. This thing was floating hedonism, a veritable 24-hour debauch festival, a boat whose sole mission in life was to get everyone on board lit up and laid. It was only about three in the afternoon, but everyone on board already had the glow of the healthily intoxicated. Shots of Jaegermeister were tipped back like water, people were shimmying out of their clothes and inhibitions, the Captain was getting nervous, and we were loving life. At this juncture, it occurred to us that we still had no place to stay the night, but we were boozily confident that something would come up.

Finally tearing ourselves away from the floating playland, our first stop of the night was the Rose and Crown, from here on known as the Rose and Juiced, as in "We went to the Rose and got juiced." One of our male escorts for the evening, a certain "John Smith," got so juiced he was evicted from the Rose and Crown, even though it was hard to believe that in that morass of drunkenness he stood out enough to be asked to leave.



We hit the street without him but promptly began to suffer from withdrawal symptoms. With the kind of drunken logic that justifies even the most bizarre actions, we bought a pint of imitation Rumplemintz, and, as an afterthought, a jar of caviar and some cheddar crackers to help cushion the blow. This numbing combination sustained us during the taxi ride to the Chicken Box bar, which turned out to have a line in front of it that stretched to Martha's Vineyard. So horrified were we at the prospect of standing in any line long enough to nap in, we scared our cab driver into taking us to that "other" island hot spot: the Muse.

The peppermint juice was really starting to saturate the gray cells now, but even while reeling around the Muse in a haze, we started to wonder where the hell we were going to stay that night. We did, of course, have some options. "Friends of friends," after all, had a room at a B&B, but we had no key, no idea which room it was, and our luggage reminded us that we couldn't walk a straight line carrying our own weight, never mind the dead body I had in my bag.

Our energy rapidly flagging, our merry band decided we would have to find that room, somehow. So we did what our boggled brains assured us was a good idea. We somehow managed to determine which was their room, and gained entrance through a less than legal method (I climbed through the window).

At this point, our pooped-out little fromage a trois huddled on the floor (which was about as soft as Donald Trump's heart), and when the registered guests stumbled back into the room in the wee hours, the three of us were engaged in animal sex acts. Just kidding.

Sunday a.m. we awoke, unrefreshed but ready for more punishment, covered in floor-bruises and stiffer than the fines for drunk driving. We re-linked with our long-lost friend John Smith (who had found sleep space in the Island clink) and headed towards town.

Down on the docks, pandemonium reigned supreme. Revelers on *Mon Amour* were whooping it up because their captain had been taken away in a seersucker straightjacket, bimbos on a boat tied up across from the Ropewalk bar were entertaining everyone with gratuitous nudity, a crazed individual was asking anybody within range how he could get the hell off this island, and hordes of people were stumbling out of the official Figawi Tent.

The rest of the night was a whirlwind tour of the Rose and-By-Now-Very-Juiced, the Tavern, the Club Car, the Atlantic Cafe, and the Chicken Box. In one semi-sober moment, I actually entertained the thought of getting out while I still enjoyed diplomatic relations with my liver. Then I woke up, and decided I was here on Satan's Sandbox to play, and I wasn't going to give up until Monday afternoon.

Dateline: June 1, Seminole Point. My final thoughts on Figawi: Thank God it's over for another year. The poor people who live on the island and actually had to put up with this madness must be feeling the exact same way, and I can only thank them for being so tolerant of those urban yahoos (us included) who come over every year to trash their homeland. Thanks especially to Mitch and everyone at fabulous 76 Main Street, and Sally, Kath, Jeff and Mr. Smith for putting up with us and our Improper behavior. Maybe by this time next year, I will actually have recovered and be ready to do it all over again. ❑

The First annual

Boston Guitar Show

Saturday 11-7 June 12 & 13 Sunday 10-6

On Display: *The Brian Fischer Collection* As seen in "Old Guitar Mania" & other publications

100's Of Guitars For Sale! Door prizes include a NEW GIBSON LES PAUL!



Hard Rock Cafe

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Get top dollar for your unwanted string instrument!

Vintage • Collectible • Used
Plus . . . New Guitars, Basses, Amps, and Related Paraphernalia & Memorabilia

Top Dealers & collectors will buy, sell & trade!

Appearances by:
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Children under 12 free
For more information contact:
John (11 am - 6 pm) 617-262-2999 Or Russ (4 pm- 9 pm) 401-766-8657

Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Bull & Finch Pub (Cheers)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

Cactus Club
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

Frogg Lane Bar & Grill
720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos, B-7. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m.. "Street Magic" A cappella every Wednesday at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

Province Street Pub
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

Warren Tavern
241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, B-5. A funky little bar whose clientele includes young professionals & athletes. Also claims to attract Boston's most beautiful women (?!) Local celebs don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

Pop/Jazz/ Blues/Reggae

Cantab Lounge
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

Nightstage
497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb, A-3. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

Paradise Rock Club
254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos, C-3. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

Rathskeller
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos, C-5. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

Ryle's Jazz Club
876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb, B-5. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryle's. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

Western Front
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

Province Street Pub
• BOSTON •
$3 Validated parking at the Washington St. Garage
Appetizers Served Until 1AM
Loft Available For Private Functions
Hours - 11:30 - 2:00 AM
Appetizers Served Until 1AM
18 PROVINCE STREET BOSTON, 227-2992
Located near Downtown Crossing,
around the corner from the Parker House Hotel...

Dancing

Avalon
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

Live Music Schedule

To send schedule updates for our 6/23- 7/6 issue, fax them to Megan Gilmartin at 232-4305 by June 11th. All schedules must be legibly typewritten.

WEDNESDAY 9TH

Bill's Stone Circle/Odds & Ends/Ripe Bunratty's Flail/ Fuel/ The Cauldron/ Small/ Good Thing Market Place Cafe & Grill Dave B. & the Hot Shots Regattabar The Cecilia Smith Quartet

TUESDAY 10TH

Bunratty's Slapshot/ Razorwire/ 6L6/ 7th Day Chain Great Scott's The Candles Johnny D's Hypnotic Clambake Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley Band Nightstage Knots & Crosses/ Courage Brothers/ Sarah Laugh Regattabar Gandaya Scullers Jazz Tap w/ Josh Hilberman Toad Jennifer Trynin Venus de Milo House/Tribal/&Funky Grooves with DJ Debo Willow Jazz Club Jerry Bergonzi/ Mick Goodrick/ Gary Chaffee/ Bruce Gertz

FRIDAY 11TH

Bunratty's Big Chief/ Mouth/ The Tulips Great Scott's Lounge 2000 Hard Rock Cafe The Subterraneans Market Place Cafe & Grill Bob Talalla/Bob Gay Regattabar The John Pizzarelli Quartet Scullers Ronnie Laws Toad One Thin Dime Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz Willow Jazz Club Jerry Bergonzi/ Mick Goodrick/ Gary Chaffee/ Bruce Gertz

SATURDAY 12TH

Bunratty's Chuck/ Squid/ Amongus/ Duck Duck Great Scott's Lounge 2000 Johnny D's Little Anthony & The Locomotives Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley/ Julie Sussman Nightstage Eric Leeds Regattabar The John Pizzarelli Quartet Scullers Ronnie Laws Toad The Willows Venus de Milo DISCO Willow Jazz Club Jerry Bergonzi/ Mick Goodrick/ Gary Chaffee/ Bruce Gertz

SUNDAY 13TH

Bill's Motion Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley/ Bob Gay Nightstage Ivo Perelman/Fred Hopkins/Joanne Brackeen/Barry Altshul/Guilherme Franco Tuesday's Ice Cream Scott Vercoe/Marcello Garcia Quintet Venus de Milo South American Night Willow Jazz Club Bob Baughman/ Jim Repa Quintet

MONDAY14TH

Bunratty's Jamie Shaler Market Place Cafe & Grill Street Magic Willow Jazz Club Susan Welby

TUESDAY 15TH

Bill's Blistersoul/Zia/Flail/Mother Earth Bunratty's The Whipping Boys/ Tip of the Tongue/ T.C. Rox Johnny D's Brooks Williams Market Place Cafe & Grill R.D. Riddim Regattabar Sonabo Scullers Frank Wilkins Jazz Vocal Showcase Willow Jazz Club Michael Ray and his Cosmic Krew

WEDNESDAY 16TH

Bill's Sidewalk Gallery/Dantes Grin/Curious Ritual/Jabbering Trout Bunratty's Circle of Willis/ Ommah Sleeping/ Webber Keith Johnny D's Kolombaka Market Place Cafe & Grill Dave B. & the Hot Shots Regattabar Heavy Metal Horns Scullers Eric Marienthal

THURSDAY 17TH

Bunratty's Naked Age/ Blister/ Diabolix/ Mother Tongue Great Scott's The Candles Johnny D's The Cox Family Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley Band Regattabar Unu Mondo Scullers Joe Pass Toad American Gladiators/ Modern Farmers Tuesday's Ice Cream The Chris B-R Quintet Venus de Milo House/Tribal/ & Funky Grooves with DJ Debo Willow Jazz Club Tony Corelli Quintet

FRIDAY 18TH

Bunratty's Mystery Jones/ The Subterraneans/ Mere Mortals/ Glorious Union Great Scott's North-South Connection Johnny D's Boogaloo Swamis Market Place Cafe & Grill Bob Talalla/ Bob Gay Regattabar Didi Stewart & Friends Scullers Joe Pass Toad Laurie Geltman Venus de Milo Happy House & Acid Jazz Willow Jazz Club Ben Schwendener Trio

SATURDAY 19TH

Bunratty's Cobalt 60/ Screwtractor/ Grip/ Pound Colonial Inn Richard Shindell Great Scott's The Candles Johnny D's Toni Lynn & Washington Blues Band Market Place Cafe & Grill Joe Groomes/ Peter Golemme Regattabar The Ritz Scullers Joe Pass Toad Tacklebox Venus de Milo DISCO Willow Jazz Club Ben Schwendener Trio

SUNDAY 20TH

Bill's Hot Like Fire Bunratty's Jehova Witnesses/ Evol Twin/ The Miss Yous Johnny D's Killer Buicks Market Place Cafe & Grill Brian Walkley/Bob Gay/Street Magic Tuesday's Ice Cream The Original Tuesday's Sextet Venus de Milo South American Night Willow Jazz Club Dave Hawthorne Quartet

MONDAY 21ST

Market Place Cafe & Grill R.D. Riddim Nightstage Chris Smither Willow Jazz Club Bob Sinicrope Quintet

TUESDAY 22ND

Bill'sRadiohead / Laughing Academy/40 Bunratty's Priapism/ Mighty Joe Young Market Place Cafe & Grill Dave B. & the Hot Shots Regattabar The Dominique Eade Quintet Scullers Frank Wilkins Jazz Vocal Showcase Willow Jazz Club Phil Person Quintet

Boston's Best Buys

Sharyn Fireman

Art Smart

At the end of June, the Levinson-Kane Gallery will close their doors for good, but not without the style in which they have always conveyed good taste, humor, and excellence in art representation.

Not in the history of Newbury Street openings and closings has an opportunity to purchase art like this ever occurred. We will miss the gallery for its political humor, the "dog" shows, funky furniture, and the sheer pleasure of art as adventure.

In the spirit of art for art's sake, June Levinson and Barbara Kane have decided to close "not with a whimper but with a bang!" by having an inventory reduction sale. This is a unique opportunity to acquire something wonderful; first-rate works at very reasonable prices. Discounts will be up to 50 percent off. As always, Rob Levinson will also be on hand to assist in selection of art. The sale will be offered through the month of June. All sales final.

Levinson-Kane Gallery, 14 Newbury Street, third floor (247-0545); Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thereafter, by appointment.

Kitchen Aid

Weston Kitchens is having a sample sale on famous Bertch and Siematic kitchens. The Bertch system is a painted white maple built-in unit with a grouping of upper and lower cabinets including a lovely island with a wine rack. The original price for this custom kitchen was $15,000, here it's $8,000. The additional counter tops include a corian counter with an integral double corian sink, while the self-standing island is outfitted with white tiles, hand-painted with a leaf motif and a cook-top cutout. Counters were originally $5,000, now $2,300.

Siematic is the Rolls Royce of kitchens. This particular sample sale includes a high-gloss polyester finish in dove gray, making it particularly easy to clean, and impervious to scratching. The original price was $45,000, here $11,210. Counters were $4,500, now $2,3000 for counters. Checks accepted, no credit cards; all sales final.

Weston Kitchens, 868 Worcester Road, Wellesley (237-4264). Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., till sold.

Brrrr!Furrrrr!

It's been a long, cold fall, winter and spring, and whether you hang out at the B.C. games in a raccoon coat, or are dripping in sable, Casler Furs has excellent prices for the storing and luminizing of all your furs. All coats, regardless of style or quality, are stored for $28 each, and cleaning (luminizing) for $38. In the capable hands of the manager, Jim Moore, your coat will be expertly attended to. With over 18 years experience in the fur business, attention will be given by Jim on many details: torn linings, loose buttons, ripped armholes and worn edges, plus suggestions for remodeling if you're in the market for a style change. Personal checks and major credit cards are accepted. Storage available throughout the summer, but it is recommended that furs be stored away from heat in special cold storage lockers to prevent linings from drying out and prolong the life of the fur.

Casler Furs, 281 Needham Street, Newton, Marshal's Plaza (969-3877), Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Clothes Out

After 29 years in business at the same location on Route 9, Lenards is closing its doors. The opportunity to purchase very fine classic woman's professional clothing to elegant gowns is available at 50 percent off and more, sizes 4-18.

Lovely "little black dresses" for $170, and several cocktail suits in long sleeve black satin with net and sequin inserts originally $725, now $180. There is a good selection of separates: pants, walking shorts, skirts, blouses and knit tops, all at 50-80 percent off. A small but elegant selection of imported leather handbags and evening bags, both beaded and metal, are available.

In this "everything must go" sale, even store fixtures, mannequins and window displays, are selling at rock-bottom prices. Seamstresses will be on the premises for alterations during the liquidation All sales are final. No lay-aways. Through June 30; checks, Visa, MC, Amex.

Lenards, 1240 Boylston Street, Chestnut Hill, Route 9. Parking available behind store (734-5888). Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thurs. evenings 'til 8 p.m.

Undercover

This specialty furniture store is having a sale on its custom slipcovered sofas and loveseats. The sofa styles are Victorian, English and Classic, with a selection of more than 30 fabric choices for custom slipcovers. Colors vary from washed-out white, rose, cream, beige to intense blues, greens and burgundy.

Selections include; the Donatello, a straight-arm 90 inch muslin sofa originally $1,850, now $1,299. The Divinci Suite includes a 90 inch sofa at $1,995, now $1,299 and 60 inch loveseat was $1,895, here $1,199. The Medici classic 90" tuxedo arm sofa was $1,925, now $1,299. All sofas include down-filled seat cushions, slipcover fabric of your choice, and a one-time opportunity to order sofa as a sleeper for an additional $100, usually $300.

Because sofas are customized especially for you, the order may take up to 12 weeks. Personal checks. Visa, MC, Amex, Discover.

Heartwood, 880 Commonwealth Avenue, Brookline (731-3335); 1013 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge (547-1213). Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. ❑

Send suggestions for **Boston's Best Buys** to Sharyn Fireman, c/o *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station Street, Suite 7A, Brookline 02146, or fax to 232-4305, six weeks before sale. Please do not phone.

*Sharyn Fireman is an interior designer and owner of **Buy Design**, a service providing access to National Design Centers and purchasing of fine home furnishings, fabrics and accessories at designer prices. She can be reached at the Buy Design office, 494-0303.*

Improper Impersonals

Feel the urge to unleash your frustrations or vent your hostilities on an unsuspecting friend or enemy? Look no further than the Improper Impersonals, a forum designed for pranksters, irate neighbors, relatives, maniacs or any would-be target of your acid tongue. Best of all they're FREE! Send your Impersonals to us at Improper Impersonals, The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146. Or fax it to us at 232-4305.

Sally, Kathy & Jeffy
WE LOVE YOU. Can we all go back, Jack, and do it again? Please? Our livers are almost recovered. Thanks for making this booze cruise of a weekend most sweet.
Your "roommates"

Gary Gowan,
We were gentle on you, yes? Are you unhappy, no? No Saabling into your pillow, now. We still love you more than the Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. XXOO,
Someone Who's Glad You Lived

Randy, So, you think you have a popsicle, huh? Your dink is so small that one would have to use a magnifying glass to find it! If you are ever stupid enough to be in the vicinity of Brookline again, there are quite a few Pam's who would like nothing better than to give you a big boot in the ass, although not the kind you might enjoy. The Ramrod boy's would be more suited to you. You really ought to see a shrink about this fantasy you seem to have with the name Pam. People with the name Pam are way out of your league to even bother with you.
Pamela

Bonehead,
Are the streets really paved with gold out there? It's too bad you can't make a living making crank calls.
Still waiting for my 5%.

To my Butthead Ex-Boyfriend,
No More Cheese! The Fat Man Walks At Night! Shut-up Jerky! Hugs and Kisses.'
P.S. Miss me yet? Of course!
Your beautiful Ex

Goljerp,
I'll break you!
DAC

Susie,
Don't get so stressed out. You're going to drive yourself nuts. Don't worry I'll be back in a month...err week.
-D

Lewie,
Come back or I'll find you and beat you like the poodle-lover you are. PLEASE DON'T GO. Or, better yet, take me with you. Aaauurrrgghh!
Squirrel Girl

John C.,
You've bloody well heard this a million times, but I'll say it again. You are a bastard. If you ever ask for my help again, it's back in the WC for you, wanker.
Chas

Glitch,
You psychopath. Do you really have to fly half a world away to harm innocent animals? There are so many around here more deserving of your lead.
SQGM

Miss Thang,
All right! Here comes....Mr. Kielbasa!!! Da da da-da, da da da-da!
Your Queen

Papa C.,
I appreciate the attention but no more blood please.Dear Ruthie (I mean "Wee"),
Thanks for an awesome Memorial Day weekend. It was perfect. Let's do it again soon.
Jim

Akira,
You didn't tell us that this place was crawling with crazed locals not to mention the demons. What kind of a nut sold it to you?
Gene & Issac

Dear "Women in Red Mini-Dress,"
Had fun staring at/with you at the late "Accidents" show. Thanks for the quick kiss by the cigarette machine. See you the next time The Accidents play, but leave your boyfriend at home. Also, what is your name?
Mirage

Margaret, Laura & Lynne
Welcome to part two, Philip talks when he's drunk! I can smell your fear already. Among his words were these choice facts – Laura, you taste bad! Maybe you should work on getting that ass down to a size 20. Margaret, do you really hate sex, or just men? Lynne, you suck (or rather, won't) in bed. Maybe he was just too big for you. I know you've all heard how gorgeous I am. Unlike you, I've never let myself go .The wedding is on August 20, maybe we'll see you there? Not!
P.S., yes, I did pierce his nipples - yummy!
Cookie

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WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
TONY PARKER - King of Sing-a-longs starting at 8:30PM
SATURDAY
Piano & vocals by Brookline's own fabulous DOTTIE DEAN
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Monday's
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ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — JUNE 9- JUNE 22, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)

First we have to accommodate the weight placed on already overburdened shoulders due to Saturn's retrograde station today, although, on the up side, mass frustration with government policies may take a rest during the retrogression. Then we have to endure a difficult square between militant Mars in proud Leo and power-crazed Pluto Friday morning. If we manage to get through the weekend without another war erupting somewhere (this aspect rattles Saddam Hussein) we'll still be barraged by lies and excuses midweek as Mercury opposes delusional Neptune and inventive Uranus. These are media madness aspects, so prepare for the worst or, if your humor is properly skewed, the best the "bad news is good entertainment" mavens have to offer. Speaking of which, Bill Clinton will be in the midst of a volatile Mars transit over his Leo sun this week, the first in two years. Keep one eye on the tube as you wind up matters that began a month ago while you prepare for the next new moon (Saturday, the 19 at 28 Gemini at 3:52 p.m.) and the summer solstice (Monday, the 20 at 11 p.m.). The best expression of paternal love, a sun trine to Saturn, is exact on the day after Father's Day. Close, but no cigar.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

You can wrestle bucks from a financial backer, have an extraordinary (and potentially dangerous) sexual encounter and play a sport to the best of your athletic prowess this weekend. Or you could run into a stone wall, get mugged in a dark alley and incur the wrath of the IRS. Either way the ball bounces, after your feisty Mars ruler confronts obsessive, manipulative Pluto you'll know you've been experienced. The new moon sends ex-schoolmates, siblings and neighbors in and out of your life for the next month.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Bulls born in mid-May are prime targets for a partner's obsessive/compulsive behavior, grand stand plays that hog the center of attention. And while there's a powerful sexual overtone to the game, it could turn nasty before you know it. Just who is ruling your roost? Who stays home, who goes? Mercury brings a variety of travel info and alternatives midweek which you shouldn't discount because of the weirdness. The other Bulls seek expensive but non-lethal forms of recreation and romance. Father's Day is both honorable and profitable.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Happy Birthday. The best present would be a clean slate (the second Gemini new moon of the year is coming up) and a way to avoid the rough and tumble ruckus in the neighborhood this weekend. Be careful tootling around town, running errands, challenging local heroes and veterans. Somebody wants to fight, and it ain't you, babe. Money in funny ways: an insurance policy, a tax rebate if you open your mail, return all your calls. But who can be bothered about bucks when you're having so much fun?

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

War games, prizefights, open heart surgery on Lifetime? Your taste in entertainment this weekend runs to blood sports, so unless you're willing to lick your wounds. Don't push your luck when confronting the bruiser working the door, the lout cutting into line. Clever conversation won't save your ass. That, however, you could sell. When Mars and Pluto, two of the sexier planets, mix it up, things you never thought you could do become strangely appealing and readily available. Another indecent proposal? Cleanse your soul at the summer solstice.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

Temper, temper. Watch yours, Bubba. Mars in your sign gives you more strength, for good or for ill, but when this aggressive planetary energy is challenged by destructive Pluto, your sense of security, family solidarity is threatened. Lock the windows, batten the hatches, hell can break loose, or worse, the plumbing breaks down. However, you'll encounter less opposition now that Saturn is retrograde in your house of partners and the public and probably receive genuine, bankable support after the sun trines Saturn on the 21th.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

You can pass through the weekend unscathed if you let unconscious anger out in appropriate places: the shrink's office, the gym or in a journal of your dreams. Just don't mix it up with the power behind the throne or the merchant behind his counter. Road warriors must avoid the Highway Patrol. Midweek as your Mercury ruler confronts imaginative Neptune and offbeat Uranus, you'll have truly inspired takes on your latest creation and maybe some opposition from professional peers. That'll pass with the new moon.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)

Almost, but not quite. A fateful inconjunct (150 degrees) between Jupiter in your sign and your Venus ruler puts a desirable deal, an attractive companion within reach, but not yet in hand. Wait a month. These disappointments build character as surely as they deplete wallets. Still, if you let your mind drift to distant places and foreign publications you'll find another sort of stimulus, one that'll have an immediate payoff. Talk of travel, info about the (summer?) house and family can spur movement.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Adding insult to injury? Be very careful you don't burst your boss' bubble because you may have to pay heavily, say a pound of flesh. A nasty square between Mars and Pluto, your two ruling planets, provokes conflict and sets a purely personal intention (the will to power?) at odds with a career goal. You may not have control over what happens, but you should try to curb your temper, downplay your desire to have it your way. Incidentally, this aspect has powerful sexual connotations that can't be ignored. Certainly not by you.

SAGITARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)

Saturn turning retrograde in your house of communication, changes your interest (more or less serious?) in a school, local publication or sales organization. If you're as lucky as you claim, the potentially violent Mars/Pluto square this weekend will occur without you ever noticing, and all the conversation Mercury brings when it opposes the planets in your money house in the middle of the week will turn out to be profitable once you rise to meet the challenge and digest the details.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

A friend and your money (an investment?) may cause problem, ditto the union and your dues, but once you blow off a little steam this weekend, that situation should move right along. More to the point is the deal already in the works and the conversations with your partner or attorney that'll last through most of the summer. Mercury opposes Neptune and Uranus in your sign midweek, and will do so again in July (retrograde) and August. Sorry, but everything in its own good time.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

Another round of "gotcha" as cantankerous Mars in your marriage house prods at a secret about your family or boss. Pluto, at the top of your chart, won't give in and Mars won't stop, so you may be the one who's wrestling over the outcome. This passionate power play doesn't last for long although a gentler version comes up later this summer. Info about an aspect of work, service or health in the middle of the week, which can also take up a lot of summer downtime. Get all the details you can now.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

Two separate energies, one sweet and tenuously loving, good-natured and generous although not particularly successful; the other proud and passionate, headstrong and egotistical vie for your attention this weekend. Don't let the obvious macho hit obliterate the gentler vibe, you can have them both. Other aspects of your romantic nature are explored on Wednesday when Mercury opposes your Neptune ruler and you see limitless possibilities while fantasizing the creative potential of what is now simply a friendship.

Call (900) 933-0033 for Rockie's DAILY forecast. 18 years old or over. Touch-tone phones. $1.25 per minute. L.A. Weekly (213) 667-2620.

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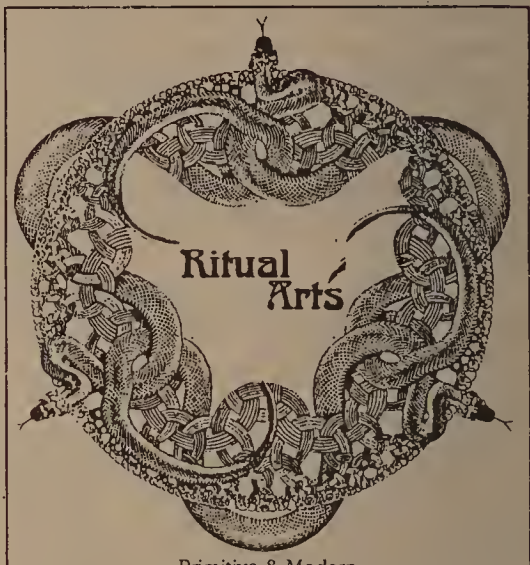
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REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

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BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available Immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

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BROOKLINE Rooms avail. in 3 bdrm apt. Walking distance to B+C lines, Bread & Circus. Bright, spac. Int. Fam. neigh, quiet. Ideal for students, near BC & BU on Summit Ave. $366/mo. Avail Aug.1st for 1 yr. Beth 536-3003(9-5)

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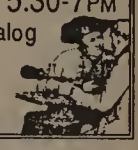
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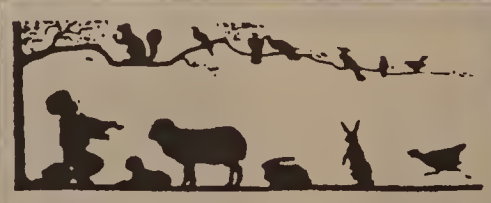
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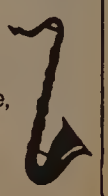


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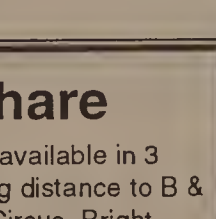
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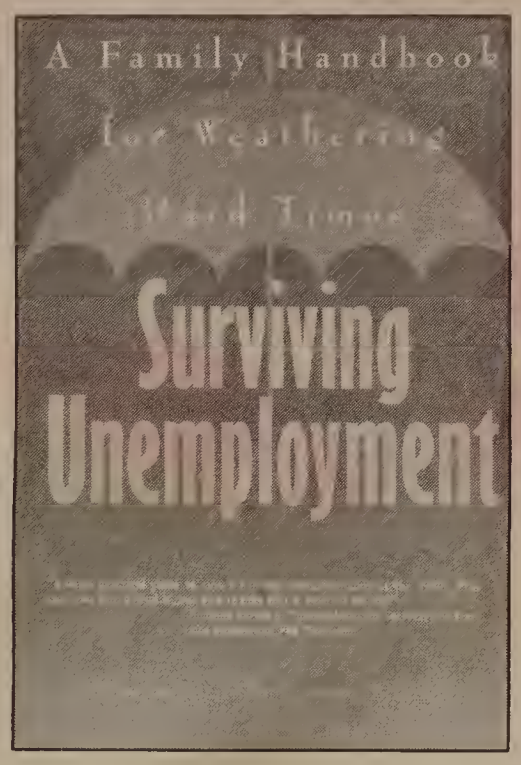


THE Couture War

BEHIND THE FRONT LINE OF LOCAL DESIGN

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy



From Ritz To Blitzed, But Lived Through It

This practical, consoling, friendly book is designed for people who thought they'd never need or read such a thing: the surprised-to-be unemployed. Many of the 16 million who were jobless last year are middle-class people, on the sobering downslide from the giddy 80s. They never factored penury into their life's plan, and are unacquainted with the institutions, practices, government-related dealings, or the waters (or church basements) upon which bread is mercifully cast. To keep one's credit, one's spirit, and family esprit-de-corps intact, if possible, Cathy Beyer (whose Texas geologist husband lost his job in the bust), Doris Pike and Loretta McGovern have turned up a wealth (and wealth is what fending off the wolf at the door begins to feel like) of resources to help the newly-insolvent: no-interest loans from non-profit agencies to help pay for fuel, temporary low-cost housing, urban homesteading as a creative way to live, interim medical insurance, student loans, tips on cheap-skateries like using rebuilt replacement parts for your car, the black, white and gray areas regarding unemployment benefits, and names, numbers, and facts about – alas – selling your house quickly. As if a loving friend were by your side, sample letters to creditors and others are also provided. The hurt, shame, and anger of job loss (who hasn't burnt in effigy a dissing ex-employer?) are offset in this book both by reality-checking and by cheer. Budget worksheets and schedule tips help make your "job" of the moment coping – practically and emotionally – with the problems of "no job." This book is a little army of salvation.

"Surviving Unemployment: A Family Handbook For Weathering Hard Times," $10.95
By Cathy Beyer, Doris Pike, Loretta McGovern
Henry Holt & Company New York

Just Say Know

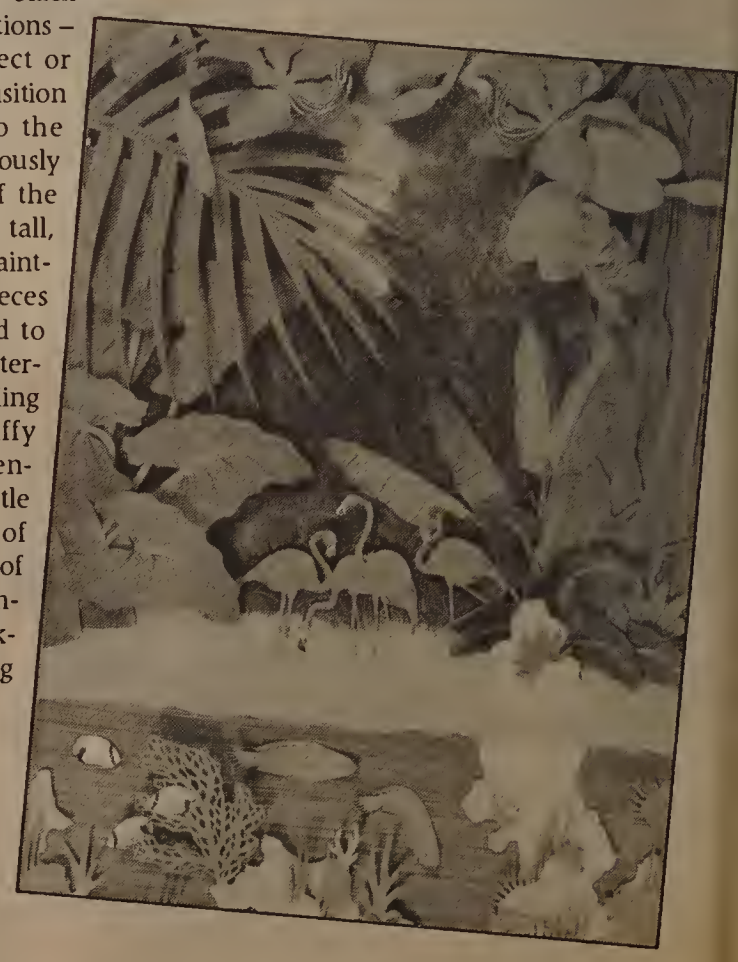
The Living With Aids Theater Project is a program that a school can import, for 8-10 weeks. During that time, Program Coordinator Lisa Troy inspires and directs students to write and put on a performance, including songs, skits, rap, or whatever it takes, on any and all aspects of the devastating disease of our time. By asking questions – pleadingly, sensitively – high school students, on the cutting edge of AIDS danger and AIDS awareness, are learning while they wonder, and teaching while they perform. In the process, they can become the resident school experts on a subject as denial-ridden as it is compelling. For further information on something they "don't quite want to know," their peers will be able to remember: "Ah yes, Jim knows about condoms and the risk factors." In addition, they may publish, as the Madison Park High School students did, a little magazine of their writings. It is both touching and terrifying to see teen anguish turned to this booming subject, where a date may unwittingly be a double-date with death. The subject is worried in letters, diaries, hortatory credos, dialogues between mother and daughter, and morning-after twistings of terror and guilt ("It's a sunny morning, and last night was a long night...I wonder did I use a condom?" writes Louis Anjos). As they lacerate themselves, they sternly challenge stupidity, protection, carelessness, and the norm of mindlessly saying "Yes" when they should say "No," or "Only with a condom." The tone, both the literary and the emotional, ranges from disbelieving anger (a letter from John Gomes to Magic Johnson says "If I were you I would've bought a solid gold condom, with all the money you make!") to a sort of Supreme's flouncy hand-on-hip song ("Girl, what was you thinking? I know he said he loved you, but love has nothing to do with you dying" from one Shakeyma) to rueful ("And you know what? He broke up with me after he told me he was infected," from Farrah) to mortal sadness ("How have you been? I shouldn't have asked that question, now that I know that you have AIDS.") No subject could be more crucially-right-now. And in a shrinking arts/education environment, kids incidentally get some theater education while doing this project. Call for information on how to get it into your school.



Living With Aids Theater Project / Lisa Troy / 522-6714

Toys R Crazee!

Some of the adorment fun that hippies had in the 60s is now being had by the kids of today, in this shop of high-spice, richly-colored, painted toys, furniture and charmingly frivolized necessities. It is Susi's (she's the sister of down-the-street Mobilia's Libby) and everything here is the work of artists and craftists. Dripping off the ceiling are the hangy-legged soft sculpture mobiles of Kay Curtis, that sprout as many superfluous decoration-thingies as possible. Susan Baker makes slightly lopsided carved wooden clocks, with painted cats or cows or mermaids smack in the middle. Little black voodoo dolls covered with little crackpot decorations – each with such labels as Love, Desire, Respect or Travel – are among the crossover-to-adult-acquisition things in this store (which really caters to the charmable, shopping "inner child" in a suspiciously large part of the clientele). So does much of the painted furniture by Tatutina,which includes tall, skinny chests of drawers, boxes with brightly painted cats on them, and stand-up decorated pieces with a central window-screen section designed to hold earrings. Don and Lisa Drum's soft dolls (alternately; sofa pillows!) include a playing card King and Queen, from which cascade stuffed puffy hearts. A very practical and adorable piece, parenthesized by carved roosters, will hold a line of little shoes or sneakers. Susi also sells the work of young craftskids in the form of jewelry – signed of course. If this Southwest-colored shoppette stimulates your tyke, you might consider Susi's week-by-week summer arts Mini Camp with rotating activities ($200 per week, through Sept. 7).



Susi's A Gallery For Children
348 Huron Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
876-SUSI

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *the Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, The Boston Globe, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. *Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146*

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It's not all just sequins and stitches behind the front line of Boston's fashion design scene. Our local designers are vying with international labels to be hanging in your closets, but is the rivalry just as hot on the homefront? Find out as we take an *Improper* look at the Couture Wars.

By Chad Sanborn

17 Tips For the Fashion Challenged



Columnist Anthony Tedesco does some investigative, on-the-street reporting to come up with Five Fashion Rules To Live By for the Fashion-Impaired.

by Anthony Tedesco

23 Dining Your Way Through The Lazy Days of Summer



Need a new restaurant to try? Got a date tonight but you don't know where to go? Our Food Editor Peter McNamara gives his top picks for summer dining in the city.

By Peter McNamara



On The Cover

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Meli Pennington

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HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

23 A dancer's career is often glorious and inevitably too short. To support them in their transition, **Boston Ballet** Principal Dancer Karl Condon hosts the **Dancers' Resource Fund Benefit Performances**, from today through June 26 in the Grand Studio, 19 Clarendon Street. Tickets, $25; starts at 8 p.m. Call 695-6955.



SAIL AWAY
Maritime art at the "Great Age of Sail" exhibit, June 29

THURSDAY

24 'Tis the season to be golfing. . . especially for a good cause. The Make-A-Wish Foundation and The Boston Company present a **Celebrity Golf Tournament**, starting at 8 a.m. with a breakfast/registration. Shotgun play starts at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Call 451-WISH for more.

SUNDAY

27 Aerial demonstration teams, including the famous Air Force Thunderbirds (celebrating their 40th anniversary), will be winging into the Hanscom Air Force Base for a ear-splitting, eye-boggling **Aerial Show**. Flying gets underway at 10 a.m.; parking and admission are free. Call 377-4466.



PARTY PAIR
"The" event of the summer, Newport's Attaché Moi Soirée , July 3

MONDAY

28 If you haven't made it down yet, go check out the imminently cool **Sports Museum of New England**, located in the CambridgeSide Galleria. Paul Newman's race car is one of the newest attractions – way hip. Open 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon-6 p.m. Sundays. Admission is $6. Call 57-SPORT.

TUESDAY

29 Billowing clouds and towering sailships surround you; no, you haven't traveled backwards in time, you are at the **Great Age of Sail** maritime art exhibit, at the Peabody & Essex Museum in East India Square, Salem. Admission is $6; open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 745-9500.

FRIDAY

25 Dance Umbrella is proud to host the first-ever **Jazz Tap/Hip Hop Festival**. Rappin', tappin' and poppin' will make this a wild night, with master footsmen such as Broadway's Savion Glover shaking the floor. At the Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road. Starts 8 p.m.; tickets $14-22. Call 931-3100.

SATURDAY

26 They're weird, they're funny, they're. . .**Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales**, and they're playing the Black Box Theatre at The Boston Center for the Performing Arts (539 Tremont St.). Tickets are $7 for the 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. shows. Call 288-5585 for more on this wacky comedy troupe.

WEDNESDAY

30 In the heart of Downtown Crossing, between Jordan Marsh and Filene's, there will be a concert today. The **Rob Scheps Core-tet**, an original jazz sextet, will play their brand of jazz for the lunch-time crowd, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Part of an ongoing concert series. Call 482-1932; free.

THURSDAY

1 Feeling sleuth-like? Want to delve into Boston's mysterious side? Sleuth & Company presents the **Twilight Mystery Tour**, a ninety-minute takes you from Captain Kidd to the Boston Strangler. Leaves the corner of Charles and Boylston Streets at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $18.50 per person. Call 542-2525.

FRIDAY

2 Need a laugh after the week you just had? Dying for an excuse to chuckle away that stress? **Catch a Rising Star's Jonathan Groff**, known as "the boy next door," will crack up your already-addled head. Tickets $12; shows 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Call 426-3737.

SATURDAY

3 The party that shook the status quo last summer, the **Attaché Moi Soirée**, is back. The Viking Hotel, One Bellevue Ave., Newport is the site for this "Lace Party" event. Tickets are $25 ($20 in advance); 8 p.m.- 1 a.m. Call 254-0406. Miss this and give up on your social life.

SUNDAY

4 Independence Day – summer has finally officially kicked into high gear. Enjoy it. Loll in it. And, if just standing along the Charles River isn't enough for you, go to the **Community Boating** dock for a **Fourth of July barbecue**. Cost is $30; doors open at 4 p.m. Call 523-1038.

MONDAY

5 Wind up a weekend's worth of July 4 activities with a day at the **Boston Harborfest**. Everything from a canoe ride through Belle Isle Marsh to a New England Clambake Cruise to a walking tour of Paul Revere's ride are available. And that's just the start. Call 227-1528 for a full list of events.

TUESDAY

6 A new gallery is gracing Newbury Street's already bodacious art scene. **Esther Levy** presents exhibit, **The Colors of the Duke**, along with small works by gallery artists at Andrea Marquit Fine Arts (38 Newbury Street, 4th Floor). Open Thurs.-Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., or by appointment. Call 859-0190.



TOP GUN
Screaming jets at the Aerial Show, June 27



HOT PICK
Boston Ballet's Dancer's Resource Fund Benefit, June 23

PROFILES

JULIET REID

New Kid on Newbury

BY NICOLE L. MILLS

Oh Juliet, Juliet, wherefore art thou Juliet? In the fair, fair, boutique of Verona, of course, to paraphrase the Bard. When Juliet Reid, owner of Newbury Street's newest fashion foray, emerges from the inner office at the back of her store, she looks very well-dressed, very professional, very fashionable, and very, well, young.

The 23-year-old graduate of Brown has already made her mark on Boston's fashion scene with Verona, which opened in February on the first block of Newbury Street. In a city generally condemned for its clothing conservatism, Juliet Reid has found a way to walk the line between youthful hipness and higher-end designer couture.

How did someone who claims laughingly that "like anyone who graduates from college, I was qualified to do absolutely nothing," jump into retail fashion? "I just walked around," she says. "I'm not from Boston, but when I came here, I just walked around, shopping for myself, and I recognized that there was a definite niche in the city that was not being filled. All the stores were either very conservative or very avant-garde, and there was very little in-between. I also thought that Boston needed more service-oriented places."

Newbury Street is not famous for service-oriented boutiques, to be sure. How familiar is it to walk into an upscale Newbury boutique in jeans and a tee-shirt and have the sales help practically turn their backs on you? Reid's whole approach to the mood of her store was to make it as approachable as possible for her clientele. "You have to be dressed up to go into half of these stores," she says. "It's like, will you take my money, please? We've had security problems because we don't want to put buzzers on the doors, because it's just another level of intimidation."

Verona offers a range of designs and prices that don't just cater to the upper-end Newbury Street client, but at the same time, Reid wants people to realize that clothing can be an investment: "Men especially don't understand that – look how much they spend on a stereo, saying 'Can't you hear the quality difference?'" Reid wants her clients to wear the quality difference.

How long does she think she'll be in this business? "As long as we're having fun," she smiles. Naturally. ❑

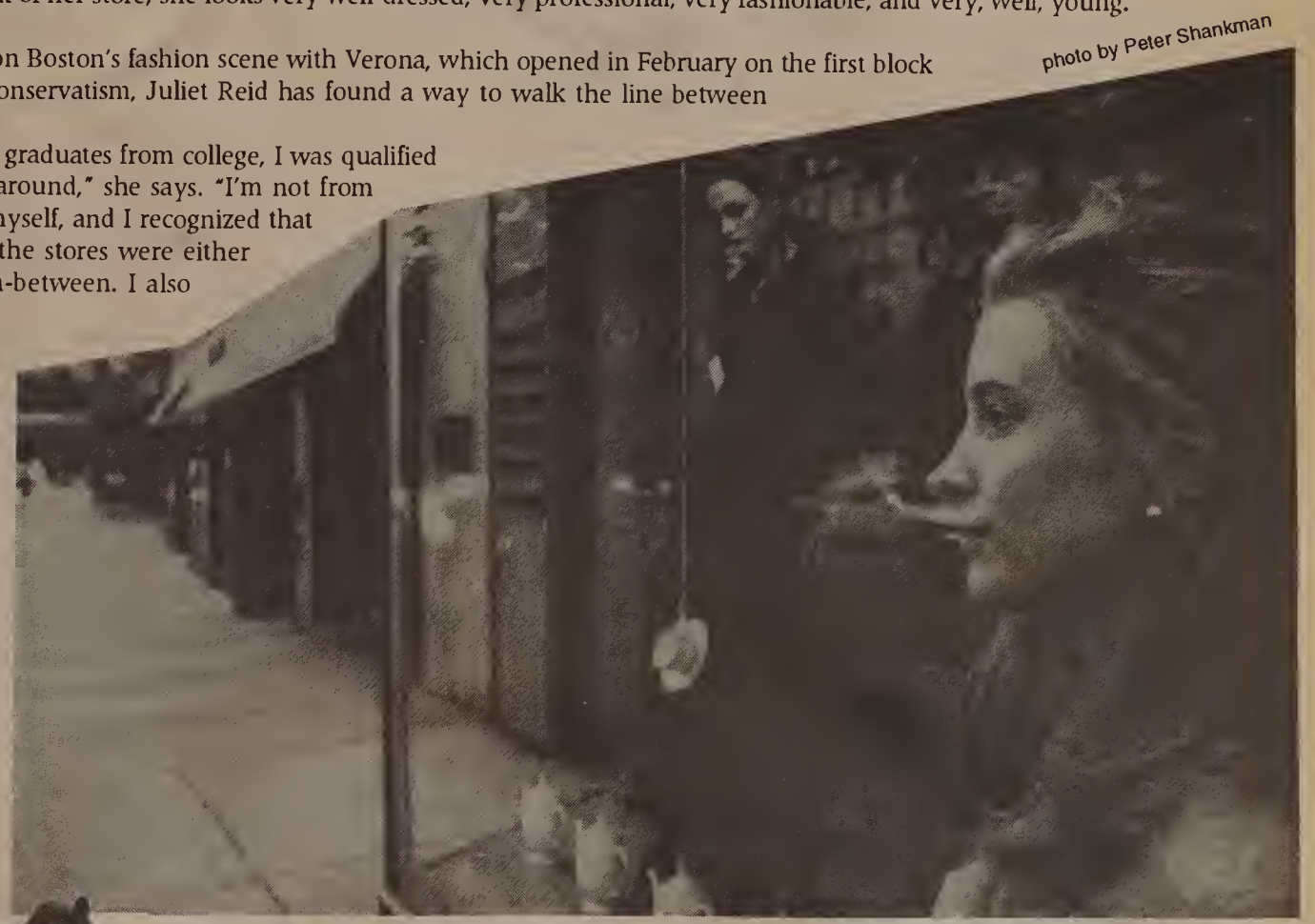


photo by Peter Shankman



photo by Megan Gilmartin

SANDY MARTIN

Take a Closer Look

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

As the lights in the theater dim, and the crowd falls into a reverent hush, Sandy Martin, the star of "A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline," is backstage "talking" to the spirit of the deceased country singer. "Right before I go out on stage," Sandy says, warning that her ritual may sound a little bizarre, "I ask Patsy to come with me... I ask that she be with me on stage." This moment with her "hero" is complete when Sandy kicks her foot out, twice, and then rubs her palms together for luck.

Six days a week, Sandy transforms herself into the legendary country singer who died in a tragic plane crash at the age of 30. The first time Sandy heard Patsy Cline was on a jukebox in Hawaii. Cline's rich voice was singing "Walking After Midnight" and Sandy recalls being "knocked out" when she heard it. "I don't know why, or what the circumstances were," Sandy says in awe, "but that's when I discovered Patsy." It is those memories and magical feelings of inspiration that are embroidered into Sandy's performance. "When I'm standing on stage," Sandy says as she sits in front of the makeup mirror to begin her metamorphosis into the plucky and shamelessly self-promoting Cline, "I try to imagine what she must have felt like, emotionally... I try to capture her spirit."

After viewing the few performances of Cline that happen to have been captured on video, Sandy says she was surprised at how effortlessly Cline put everything together visually. "She just stood there and the stuff just came out...that was amazing to me."

Although Sandy admits to being "into" Cline for years, she says, emphatically, that she does not try to "become" Cline during her performance. "I go out there and sing," she says as she puts the finishing touches on her face, "I try to capture the essence of her... the audience takes up the rest of the slack... *They* want me to be Patsy."

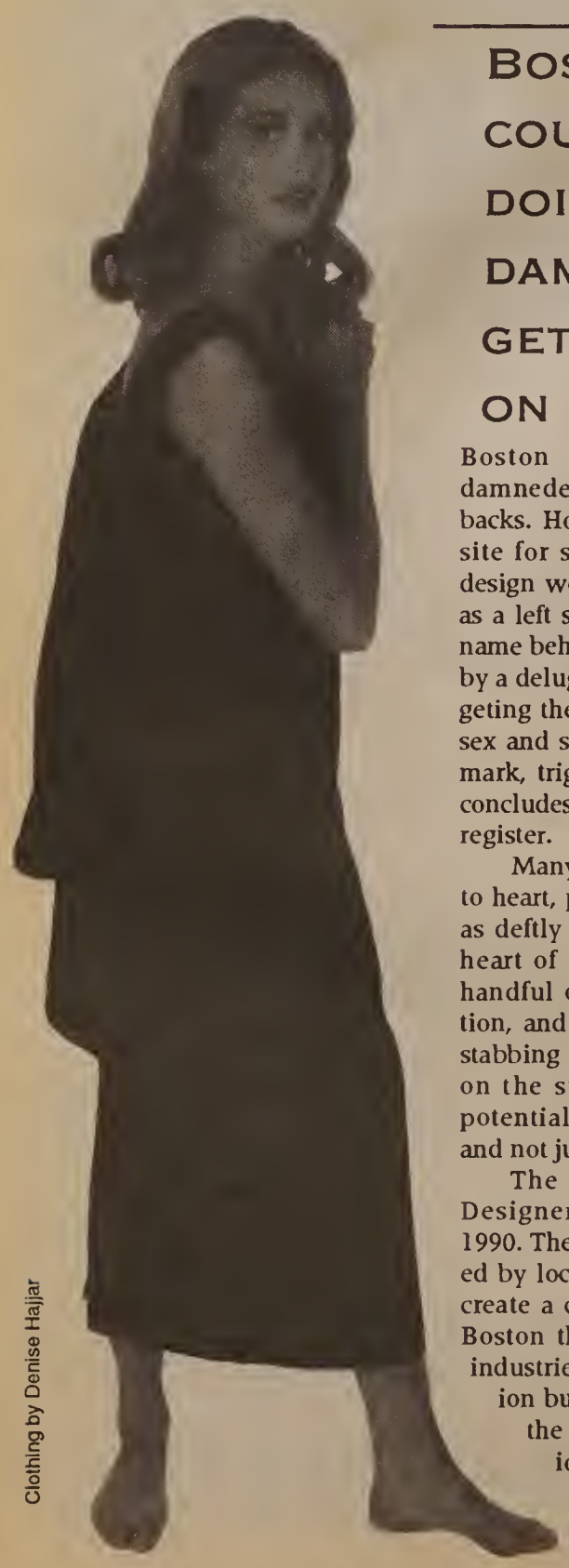
Sandy says that she wants the audience to leave the theater with a strong sense of just how special, unique, and incredible Cline's music really was. "If all I do is get one person who has never heard her stuff before, to maybe go out and buy her records," she says, minutes before she is about to walk on stage in full costume, "Then I've done my job." ❑

The Couture War

BEHIND THE FRONT LINE OF LOCAL DESIGN

By Chad L. Sanborn

On the fashion map of the world, certain cities loom out in large letters: Paris, New York, Milan. Boston, a city of tweeds and sensible shoes, is not generally counted among the stars of the fashion and design constellations. But, unbeknownst to a large segment of the local consumer, there is a large and fairly healthy fashion industry stitching its way through Boston. Local designers are generally not household names, but the landscape is shifting, and



Clothing by Denise Hajjar

BOSTON COUTURIERS ARE DOING THEIR DAMNEDEST TO GET THEIR NAMES ON YOUR BACKS.

Boston couturiers are doing their damnedest to get their names on your backs. How? Self-promotion. It is requisite for success in the modern fashion design world. Nobody ever sold so much as a left sock without first promoting the name behind the garment. We are flooded by a deluge of faux-art advertisements targeting the twin human pressure points of sex and status. The best of these hit their mark, triggering a reflex in the prey that concludes with the subtle beep of a cash register.

Many local designers have taken this to heart, practicing "publicity" and "spin" as deftly as if threading a needle. At the heart of the Boston design scene lies a handful of top designers, a lot of ambition, and some publicity-nurturing backstabbing (or is it back-stitching?) At stake on the success of these designers are potential jobs, money and reputations, and not just their own.

The story begins with the Boston Designer's Collaborative, founded in 1990. The BDC was conceived and initiated by local designer Geoffrey B. Small to create a cohesive fashion community in Boston that strategically integrated the industries that make up the overall fashion business. The designers are merely the most visible crest of a local fashion industry that includes modeling agencies, photographers, fabric suppliers, pattern makers, mass production houses, retail stores and other peripheral labor segments that make up Boston's multi-million dollar garment business.

When he founded the BDC, Small was already nationally known, having sold more than $1 million worth of his break-through creation, the GBS Ultimate Shirt, from his garage in Newton during the mid-1980's. But Small, a passionate man whose vast knowledge of fashion history is acknowledged by many of his peers, was looking to avoid the missteps of previous Boston-based designers who, upon carving out a national reputation, had spent the remainder of their careers bobbing up and down in a sea of bankruptcy and the fickle tastes of fashion observers and consumers.

To avoid the fate of these "big fish in a little pond" who failed on a national level, Small learned from their mistakes. He was one of the first local designers to correctly identify the competition as the major international designers, rather than other local designers, noting consumers will "pay full price for international labels but want to haggle with the local guy."

Unable to compete on his own with international retail predators such as design king Giorgio Armani, Small sought strength in numbers, thus establishing the basis for forming the BDC. To reach his self-admitted goal of building an international reputation for himself, from clothes to perfume to global licensing agreements, all without leaving his hometown, he created a forum whereby the rest of Boston's fashion community were to succeed as well. Using as his pattern the success of such designers as Armani and Yves Saint Laurent, each a pioneer in media manipulation to spread their name recognition and thus generate sales, Small and about 30 other designers gave birth to what may be their greatest creation, the BDC.

Its strategies were threefold: first, the BDC established a multi-designer fashion show, something seldom done in Boston at that time, Small says. From this, national and international press coverage would follow.

Second, to increase the sales of local designers' clothes versus well-known international designers, Small initiated the BDC's "Buy Boston Design" campaign, a regional effort similar to the National Garment Worker's Union slogan "Look for The Union Label," as most of the clothes created by Boston designers are produced locally using area suppliers and resources.

And finally, the BDC served as a networking environment for nurturing the alliance between the artistic and business strata of the region's fashion industry.

All evidence points to success on the part of Small and the BDC. As the organization grew to its current membership of more than 100, it expanded its base from including just designers to incorporating other industries and areas associated with the fashion industry. The BDC held its first show in early 1991. Even though described by most of those involved as slightly unorganized and virtually ignored by most of the local press, it was still a success, if only because it proved there was a vibrant design scene in Boston, and other shows soon followed.

Out of all of this came hard-won recognition from the press, consumers, and industry insiders that Boston's fashion creativity was energetic, fresh, and growing. Maybe not yet a force to be reckoned with on a national or international level, but at least Boston was becoming a region to be watched. This heady first success makes it all the more interesting that Small, who withdrew from the BDC earlier this year and formed the design group Creation, now accuses the BDC's current leadership of a moral bankruptcy that he predicts will lead to the demise of the BDC. But, just as the capricious fashion world is built on planned obsolescence, realities and alliances in the fashion world are constantly changing.

After a brief sojourn to the fashion mecca of Paris in the spring of 1992, a trip which Small says convinced him that to succeed globally he must first succeed in the cutting-edge atmosphere of Paris, he announced that he was abdicating his enormous responsibilities as head of the ever-expanding BDC to concentrate on his own designs.

It was during this period, Small says, that he began to sense a straying direction in the expanding BDC, a direction dictated by a triumvirate of Denise Hajjar, a local designer specializing in fashions for professional women, and a few other high-profile designers at the BDC, namely David Josef, a designer of women's fashions with a national reputation who has created designs for Hillary Rodham Clinton, and Daniel Faucher. Small criticizes Hajjar, who was elected president of the BDC in late last year, Josef, and Faucher for what he sees as a manipulation of the BDC for their own self-promotion, and says "We're talking about overall direction and the side issue is that you've got some nasty people [running the BDC] and that's the problem."

Hajjar, speaking for herself and for the BDC, says, "We have no beef with Geoffrey," and suggests that Small himself is trumpeting this schism because he needs publicity.



"THERE'S THIS FEELING OUT THERE, THAT THIS SPLIT IS DESIGNED TO CREATE MORE PRESS – THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS ABOUT."

Hajjar is not the only person to suggest this. Almost everyone interviewed for this article, even some of the people referenced by Small to bolster his accusations, at some point added that Small is stirring publicity as a means for selling clothes. Consider the words of Tunji Dada, a Nigerian-born designer based in Boston who's gaining a national reputation for his avant-garde designs. A friend and collaborator of Small's, first at the Boston Designer's Collaborative and now at their new group, Creation, Dada praises Small's efforts on behalf of young designers but nonetheless remains above the fray, saying: "[Boston's design industry] is getting stronger. This is the worst time to have a war because it would totally bring everything back to zero again."

Then again, it just might be Small's next ingenious step in his efforts to promote names, sell clothes and make everyone rich. Citing a "lack of respect for the individual," Small maintains Hajjar's first act as president was to raise membership dues to $100 from $50, without submitting a formal budget stipulating what the additional money was marked for, and adds that "somebody ought to take a look at the books over there."

Hajjar says a budget was a key component of her campaign for the office and counter-charges that Small never presented a budget during his tenure as BDC president. She also notes that the organization has applied with the Internal Revenue Service for non-profit status and during the process, which she says is still pending, the books will be reviewed by that agency's extremely thorough accountants.

Josef also denies Small's accusations and defends the direction of the BDC today: "The BDC hasn't changed so much as it has grown. I wouldn't say there's a different outlook or there's a different way that we're doing things by any means. It's still the same original thought that Geoffrey had to promote Boston fashion to the media. The only thing that's really changed is that the shows have gotten slicker, better, more professional. If you stay the same then you don't have much of an organization."

The BDC's July 1992 fashion show, the largest BDC show ever at that time, was overseen by Hajjar, Josef and Faucher. Small claims that the three of them assumed responsibilities of choosing models for the show, rather than allowing the designers to choose who should wear their clothes, and that they slanted their choices to older models more flattering to their mainstream designs for professionals. Small contends this under-cuts the presentations of more avant-garde designs, requiring younger, thinner, runway-type models.

Although some of Small's colleagues, such as Dada and Nong Tumsutipong, a local avant-garde designer whose work appeared recently in Elle Magazine, agree they would have preferred choosing the models for their clothes, they maintain that there is an element of compromise to any big show. Jay Calderin, a fashion designer/photographer who has worked with Small at BDC and Creation concurs, adding that there's a certain amount of trade-off necessary in collaborations that the steadfast Small finds unacceptable.

"Geoffrey was very strong about people having individuality, to a point that everyone was having their own little show," Calderin says. "It doesn't always work out to be the most practical way of doing things when you have that many people. But I couldn't have afforded to have a show like (the BDC shows) and have my clothes seen by this large amount of people if I had done it on my own. I'd have had it my own way , but not as many people would have seen it."

But amid the accusations, defenses and general disagreement, the general consensus appears to be that the BDC is a success. Earlier this month, the BDC presented its largest fashion show ever, featuring its top-tier designers. They are also planning a jewelry show for August, another fashion show for the fall, and an AIDS benefit, among other projects, and Hajjar says that there are plans to set up a scholarship fund for design students and young start-up designers.

Meanwhile, Small too has broadened the range of his success. His new group, Creation, is a loose confederation of 13 designers, some previously and/or currently associated with the BDC, that focuses on avant-garde designs that might be more at home in Paris than in Boston's conservative fashion market. Small took a giant step along the path towards carving an international name for himself this spring when he became the first Boston designer to present a collection in Paris. Here at home, however, Small is still riled over what he sees as a glaring lack of local media coverage of a nationally-acclaimed Creation show that was presented in May at the World Trade Center in conjunction with the Institute of Contemporary Art's "Suit Yourself" exhibit.

Local media coverage in general is a recurring sore spot for Small, who still believes in the local aspect of "Buy Boston Designs," but at the same time seems to want to carry his message to the world. It is the national and international scope of Small's designs (both in the studio and out) that causes many people to maintain that Small's connection with the BDC and his current lambasting of the BDC and its leadership was simply a vehicle for his own publicity. These same people, however, seem to be ignoring the fact that, by Small's line of thinking, all Boston designers will profit from the exposure. Small maintains the breach of ethics he's witnessed by current BDC leadership needs to be exposed. In the eyes of our media culture, the validity of his accusations becomes irrelevant, and the wholesomeness of his motives immaterial. Even if the unpleasant relations between Boston's top designers is just a masterful publicity ploy, it signifies the vital signs of life in Boston's fashion industry, and cannot help but contribute to the respective success of all the parties involved by introducing them to a less-than-fashion-aware Boston public.

Small continues to deny that he is manipulating the media in any way, either for his benefit or for the benefit of Boston's fashion industry, saying "There's this feeling out there, that this split is designed to create more press – that's not what this is about." He continues emphatically, "It wasn't a ploy to generate more press. It was just Small leaving this thing after these people came in and ripped it off and failed to uphold standards of human behavior. I can't have anything to do with that."

Whether this media-fueled "couture war" is based on valid claims or not, it has caught the attention of local fashion watchers. Now it remains to be seen if the fashion industry in Boston will survive the schism being highlighted by Small. Just maybe, it will do more than simply survive in the stale atmosphere that has been Boston's fashion scene for so long, and actually begin to thrive, beginning a whole new era in Boston design. ◆



"[BOSTON'S DESIGN INDUSTRY] IS GETTING STRONGER. THIS IS THE WORST TIME TO HAVE A WAR BECAUSE IT WOULD TOTALLY BRING EVERYTHING BACK TO ZERO AGAIN."

CITY RAVE

COMPILED BY JON KOOKER

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

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Ken Davis, owner of the **Davis Salon** gurantees patrons "total hair care with a philosophy." And you won't see high-glam models on every wall, you'll see yourself! Multiple mirrors add to the refreshingly low-profile atomosphere and make sure that every cut is personalized. Call 244-9626; 26 Lincoln Street, Newton Highlands.

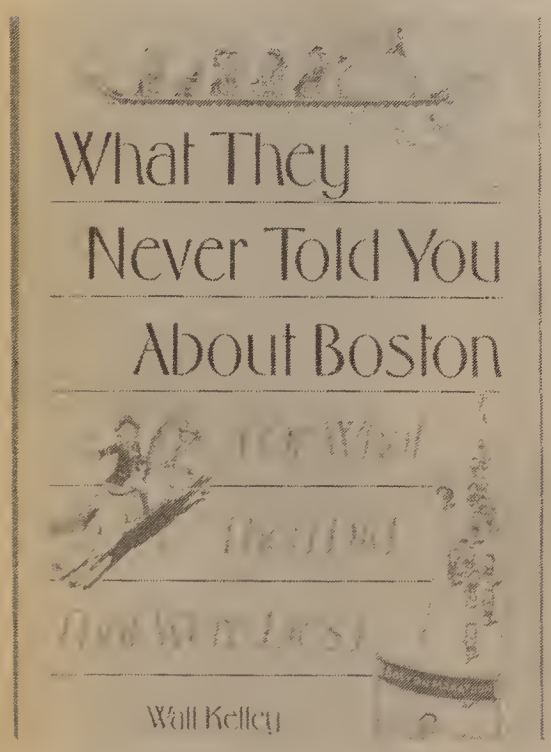


GETAWAYS

The raging white waters of Maine are calling Bostonians to the north country this summer for the week or weekend. So you want to get wet but don't know where to go? Call 1 (800) 289-6307 for **"The Consumer's Guide to White Water Rafting in Maine"** and get everything from travel directions to information on outfitters and safety regulations.

BOOKS

What They Never Told You About Boston (Or What They Did That Were Lies) Walt Kelly, Down East Books, $12.95. Learn the facts about what really happened at the Boston Massacre and find out why some of Boston's first Irish immigrants were

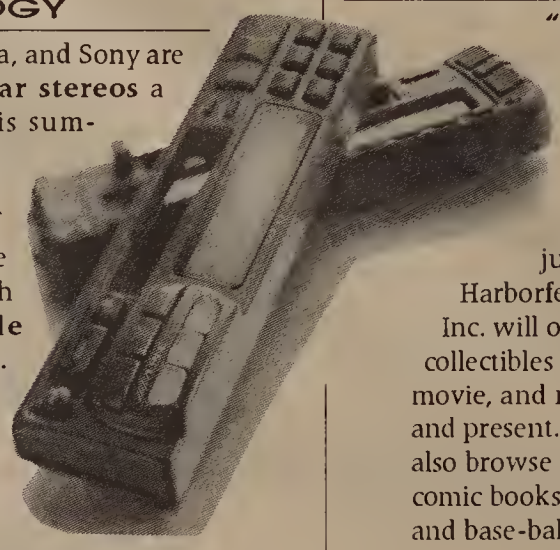


sold into bondage. Investment banker-turned-cab driver Walt Kelly gives readers the "lowdown on Beantown" with wit and charm.

MUSIC

10,000 Maniacs. July 7, Great Woods. Music with character and intelligence is what Natalie Merchant and Buck are all about. *Our Time In Eden* quickly became the group's best-selling album but soon Maniac's fans past and present are sure to get an aural thrill that will keep your sandals moving. Get tickets now for a one night show. Call Ticket Master at 931-2000.

TECHNOLOGY



Alpine, Aiwa, and Sony are all giving **car stereos** a face lift this summer with the introduction of mid-line models with **removable face plates.** Thwart thieves by simply slipping the control panel into your pocket when you leave your car. Systems available from $269 at local merchants.

RECORDINGS

Too Long in Exile, Van Morrison. Just out from one of music's most versatile performers, this new release features the down-home blues drawl of John Lee Hooker and the saxophone stylings of Candy Dulfer of Prince fame. At stores everywhere.

Boston Gets Stoned, various local artists. You've heard the best, now try the rest. Producer Jimmy Miller has compiled a collection of fresh Rolling Stones covers that run the gamut from a rap rendition of "...Miss You" to bar-band romps of "Brown Sugar" and "Street Fighting Man." Available now at Nuggets, Looney Tunes, and Mystery Train.

PETS

Neither clothes nor cars can make a statement like the creature that shares your apartment. This summer, **bulldogs** seem to trot at the end of every leash along Newbury street, and everyone seems to love these cuddly (if slobbery) companions. For your furry full-bred, try Fish On a Leash at 247 Newbury.



VIDEO



Glengarry/Glen Ross (New Line Cinema, directed by James Foley). "It's a world of clock watchers, bureaucrats, office holders..." Such is the life of real-estate pros Al Pacino and Jack Lemmon, whose killer instincts can't save them from the toils of recession economics. But the goal (to sell) remains the same, and the competition is fierce. Watch it and flinch.

COLLECTIBLES

"Buffalo" Bob Smith and Howdy Doody Collectibles. July 2 & 3, World Trade Center. In conjunction with Boston Harborfest, Show Promotion Inc. will offer 250 tables of quality collectibles from all genres of t.v., movie, and radio productions past and present. Shoppers can also browse a vast array of comic books, magazines, and base-ball cards.



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"Whenever we put an ad in the paper, we always ask where they inquired from. . . The Improper Bostonian's readers spend money and don't just inquire. . . On Valentine's Day alone, we booked fourteen people! . . Boston Helicopter is a small company and very selective in the use of our media dollars. . . We originally ran four ads and have decided to continue indefinitely. . . I would Absolutely recommend them to any advertiser."

— Steve Rivkin, Director of Marketing
The Boston Helicopter Co.

P U T Y O U R M O N E Y W H E R E Y O U R M A R K E T I S

The Improper Bostonian

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story
★★★

As do so many bio pics, *Dragon* promotes the legend more than it portrays the man, and it keeps up a rushed "and then he...and then he...." pace as music swells to let you know something important is happening. Jason Scott Lee as Bruce Lee (no relation) is a charmer. The kung fu fights are flashy, if bloody, set pieces which propel the story. Above all, the movie is an exposé on racism: Lee watches Mickey Rooney play a buck-toothed Oriental buffoon in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*; he promotes the idea for the successful t.v. series, *Kung Fu*, but loses the lead to a Caucasian; Chinese martial arts masters condemn Lee for teaching whites. Ironically, Bruce Lee comes across as an all-American hero. K. Wilson

Dave
★★★★

Ivan Reitman's Capra-esque comedy gleefully sticks it to the Republicans. Kevin Kline is a delight as Dave Kovic, an exuberant, generous, small-town guy who so resembles the President (a mean, tight-assed Yalie) that he becomes his full-time stand-in. Dave's agenda – giving people in need top priority – pits him against Bob, his reptilian Chief of Staff (the wonderful Frank Langella) and allies him with the estranged First Lady (Sigourney Weaver). Like its hero, the film is high-spirited, but it loses its edge and becomes cloying whenever more than one "nice" person is on the screen at a time. *Dave* is to the Fourth Estate and the Beltway what *The Player* is to Hollywood. K. Wilson

Life with Mikey
★★★

To paraphrase Gertrude Stein: Michael J. Fox is Michael J. Fox is *Life With Mikey*. A former child t.v. star (Fox) and his older brother (Nathan Lane) run a children's talent agency. The talent is wanting as is the agency. Open auditions produce the same star-wannabes with mothers in tow. The cute, recurring kid-bits underline the brothers' desperation for a meal-ticket talent. Christina Vidal cops a street-smart attitude, Mikey's wallet, and a contract as the Sunburst Cookie girl. She's just what is needed to push the agency to the brink of profitability. The film is pushed to the brink of sappy, but it's saved by Fox's Mikey. Like Fox, Mikey is charming in an off-handed way. So is this movie. T. Miller

Made in America
★★

A brilliant, beautiful black teenager (Nia Long) and her smart, independent mother (Whoopi Goldberg) discover that the girl's sperm-donor father was not an accomplished black man, but a white yahoo (Ted Danson) who hawks cars on TV. The movie is annoying in spite of a likeable cast. It only superficially explores the question of what makes a family. The animal acts; broad, mostly not-very-funny comic routines; and sentimental scenes would all play better on t.v. But if your idea of a good time is watching a monkey and a trained bear upstage Ted Danson, and an elephant chase bicyclist Whoopi down the streets of San Francisco, by all means, see this movie. K. Wilson

Map of the Human Heart
★★

Director Vincent Ward's latest film about an Innuit Eskimo (Jason Scott Lee) and the half-Indian, half-European love of his life (Anne Parillaud), who become caught up in the marvels and the horrors of the white man's world, is a clunker. Big chunks of the movie don't connect; they're like icebergs breaking off from the mainland and floating away. Ward bombards us with images: X-rays and maps appear so often that they lose their meaning; too many show-stopping aerial shots do just that: stop the show and overwhelm the viewer. But better a magnificent clunker than a mediocre "success" any day. K. Wilson

Menace II Society
★★

The comparison with *Boyz N the Hood* is inevitable, except that *Boyz* gives you reason to hope; *Menace* doesn't. Twenty-year old directors Allen and Albert Hughes show how one generation passes on to the next a legacy of violent, destructive behavior, emotional numbness, and hopelessness. Caine (Tyrin Turner) is an LA gang member. The son of drug addicts, he saw his father shoot a man to death at home. His friends and family offer him some ways out, but try as he may he can't escape the cycle of violence. The Hughes brothers are talented, and you can see them experimenting and borrowing. Sometimes they hit, sometimes they miss, as in their brief, unsuccessful Spike Lee sex scene. K. Wilson

Much Ado About Nothing
★★★

The opening of director Kenneth Branagh's latest film is full of fun and promise as both men and women prepare themselves for the battle of the sexes. Beatrice (Emma Thompson) and Benedict (Kenneth Branagh) are worthy adversaries, precursors to all the smart, snappy, sexy, big screen couples we love. Hero (Kate Beckinsale) and Claudio (Robert Sean Leonard) are beautiful young lovers. When the vindictive Don John (Keanu Reeves) tricks Claudio into believing his love is a wanton hussy, the battle turns ugly. Finally, all's well that ends well. The movie slows down as the director relies more and more on close-ups to tell the story. K. Wilson

Super Mario Bros.
★★★

Two Brooklyn plumbers, Mario (Bob Hoskins) and his younger brother Luigi (John Leguizamo) tumble into Dinohattan, a decaying city in a dying parallel world, inhabited by descendants of the dinosaurs. Their mission: to rescue Daisy (Samantha Mathis), a young paleontologist/princess from the clutches of the lizardly King Koopa (Dennis Hopper). Based on the high-tech Nintendo video game whose heroes are decidedly low-tech, the movie has a bright, cheesy, grungy look and gives you a few cheap thrills. Dinohattan is New York City turned upside down. But this is no *Blade Runner* or *Batman*. A dying world and urban decay aren't metaphors; this is a fun-house, not film noire. K. Wilson

The Story of Qui Ju
★★★★

Zhang Yimou fans may miss the formal elegance of the director's earlier works and the chance to stare into the radiant face of his wonderful actress, Gong Li, whose countenance dominated *Ju Dou* and *Raise the Red Lantern*: *Qiu Ju* is shot in rough, almost documentary-style long shot. When the village mayor refuses to apologize for kicking her husband in the groin, Qiu Ju journeys into the city, to fight her way through China's Byzantine criminal court system. The sublimity of Gong's performance is how one of the world's most sensual actresses disappears into the character and the crude pajama clothes of country woman and people's hero Qiu Ju. G. Peary

Visions of Light
★★★★

A dizzying paean to a host of ace Hollywood cinematographers, from *The Birth of a Nation*'s Billy Bitzer to *Blue Velvet*'s Frederick Elmes. This wonderful documentary insists that it's the unheralded cameramen who often deserve the real credit for making movies soar as "art." *Visions* backs up its claim with scene after scene of magisterial visual splendor illustrating the signature talents of various Hollywood cameramen: among others, Lee Garmes, William Daniels, Arthur Miller, Gregg Toland, then, and Caleb Deschanel, Vilmos Zsigsmond, Nestor Almendros, Gordon Willis, now. Do these names register? Only the cinematographers really know, and appreciate each other's work. G. Peary

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

JURASSIC PARK

"... Forget Character Development. Forget Plot. . . It's the Dinosaurs Who Rule Jurassic Park, and They Are Amazing. . ."

So what's a reviewer to do with a movie that opened to more advance hype and build-up than when the astronauts landed on the moon, a movie that McDonald's uses to push burgers, a movie that makes reviewers utterly superfluous.

What to do? Relax. Eat popcorn. Enjoy the show.

Forget character development. Forget



DINO-MIGHT: *A Tyrannosaurus Rex stares down paleontologist Dr. Grant (Sam Neil) and Lex (Ariana Richards)*

plot. Even the scary parts – and there are many – don't go over the top. It's the dinosaurs who rule *Jurassic Park*, and they are amazing. They look real. We come across a gentle Brachiosaurus calmly munching on a tree top and a pack of kangaroo-like dinosaurs fleeing a predator. We get so close to them that we can imagine how they smell and how their scales feel. We hear the thunder of their approach and see standing water ripple at the vibrations their steps make. We feel what it's like to be hunted a cunning, ruthless Velociraptor.

Director Steven Spielberg is a great overgrown kid, and he instills in us his own childlike sense of awe and wonder at these incomprehensibly old and mighty creatures. Because the dinosaurs look real, they become real to us in a way that was never before possible – cartoons, bones, and books notwithstanding. They exist now in our imaginations in relation to us in time and in space.

But wait, there's a message. The scientists (Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum) preach that humankind should not attempt to play God, that we can never have dominion over nature, whose power is awesome and beyond our control – unless, of course, you're a moviemaker like Steven Spielberg.

Jurassic Park is a shrine to technology, and to commercialism, what with its perfectly coordinated marketing and merchandising campaign, each reinforcing the other. (But of course *Jurassic Park* T-shirts and mugs are on display in the movie; the movie is about a theme park after all, and theme parks sell souvenirs.)

The most entertaining characters are the two most associated with the negative aspects of technology and commercialism. Dennis Nedry (Wayne Knight) is the treacherous, obnoxious computer genius whose desk overflows with clutter and snack foods. Knight immediately taps into a vast reservoir of ill will that has accumulated from his role on t.v.'s *Seinfeld* (when Knight first appeared, the audience began to buzz: "Newman ...Newman"). Dennis outdoes Newman: he's greedier, whinier, more selfish, and dangerous besides. He's like a breath of foul air. We have Dennis to thank for all hell breaking loose in Jurassic Park.

The character who best captures the commercial spirit of the movie is – surprise – a lawyer. Donald Gennaro's (Martin Ferrero) concerns are strictly bottom-line and his resistance to Jurassic Park disappears the minute he gets a whiff of all the money to be made. He's greedy and insensitive and worse: he's a coward who abandons innocent children to save his own skin. Anybody who wishes lawyers were an extinct species should enjoy what happens to Gennaro. A dinosaur finds him hiding in the bathroom, on the toilet, and quickly turns him into dinosaur food.

None of the other characters hold a candle to these two. If you had never seen Laura Dern or Sam Neill before you would have no idea that these two are fine actors. Jeff Goldblum is a little better, but not much, in spite of having an advantage in the costume department: he plays a black-clad chaos expert with greasy hair and a gold chain. When actors as accomplished as these three are this boring, something is wrong in the directing department. Sir Richard Attenborough, at least, ignites a small spark under his character.

Maybe a few years from now the special effects in *Jurassic Park* will seem primitive. But we can be sure that Steven Spielberg, the computer wizards, and the marketers will be in the vanguard, bringing us the latest in technology and movie marketing and merchandising techniques. ❑

IF YOU GO

JURASSIC PARK

★★★

Directed by Steven Spielberg
Based on the novel by Michael Crichton
Screenplay by Michael Crichton and David Koepp

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

JACQUOT

"... A Remarkable, Tender, Clear Thinking Testimonial..."

Agnes Varda and Jacques Demy met in Paris in the 1950s, as "Left Bank" documentarians. Married in the early 1960s, they became part of the amazing "New Wave" explosion in France, as a generation of passionate young cineastes – Godard, Truffaut, Chabrol, Rohmer, etc. – directed feature films which were seen, and acclaimed, around the world.

Varda made the first New Wave features directed by a woman: *Cleo from 5 to 7*, literally two hours of screen time in the life of a Parisian actress who discovers she has cancer, and *La Bonheur*, a bittersweet tale of a man who lives simultaneously with his wife and his mistress. Demy concocted one-of-a-kind musicals, such as *Lola* and *Donkey Skin*, which were old song-and-dance films reconceptualized for provincial France. Demy's operetta, *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, is one of the most beloved French films.

Amazingly, in their entire thirty-year relationship, Varda and Demy never made a film together until their sad swan-song collaboration, *Jacquot*.

When Demy fell sick in 1989 (whether from cancer or AIDS is unclear) he became obsessed with his childhood in Nantes, in Northwest France, and he wrote down stories about his youth for Varda's benefit. These, with her husband's blessing, she converted into a screen play. As Demy grew increasingly ill, Varda set up shop in Nantes, hired actors to play young "Jacquot" and his family and friends, and began shooting. On days when he was not too weak, Demy would watch the filming and attend the rushes. "He only criticized once," Varda said, because the actor who was playing Demy as a boy did not remove his hat at his grandfather's grave. Out of respect, Varda re-shot the scene. Demy died in October 1990, having approved a mostly-edited version of the film.

No wonder Demy endorsed *Jacquot*. What a remarkable, tender, clear-thinking testimonial by Varda to her dearly-loved husband and to the films he made. Demonstrating incredible courage, Varda managed to turn her acute depression and impending grief into the stuff of "Art."

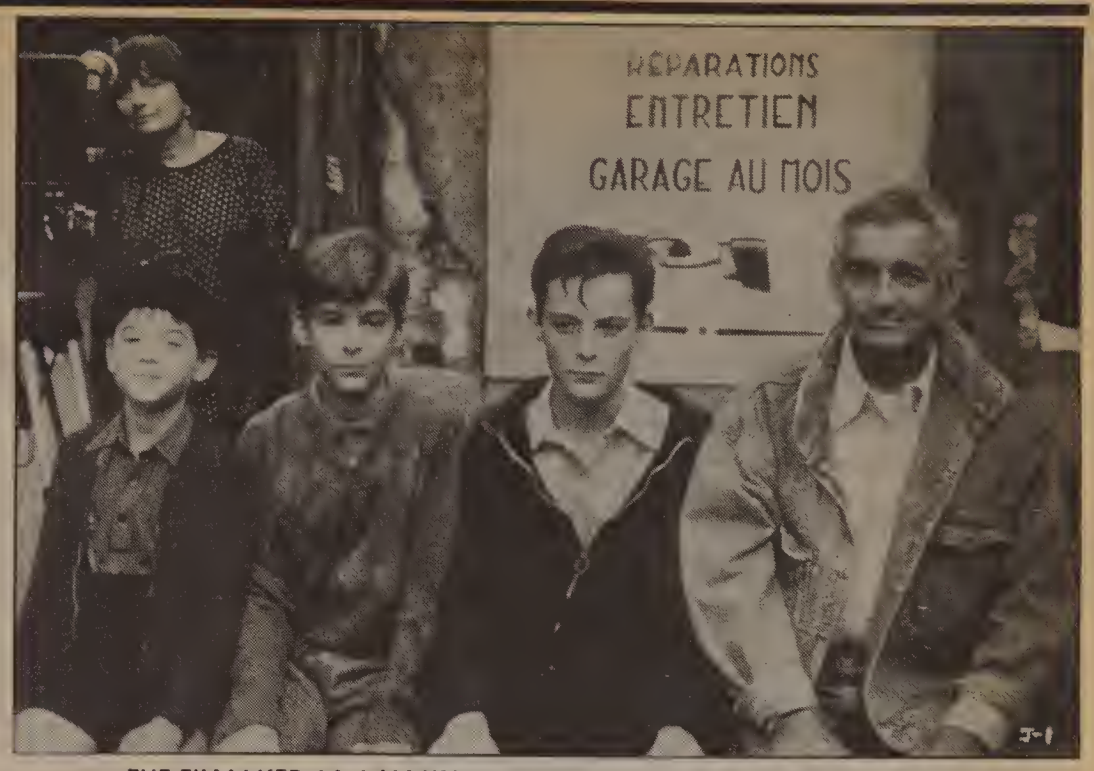
The scenes of Demy's early youth are the only bland ones in *Jacquot*. Even the Nazi invasion of Nantes has little emotional clout. But the film elevates a hundred times when, as a 13-year-old, Jacques discovers "Cinema." There are hilarious episodes when he directs the neighborhood kids in elaborate adventures for his tiny amateur camera. There are sublime scenes in the loft above the Demy family garage, in which the precocious lad builds a mini-world of teensy fairy-tale characters. These he can mold, then patiently photograph, still-frame by still-frame, to create a mighty "stop-action" animation short. For the young Jacquot, movies are born! It's as delicious as young Tom Edison discovering electricity.

But who in the non-intellectual, auto-mechanic Demy family can get excited at having among them a petite film-maker, who toys with little characters as if playing with dolls? Only when adolescent Jacques Demy goes off to Paris at the end of *Jacquot* is he liberated: the Eiffel Tower! The Arc de Triomphe! Film School! And, eventually, Varda, the love of his life.

Both Demy and Varda are fairly well-represented on video. With Demy, definitely begin with his lyrical *Umbrellas of Cherbourg*, an all-musical romance about a pregnant, small-town girl (Catherine Deneuve) and the sailor whose return from the sea she awaits. You can't get more heart-thumping than the couple's last meeting in a snowy gas station, and Oh, that score by Michel Legrand! After *Umbrellas*, graduate to Demy's *Donkey Skin*, which also stars the dazzling Deneuve. This is a Freudian/Oedipal adult fairy-tale, about a Princess who runs away from her father, the King, who wants to marry her!

For Varda, start with *Cleo from 5 to 7*, the 1960s first female-directed New Wave film. Move into the 1970s with *One Sings, the Other Doesn't*, a love poem to the feminist movement and to female friendship. Varda is represented in the 1980s by the grim and potent *Vagabond*, a harsh story of a teenage runaway, and in the 1990's, by the lovely, gentle *Jacquot*. ❑

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching fim at B.U.



THE FILMAKER AS A YOUNG MAN: *Jacquot, the story of Jacques Demy*

IF YOU GO

JACQUOT

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY
AGNES VARDA
AT THE BRATTLE THEATER
40 BRATTLE ST.
CAMBRIDGE
JUNE 25-JULY 1

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Cliffhanger	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★
Made in America	★★	★★	★★	★★	★★★	-	★★
Life with Mikey	★★★	★★★	-	★★	★★	-	-
Dave	★★★	★★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
Hot Shots! Part Deux	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	-	-
Super Mario Brothers	★★★	★★	★	★★	★	-	-
Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Sliver	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Menace II Society	★★	★★★	★	★★	★★	★	-
Indecent Proposal	★	★	★	★	★	★★	★

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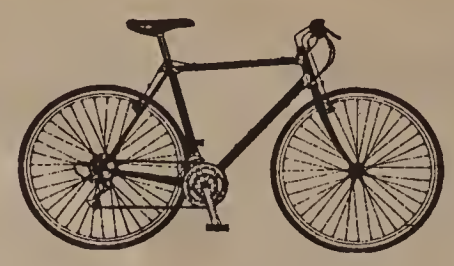
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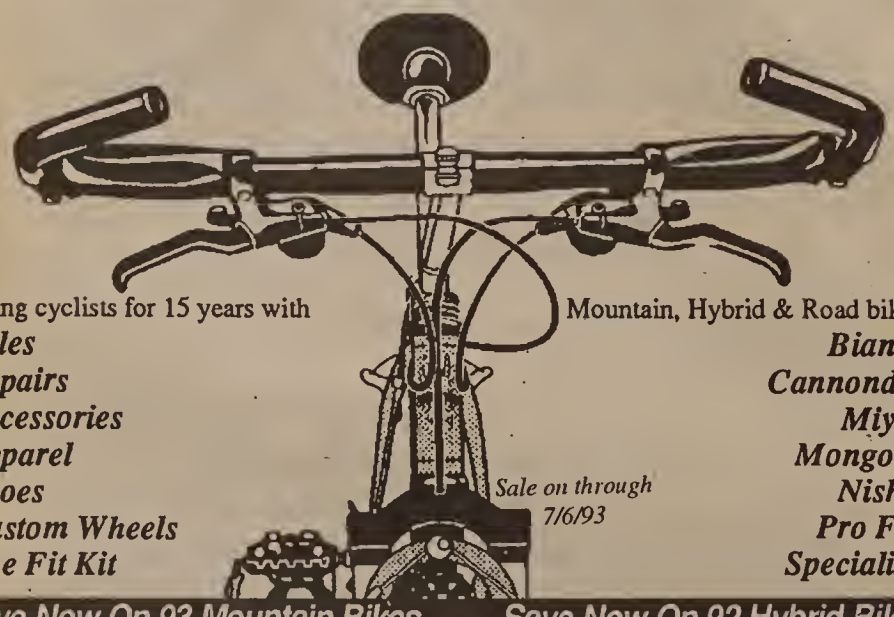
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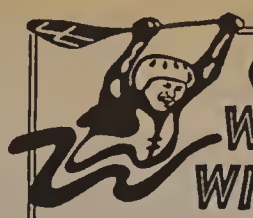
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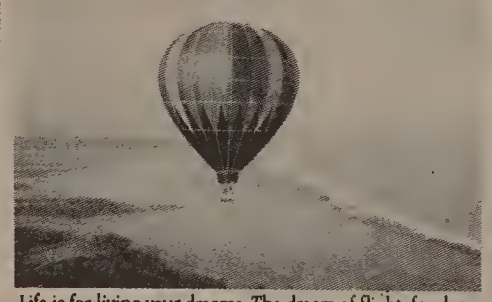
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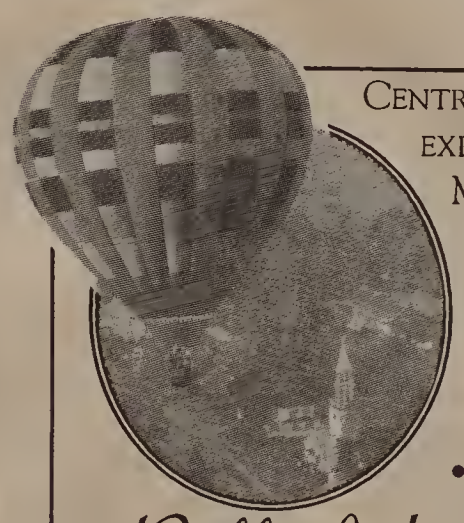
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Comedy / Ross Garmil

Mario Joyner: "Funny Person"

". . . Joyner's Philosophy of Comedy is Entertainment Pure and Simple . . ."



HANGIN' LOOSE: *Joyner will be appearing at Nick's the 24th and 25th of June*

Much like the great works of Arthur Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, and the guys who wrote "Scooby Doo," all comedians are a great mystery. From "I suppose you're wondering why I called you all here tonight" to "I would've gotten away with it, too, if it weren't for you meddling kids," the solution to the mystery is sought by all the characters involved as well as all the readers (or viewers, as it were) until the final resounding finale. (That's why they call it finale; you see the word finale comes from the word final. Or maybe it's the other way around. No matter, at the end everyone knows all the answers they seek. Except, of course, for the one never answered question: what's the deal with Fred and Daphne?)

The one great discrepancy between comedians like Mario Joyner and "Scooby Doo" episodes like the case of the haunted mine (in which the owner of the abandoned amusement park tried to scare everyone off the land), an audience does not learn the solution to the great mystery of the comedian by the end. Sure, they're presented with a great show, they have a lot of laughs, but just how much do they know after walking away from a comedy show, even one of the high caliber presented by a talent the likes of Mario Joyner?

The answer, put simply, is not very much. And that's how it should be. Comedians are entertainers, period. Figuring out each comedian's particular philosophy of entertainment, which then determines their brand of comedy, is mystery enough. Joyner's philosophy is fairly simple: "Comedians have little ideas that we write down and we say them in front of people." Yes, Joyner's philosophy of comedy is entertainment pure and simple. No politics, no self-preaching; he does not use the comedy stage as a pulpit.

IF YOU GO

Mario Joyner

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton Street
(800)441-JOKE
Thurs. June 24, 8:30pm
Fri. June 25 & Sat. June 26
8:30 & 10:30pm
Tickets: $14 - $18.95
Not Wheelchair Accessible

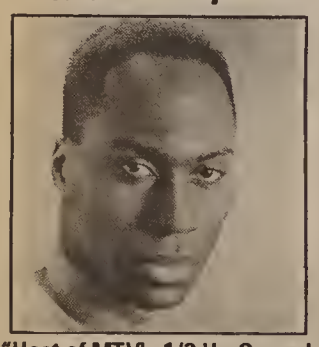
Joyner also shies away from the modern day label of black comic (or of woman comic, for that matter). He states that his one goal on stage is to be "a funny comedian, or no comedian at all." Whether as the host of MTV's "Half-Hour Comedy Hour," where he speculates that as host "I'm not there to make my material the number one thing, I'm concerned with just having the show run well" or headlining a show of his own, Joyner asserts that "I just want to be a funny person." Joyner's purpose within comedy is to make everyone within the club laugh, to appeal to a "broad audience."

He achieves this goal by presenting the audience with observational humor: "I want you to be able to see what I saw, and see that I saw it funny." He keeps up on current events, for example his musings on the movie, *Indecent Proposal*, where he ponders "Somebody offers you $1 million to have sex, that sounds like a pretty decent proposal to me. Even if you turn the offer down, you have to give the man his due." Joyner uses these current events to not only entertain, but to also keep in practice. "Those come and go," he explains, "but they keep the muscle strong."

Joyner describes his style as laid back, but reminds that his comedy can be aggressive when the audience fails to respond. "You stick the baby food in the baby's mouth," Joyner metaphors, "and he doesn't want to eat, but you know he has to eat, or he will not live." In general, however, Joyner finds this to be unnecessary; he enjoys the material, as does the audience. And in the end, everybody knows why he called them all there that night, to have a good time. ❑

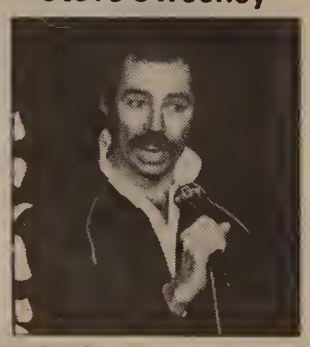
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Wed. 6/23- Women in Comedy: Mary Ellen DiPetrillo, Patti Ross, Sue Costello, Jennifer Hoag. Fri. 6/25- Walli Collins, Red Johnny and the Round Guy, Brian Kiley, Bob Seibel. Sat. 6/26- Anthony Clark, Brian Kiley, Bob Siebel. Tue. 6/29- Boston's New Comics, Bob Marley host. Wed. 6/30- Women in Comedy, Helen Lantry host. Fri. 7/2- Tony V., Teddy Bergeron. Sat. 7/3- Boston's Biggest Headliners. Tue. 7/6- Rich Ceisler, Ralphie J.

Theater Review / Nancy Leonard

ORPHÉE

". . .The Action Proceeds As the Simple Telling of an Old Story, Without Fresh Insight or Allure. . ."

The world premiere of "Orphée," an opera in two acts by Philip Glass at the American Repertory Theatre, is a stylized but unremarkable work. Based on Jean Cocteau's 1949 film of the same name, which freely modernized the Orpheus legend to serve various authorial purposes, the opera utilizes the French text of the film and makes only slight changes in the settings to suit the stage.

It isn't necessary to be familiar with the cinematic original, since the ART has supplied English subtitles and a synopsis of the action. Still, the musicalization should be a point of note, preferably one of dramatic enchantment. Here, however, the music is so recessive that it's almost unheard in the background, as the action proceeds along its tautly-plotted, uninvolving way.

When the young poet Cégeste is killed in an offstage motorcycle accident, and his body is taken away by a mysterious Princess, Orphée becomes entranced with this figure of Death. She gives him a radio, over which the dead Cégeste broadcasts coded messages to inspire new poetic triumphs. Fixated on the radio, Orphée ignores his pregnant wife Eurydice, who becomes another victim of the Princess.

Though he seemed not to care much for his wife - her conventionality making her hardly a poet's soulmate - Orphée jumps at the chance to find Eurydice in Death's realm. In the company of the Princess' chauffeur, Heurtebise, he dons red gloves and passes through the mirrors which lead to no-man's land and beyond. There it is judged that the wife can return to her husband, providing he does not look at her again.

This mocks their marriage, and proves impossible. Eurydice is taken away once again, and Orphée is soon killed by an angry crowd. But the Princess, who swore she would find a way to be with him forever, has a change of heart. She orders her henchmen to kill the dead Orphée, so he can be restored to life. He awakens in his bed beside Eurydice, with no memory of the recent events.

Under Francesca Zambello's direction, the production is taut, artistically coherent, and nicely paced. It's played in a stylized manner that's stiff for drama but maybe not so for opera. The problem is that the evening is only modestly interesting. The action proceeds as the simple telling of an old story, without fresh insight or allure. There is nothing tantalizing in Cocteau's enigmas, or in the attraction between Orphée and the Princess.

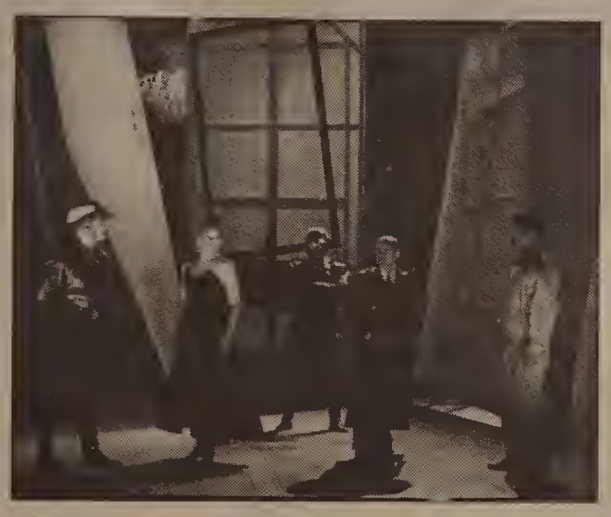
Glass' low-key, whirring score seems musically astute and has recognizable aspects, but hardly drives the action. Only in the trial segment does the music assert itself enough to suggest the poet's dangerous love. The score could create the missing emotion and involvement, but serves as mere underpinning, and often diminishes to the point where it's not actively heard. Though the dialogue is sung, its reading and hearing make it feel spoken.

In Robert Israel's set design, the various locations are abstractly defined by blank canvas flats, moving on casters across the stage. Catherine Zuber's black and white costumes are 1950-ish contemporary. The lighting by Pat Collins is cold and dim for the most part, with yellow spots glaring into the audience for scene changes.

The opening-night performers had pleasing voices but sang with little drama. Eugene Perry was an oddly restrained Orphée, both vocally and dramatically, so it was hard to relate to his obsession. As the Princess, Wendy Hill's imperious gloss was somewhat stiff, but more dramatically suggestive. Her rich voice added much luster, though faltering near the end.

Elizabeth Futral marked Eurydice with a sweet soprano and a more relaxed manner. Richard Fracker brought middle-aged authority to Hertebise, and Paul Kirby a youthful brashness to Cégeste. Martin Goldray directed the chamber orchestra with quick precision.

Bound by Cocteau's script, Philip Glass has not mined the dark supernatural recesses or created much of a musical presence. What you see and hear in his "Orphée" is about what you get. ❑



DEATH WALK: *Renowned poet Orphée confronts the Princess of Death.*

IF YOU GO

ORPHÉE

Opera by Philip Glass
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Directed by Francesca Zambello
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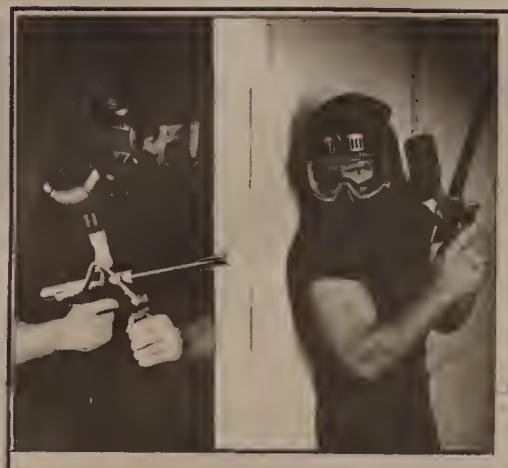


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Something Useful. (Maybe.) / Anthony Tedesco

Fashion's Five Commandments

"I need timeless fashion tips. I need rules I can always count on and constantly refer to in an easy-to-understand format taped to my closet door."

I admit it: I'm not exactly on the cutting edge of fashion. Truth is, I'm not even on the big-fat-wooden handle of fashion, but all that's changing now that I've gone to a Fashion Consultant.

Sure, laugh it up, all you macho, body-by-Budweiser guys who spend your Saturday nights yelling "Go Jimmy!" at any of 14 TV screens in your favorite sports baaa, but this is The Nineties: men wash dishes; men cry in public; and more and more men are going to fashion consultants. At least, that's what the "Color-Me-Beautiful" Lady said while trying to sell me the fashion consultation, as well as the eye-shadow, high heels, assorted lipstick set, three packs of "Lee Press-On Nails," and a lifetime supply of feminine hygiene products. (I held out on the heels).

By her recommendation, I've also started reading GQ and other fashion magazines to help keep up with the trends. But what I've finally realized—other than the fact that fashion magazines are made up of 97 percent perfumed advertisements and three percent unperfumed advertisements—is that I can't possibly keep up with all of the fashion trends: Before I finish sniffing even the first few pages of a magazine, the trends have already changed.

I need timeless fashion tips. I need rules I can always count on and constantly refer to in an easy-to-understand format taped to my closet door. Well, here they are—due to popular demand by me, straight from the ultra-chic pedestrians of Newbury Street—five Fashion Command-ments that should never, NEVER, be broken. (Unless you want these five particular people laughing at you.)

Fashion Commandment #1: NEVER Wear Plaid On Plaid, On Plaid On Plaid On Plaid. This helpful tip comes from my housemate Paul, who wasn't actually on Newbury Street when he said it—but easily could have been, had he not been eating breakfast across the table from me, and had I not been given only one day to do all my interviews and write this column. And although Paul doesn't particularly agree with this rule, he assured me that it is in fact legitimate, and would I just shut up so he could eat his breakfast.

Fashion Commandment #2: NEVER EVER EVER Wear White Before Memorial Day OR—Heaven forbid—after Labor Day. This tip also comes from my housemate Paul, who's still not on Newbury Street, and will now be finishing his breakfast in his bedroom with the door locked. But, once again, as far as the legitimacy of this tip goes, he assured me that I had better not try to come in.

Fashion Commandment #3 comes from my co-worker Jackie Giron, who, incidentally, was nowhere near Newbury Street when we spoke, but is definitely qualified to give fashion tips in that she's conveniently located at the desk next to mine. When asked for a timeless fashion faux pas, she came up with, off the top of her head: NEVER Wear A Tie That Looks Anything Like The Tie You Have On. Which was *really funny* at the time. To her. And all my other co-workers. She was, of course, kidding, because the tie I had on happened to be exceptionally cool—yellow and brown spots on a purple background. (It's cooler than it sounds.) So then I asked her for a Real Fashion Commandment and she said: "No, really."

But then both Jackie and other-very-qualified-to-give-fashion-rules-co-worker Catherine yelled out the **REAL Fashion Commandment #3:** (for men only) NEVER Wear Any Kind Of Sneakers With Any Kind Of Suit. Ever. Not on the T. Not in the office lobby. Not in the privacy of your own home. When I asked about the double standard—why Fashion Command-ment #3 only applied to men—I got bombarded with: "Oh ya! You try wearing high heels! You try giving birth! You try having your period! You try bitching and moaning seven days a week, 52 weeks a year!" (OK, I threw that last one in myself.)

Which (quickly) brings us up to **Fashion Commandment #4** from John, another co-worker, who really was on Newbury Street! (OK I lied.) But he did offer these two insightful and highly-convenient-for-me fashion rules: One, Burn All Ties That Look Like The One You're Wearing, (like Jackie didn't tell him to say that), and two, DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT Wearing Socks With Sandals. His Pastor Kapka used to get away with it, but he had God on his side.

And finally, on the way home from work, I received **Fashion Commandment #5** from Yasmina, the attractive cashier at CVS on Boylston Street—a mere 800 feet from *actual* ultra-chic people *actually* on Newbury Street. Yasmina said: Never Wear Earrings In Your Lip, because not only does it look stupid, but, she imagines, it must also be very painful. Note that at no time in our conversation did Yasmina so much as mention my apparently horrendous looking tie, which I had taken off hours ago, crumpled up, and hid in the very bottom of my work bag. I'm sure my Dad will enjoy it for Father's Day. ❑

Hiding Your Smile?







BEFORE AFTER

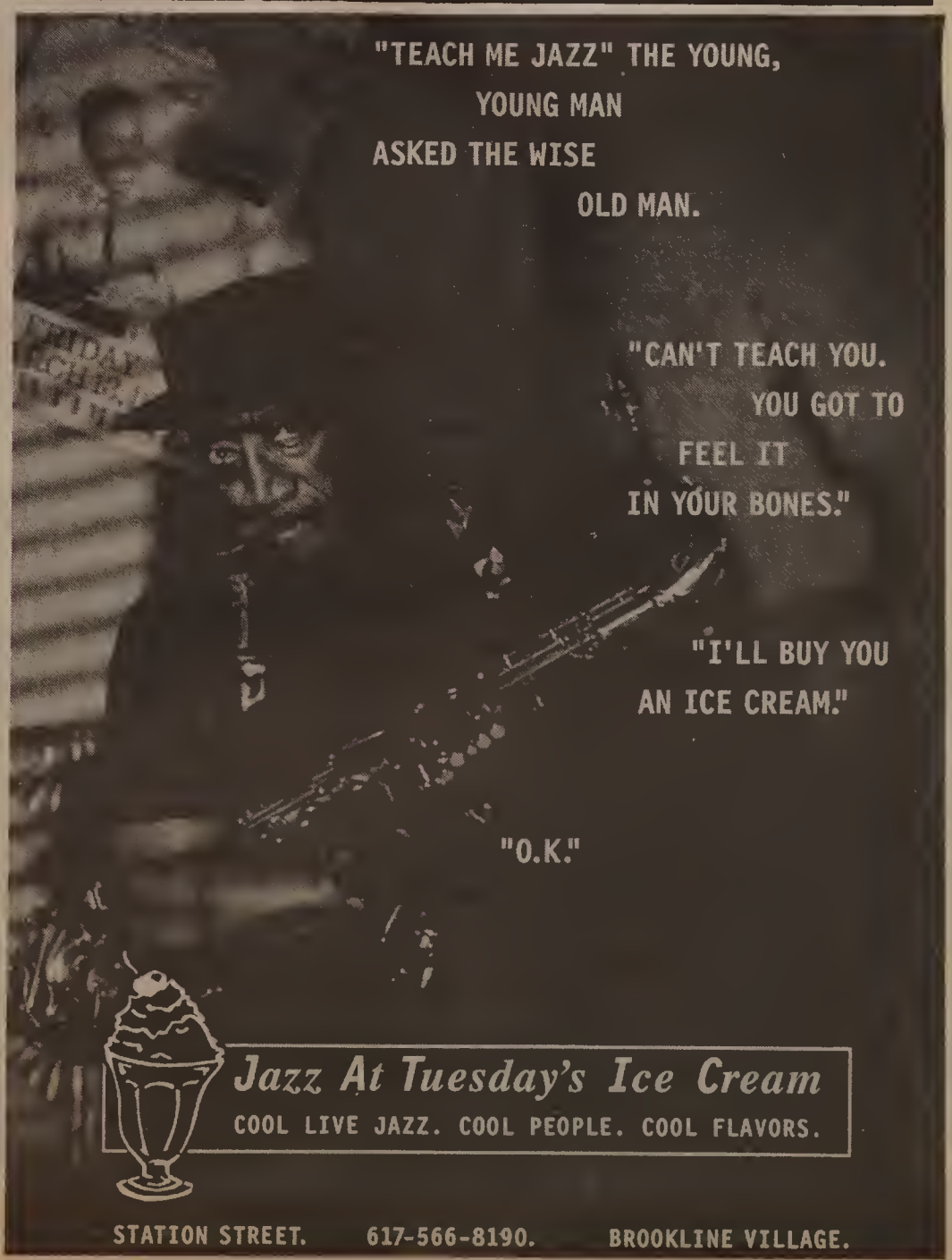
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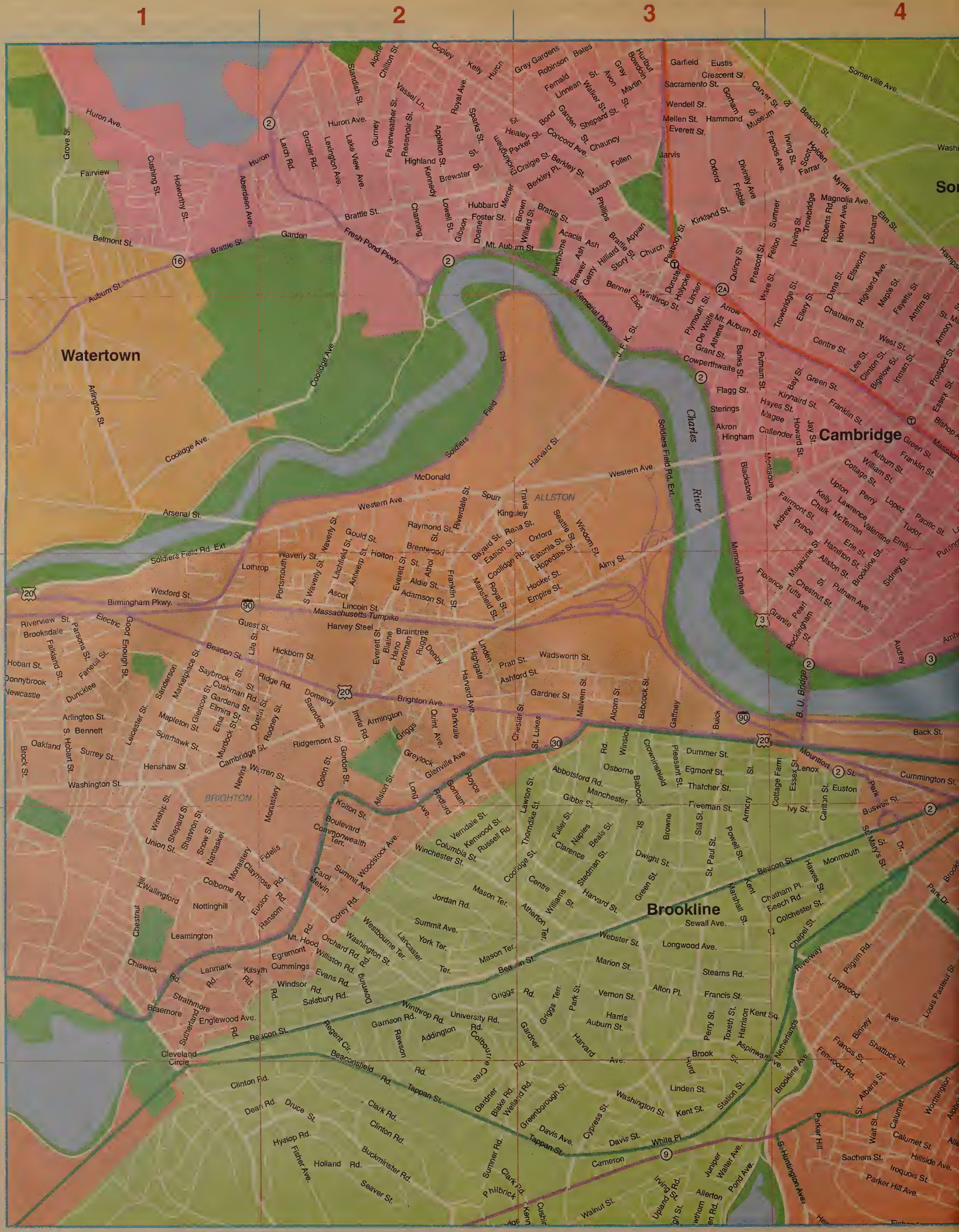
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IMPROPER BOSTON

Don't Get Lost In BOSTON

We'd like to introduce you to our new **Proper Boston** map.

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To help you find your way there, and back.

We've added keyed designates in our listings and our features, all of which correspond to map coordinates. So follow the codes, and find your way there with ease.

And the next time you get lost, pick up an *Improper*. We'll show you the way to where you want to go.

THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6				

DANCE

JACOB'S PILLOW
Becket, MA
The annual Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival is here again – 12 weeks of dancing, workshops, conferences and more. The Ralph Lemon Company performs June 25-27 in the Studio/Theater and will premiere three new works. Philadanco, Philadelphia's premier modern dance company, performs June 24-26 in the Ted Shawn Theatre. Los Angeles' Jazz Tap Ensemble comes to the Shawn Theatre June 29-July 3. Call (413) 243-0745 for more details.

STRAND THEATRE
543 Columbia Road, Dorchester
Dance Umbrella presents a jazz, tap and hip-hop dance festival June 24 at 7 p.m. and June 25 & 26 at 8 p.m. Enjoy tap dancer extraordinaire Savion Glover (star of the Broadway smash "Jelly's Last Jam," with Gregory Hines) and Rock Steady Crew, one of New York's original hip-hop dance groups. Call 282-5230.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square
With June comes a slew of weddings, some of which are chronicled in "For Better, For Worse: The Contemporary Wedding," through June 29. Featured are photographs of seven weddings by seven Boston-area photographers.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St.
Take a cheap trip to France when you view "Summer Sojourn," images of France by Michael Berger. On display through July 30. The exhibit is free. Call 266-4351 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Commonwealth Ave.
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball," which features fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. It runs through July 30. Call 353-0700.

TOURS

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – all seen while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically-designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St.
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

ODYSSEY CRUISES
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the *Spirit of Boston* ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef. Call 654-9700 for reservations.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past – this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St.
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

DANFORTH MUSEUM OF ART
123 Union Ave., Framingham
The Danforth shows work by American women artists of the 1920s-30s through June 20. Call (508) 620-0050.

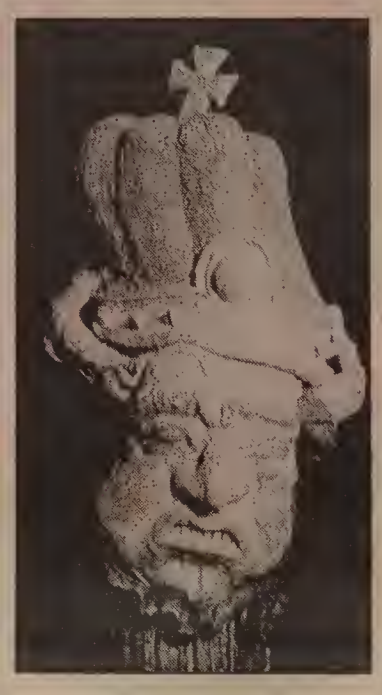
FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for info.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St.
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.



IMPROPER PICK

KING ME: Chess is the subject matter of the first exhibit at the new Absinth Gallery, 215 Hanover Street. Stephen Yaffee has created a sculpted chess set full of weird and wonderful pawns and knights. Gallery hours are Tues.-Sun., noon-11 p.m. Call 248-6962.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave.
Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors will be presented through Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." On view through Aug. 1 is John Singleton Copley's "Watson and Shark," the two large versions of his famous shark attack painting. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Parts I & II"; part one through July 4 and part two until September. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle — all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Musde Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. Call 522-6547 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious—and dangerous—sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 - ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has anything to do with New England sports, including lots of interactive exhibits - like one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St.
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

(continued on following page)

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WOMAN ON THE STREET

"Nobody knows..."

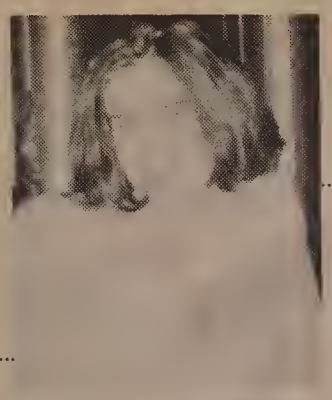
BY LESLIE



Amy, 24, Brighton
"Nobody knows I soak my feet in the toilet when it's hot outside."



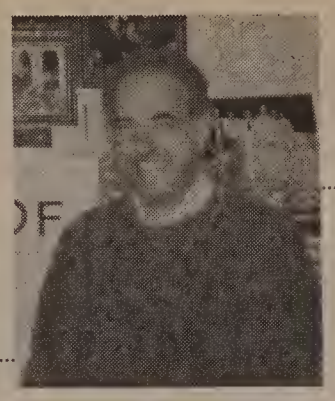
T.J., 28, Fenway
"I raise hamsters for laboratory reproduction experiments."



Rebecca, 20, Boston
"Nobody knows how ugly I was in 7th grade."



Alexis, 34, Milton
"Nobody knows I am really 5'4", except maybe the Registry of Motor Vehicles."



Raymond, 56, Arlington
"As a restaurant owner, everybody always wants to know where I go for dinner. I never tell..."



Leslie, 24, Newton
"Nobody knows my true hair color."

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Elaine Stritch stars in the world premiere of *Cakewalk*, a semi-autobiographical work by Peter Feibleman about his turbulent, 40-year relationship with playwright Lillian Hellman (*The Children's Hour*). Runs through July 17. Concurrently, the ART stages Philip Glass' opera *Orphée*. Call 547-8300 for more information.

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Zero Church Street, Cambridge
A special workshop presentation of Shakespeare's tragedy *Macbeth* will be performed June 24-July 11. So, get Out, Out (Brief Spot) and see it!

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St.
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St.
Acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
Richard Chamberlain stars in Lerner & Loewe's classic musical *My Fair Lady* through June 27. It's about a young Cockney girl and the man who must teach her some manners - and how to speak English "properly." Call 931-2787 for times and ticket information.

DELVENA THEATER COMPANY
Old Salem Town Hall
32 Derby Square, Salem
A nun accused of murdering her child is the shocking premise behind the powerful play *Agnes of God*. The DTC performs this work June 25 & 26, July 2 & 3 and 9 & 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10; $7 for students and seniors. Call 643-9993 for more details.

FRENCH'S OPERA HOUSE
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
The Riverside Theatre Works Co. presents *Broadway Legends*, which is basically exactly what it sounds like, June 25 & 26 at 8 p.m. Call 361-7024 for reservations.

KENDALL CAFE
233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge
Well, it sounds kinky to us: Steps Theater Company presents *The Throb of Life*, an ongoing, continuing radio drama for adults only. Admission is $7; calf 499-9580 for reservations and information.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St.
Renowned actor Nehemiah Persoff performs his award-winning one-man show, *Tales of Sholem Aleichem*, through June 27. Enjoy some of the most charming, wise and humorously touching stories about Eastern European Jewish life in the last century. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket information.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St.
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St.
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Road, Beverly
Los Angeles comes to Beverly as the NSMT presents *City of Angels*, a winner of six Tony awards, including best musical. Stars John James (of *Dynasty* fame) and runs June 24-July 10. Call (508) 922-8500 for times and ticket information.

OUT OF THE BLUE
Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
A shipwreck leads to love, mistaken identities and, well, cross-dressing in Shakespeare's romantic comedy *Twelfth Night*, performed through June 26. Shows are Thurs.-Sun. at 8 p.m. and there is a 4 p.m. matinee June 26. Call 576-1253 for more information.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St.
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for *Miss Saigon* the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the native woman he left in Vietnam. It's a must-see. Call 931-2222 for times and ticket prices. Performances begin July 14.

WORKSHOPS

CENTER FOR SOCIAL THERAPY
25 Huntington Ave. Suite 328, Boston
The CST presents a "Stop Abusive Behavior Workshop" June 26 from 1-3 p.m.; the workshop will deal with verbal, physical, sexual and substance abuse situations. Cost is $18.

NOW
971 Comm. Ave.
Get involved in planning the National Organization for Women's annual conference, which will be held right here in Beantown July 2-4. They're looking for volunteers to help before and during the conference. Call 782-1056.

LECTURES/READINGS

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE
10 Brookline St.
Central Square, Cambridge
T.T.'s presents Stone Soup Poetry every Monday. June 28 it's Ray McNeice and Licia Sky; July 5 it's an AIDS benefit reading. Call 492-0082. Donation is $3; show begins at 8 p.m.

GALLERIES

ARTISTS FOUNDATION
State Transportation Building
8 Park Plaza, Boston
In a stinging indictment of man's intolerance for man, the Artists Foundation has gathered the works of 27 artists under the exhibition heading "Worse than Animals: Meditations on Racist

(continued on following page)

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(continued from previous page)

Violence." It runs through July 31; there is an opening reception June 24 from 5-7 p.m.

CAMBRIGE ARTS CENTER
41 Second St., Cambridge
"The model minority" or "perpetual foreigner" are but two of the stereotypes about Asian-Americans that are examined and debunked in "Welcome to Asian America," a multi-sensual environmental installation created by Asian-American artist. There is a free reception June 24 from 5-8 p.m.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St.
French post-Impressionist Bernard Lamotte's estate will be on display throgh July 15. Featured are more than 100 oils, watercolors and works on paper that depict the cafes, parks and boulevards of the artist's homeland.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION
Stow Acres Country Club, Stow
Join local sports celebrities such as Roger Clemens and Jim Rice, as well as many others at the MAWF's benefit golf tournament June 24, with tee-off at 9:30 a.m. MAWF grants wishes to children battling life-threatening illnesses. Call 451-WISH for more information.

CLASSICAL

BOSTON POPS
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The world-renowned Pops perform every Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., through July 11. And, as always, will perform free concerts at the Hatch Shell (on the Esplanade) July 3 & 4 to celebrate Independence Day. The annual fireworks will follow the performance on the 4th. Call 266-1492 for program information and ticket prices.

GREAT WOODS
Mansfield
If you just can't handle the throngs of people crowding the Esplanade for the Pops concert July 4, come to Great Woods July 5 for an equally impressive evening of classical music and fireworks. Fleet Bank presents a FREE, that's right, FREE concert at 7:30 p.m. that will feature the music of Gershwin, Copland, Bernstein, Tchaikovsky, and a patriotic sing-along.

HANDEL & HAYDN SOCIETY
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The H & H presents Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* June 28 at 8 p.m. Call 931-2000 for tickets.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

STRAND THEATRE
543 Columbia Road, Dorchester
Geography lesson, maybe? The Philadelphia Church Choir of Montreal performs June 27 at 7 p.m. in a benefit performance for the Boston Missionary Baptist Church. Call 282-5230.

FILMS

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave.
BU's summer film festival continues June 29 with *Mediterraneo* and July 6 with *Unlawfut Entry*, starring Kurt Russell and Ray Liotta. All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're **free**! Call 353-3635.

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park
New to the world of Omnimax is *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, which runs through Oct. 14. For the more tropically-oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropicat Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Also showing is *Antarctica*, an extraordinary excursion across Earth's last wilderness, and *Mountain Gorilla*, a film which follows the activities of a gorilla family in Central Africa. Call 723-2500 for show times. Also, running each Saturday and Sunday in June at 6:30 p.m., try the innnovative *Blind Trust*: Visitors sit in Hayden Planetarium and let sounds and smells defin various locations in Boston. Get it – you get to use your imagination! Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.



PROPER BOSTONIANS

PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

MYOPIA POLO KICKS OFF ITS 105TH SEASON SUNDAY, JUNE 13



Here Come The Judges: (left to right) Biba manager Frank King, Sheraton Boston Hotel and Towers' Caron LeBrun, a top-hatted Bob French, and Bob Levine of Boston's Carey Limousine.



Kimberly White (left) from PC Magazine chats with Benefit Committee members Kimberly Gayron and her mother Frances Gaynor.



The Hard Rock Cafe's Sara Grunstein (left) Angelique Danikian and Christopher Freer find a cache of champagne in the trunk of the Sheraton Boston Hotel and Towers' "Steak in the Neighborhood" limo picnic.



"A Black and White Picnic" created by (left to right) Sandra Nardone, Michelle Barile, Patricia Barile, Sandra Ventola and Kim Foley, took first place in the "Tailgate Picnic" competition. First place winners received a weekend for two at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers.



National Kidney Foundation of Massachusetts Polo Benefit Volunteers: (left to right) John Hughes, Marybeth Rectra, Brian Connor, Phil Rectra, John Homes, and Michelle Sullivan.

Dining / Peter McNamara

Summer Dining Guide

These are some of my personal favorites; each has a certain something worth catching. Try them all before the summer days wane away. . . and tell them the Improper sent you.

Best Waterfront Dining
Cornucopia on the Wharf
100 Atlantic Avenue
367-0300

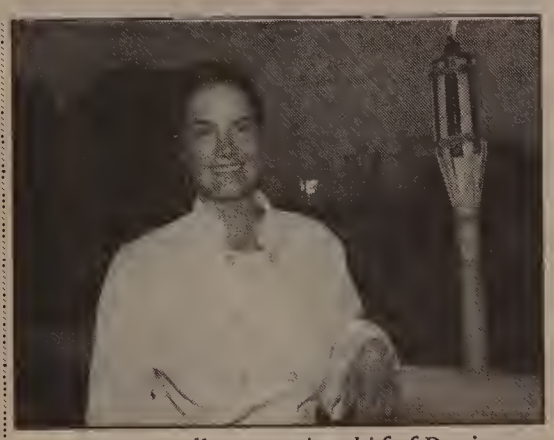
Best Spanish Food, Best Tapas
Dali
415 Washington Street
661-3254

Best Outdoor Dining on the Charles
Davio's
5 Cambridge Parkway
651 Boylston Street
437-6400

Best Caribbean
Green Street Grill
280 Green Street
Cambridge
876-1655

Best Chinese
Mister Leung's
545 Boylston Street
236-4040

Best South End restaurant
On The Park
315 Shawmut Avenue



Liza Connolly, executive chef of Davios, Cambridge
(Best Outdoor Dining on the Charles)



Best Cambodian Dining – The Elephant Walk

661-4810

Best Tourist Trap
Durgin Park
South Market Building
227-2038

Best Theme Nights
East Coast Grill
1271 Cambridge Street
491-6568
(example: Hotter Than Hell Night, Eat With Your Hands Night)

Best Outdoor Cafe
Geoffrey's Cafe
426-0862

Best North Italian prix fixe menu
On the Square
9 Galen Street
Watertown
923-1522

Best Caesar Salad
Paparazzi
271 Dartmouth Street
537-9200

Best Sushi
Guyhama
827 Boylston Street
437-0188



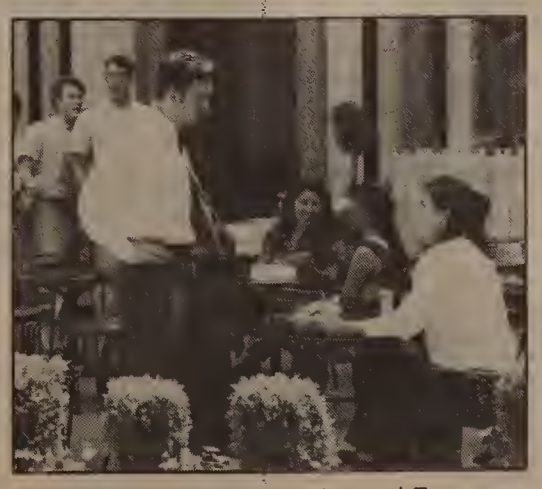
Best Outdoor Café – Geoffrey's Café

Best-Kept Secret
Icarus
3 Appleton Street
426-1790

Best Korean
Jae's Cafe and Grill
520 Columbus Avenue
421-9405

Best Wine List
Michael's Waterfront
85 Atlantic Avenue
367-6425

Best Vegetarian
Cecil's
129 South Street
542-5108



Armani Express

Best Cambodian
Elephant Walk
70 Union Square
Somerville
632-9939

Best People-Watching Eatery
Marais
116 Boylston Street
482-7799

Best for Foodies
Biba
272 Boylston Street

426-7878

Best Soul Food
Bob the Chef
604 Columbus Avenue
536-6204

Best Brookline Restaurant
Caffe Luna/Chestnut Hill
11 Boylston Street
734-8400

Best Cheap Eats/Drinks
Pour House
907 Boylston Street
236-1767

Best Deal Under $10
Milano's Italian Kitchen
47 Newbury Street
267-6150

Best Seafood
Skipjack's
199 Street
536-3500

Most Attractive Clientele
Armani Express
214 Newbury St.
437-0909

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Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

TIME IN A BOTTLE

"... The Subtle Mysteries of a Well Aged Wine... Are Rare and Exquisite Pleasures..."

Mature? When I was a lad undergoing *elevage*, it was a word I overheard the girls use, usually in the negative, and often in reference to my behavior. Little did I suspect it might also describe something you could buy in a bottle.

Now, however, savoring and discussing with a friend the subtle mysteries of a well-aged wine over dinner are for me rare and exquisite pleasures. As with people though, maturity may be one of those things which is easier to recognize than to define. It is also inescapably in the eye of the beholder. One thing is clear: on few subjects relating to wine is there more general curiosity and at the same time so much mythical nonsense which finds its way into print.

Older wine is, if nothing else, an acquired taste. While some novices will gladly spend whatever it takes to have "the best," their range of tasting experience unfortunately may not have prepared them to appreciate the many dimensions of what they are drinking. Speaking from my own personal experience, this can cause frustration, disappointment, and, in some cases, bizarre conspiratorial fantasies.

Among all the wines of the world, surprisingly few have the capacity to improve in the bottle. This is partly because it takes the noblest of elite grape varieties grown in certain circumstances to provide suitable raw material for age-worthiness, but more importantly because of the way most wines are produced.

To simplify a rather complex matter, most contemporary wines come into being in an atmosphere of virtual exclusion from oxygen. Fermentation occurs in sealed containers at a controlled, usually cool temperature, and the wine is then held and processed in tanks which prevent contact with air. Wines made this way show fresh fruit aromas and clean direct flavor. They are appealing when young, soon after their release to the market .

Some wines, however, receive a carefully-controlled aeration before bottling. During the course of winery operations, small quantities of oxygen enter the oak containers, where they rest aging and dissolve in the wine. This precious but minuscule hoard of oxygen in solution is a crucial factor, permitting change and development over many years in the bottle.

On the other hand, excessive air contact will set spoilage mechanisms in motion almost immediately. The more skillfully the wine maker walks this tightrope between not enough and too much oxygen exposure to fit the personality of the grapes he is using will help determine the wine's age-worthiness. Some wines can absorb, and in fact require, more oxygen than others to reach their full potential.

Once bottled, contact with even trace amounts of air can ruin a wine. Sound corks provide almost absolute security as long as they remain moist and their elasticity is maintained.

Assuming that the wine has been suitably made and the cork is functioning, what goes on inside the bottle? As the stored oxygen comes out of solution, it reacts chemically with the wine's tannins, acids, and alcohol, combining into larger, more complex molecules. The amount of "free" oxygen is slowly reduced; the other components of the wine consume it, causing the familiar scents and textures of bottle age to begin forming. Flavors soften, perceptions of acid and bitterness diminish, color fades, and a wonderful symphony of aromas starts tuning up.

Events taking place outside the bottle now determine how well the wine may continue to evolve. Excessive heat speeds up the chemical processes and can cause imbalance by encouraging transformations to take place at a much faster than desirable rate. Pressure may build up; as the wine tries to expand it can dislodge the cork, gradually pushing it upward and allowing air to enter the bottle along its sides.

Which wines show the best potential for long-term cellaring? If you are interested enough to want to find a rewarding candidate, your best resource is a knowledgeable retailer with a cool humid cellar. Be forewarned though: wines aged oxidatively in oak and then left undisturbed in the bottle while their components harmonize over the years are invariably more expensive. Why does it have to be that way? Anyone even slightly mature would understand. ❑

Sandy Block was awarded the title Master of Wine in 1992 by the prestigious British Institute of Masters of Wine. Of the 162 people worldwide who hold this title, only five are Americans. Sandy is also the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood,

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MEDITERRANEAN SUMMER

David's restaurant on Stuart Street has changed the menu for summer and offers several new dishes from the cuisines of the sunny Mediterranean. A new permanent addition to the menu is our favorite dessert! A hint – it is filled with apples and apricots. The restaurant is now also offering outdoor dining. Look for a surprise at the restaurant soon. We will keep you informed. David's; 367-8405.



Ron Howard with the staff of Ristorante Marino

A RECIPE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The *Official Boston Neighborhood Cookbook* is being compiled and recipes are needed from residents of Boston, Cambridge, Somerville, Chelsea and Brookline. The publishers have already had success with similar neighborhood cookbooks for Philadelphia and Baltimore. If you have a recipe that is crying out to be



Ron Hively, Marais's new pastry chef

in a cookbook, send it, along with your name, address and telephone number to Boston Neighborhood Cookbook, 18 Lane Park, Brighton, MA 02135. Recipes can range from appetizers to desserts. Do your neighborhood proud!

DANCING ON THE ROOF

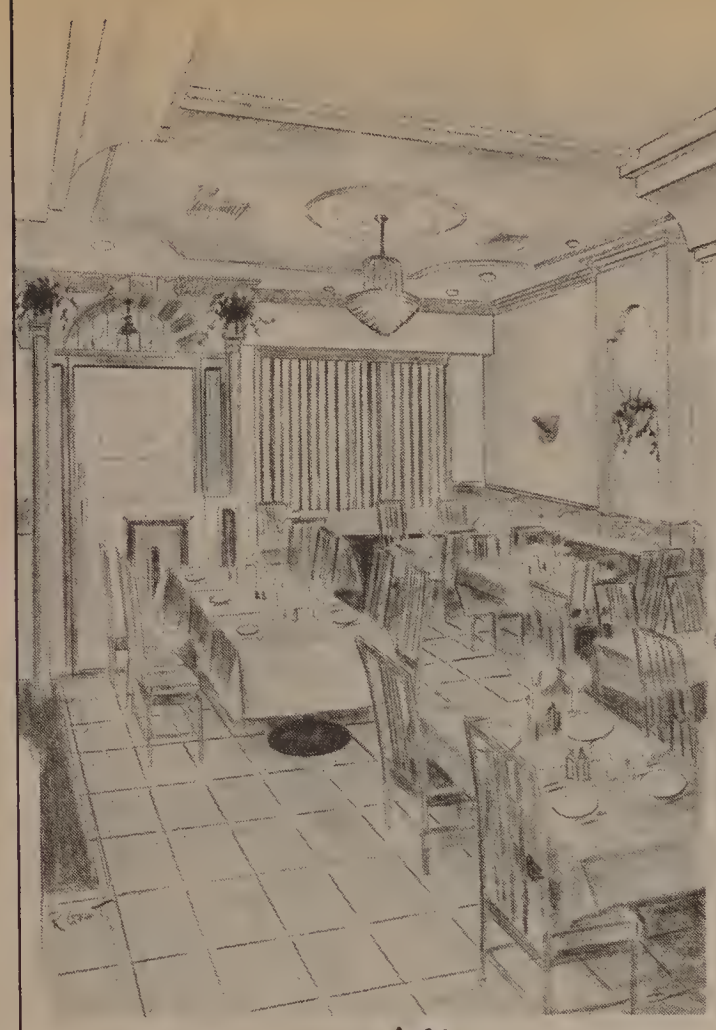
The **Ritz-Carlton** is reopening their old rooftop restaurant. The restaurant first opened in 1933 after Prohibition ended and for thirteen years entertained Bostonians with dining and dancing to the likes of Tommy Dorcey and Benny Goodman. The rooftop restaurant will be open Friday and Saturday evenings, 6 p.m.-1 a.m., and has an admission charge of $10. The Dick Johnson Swing Shift band will entertain and a full menu of seasonal specialties will be offered. So dance the night away on the roof at the Ritz. Call 536-5700 for information and reservations. P.S. Dress - the traditional Ritz-Carlton dress code.

JUICY DETAILS

Lydia Shire and **Susan Regis** recently flew out to California for a surprise birthday party for **Robert Mondavi**. Guests at the gala included California governor Pete Williams, Francis Ford Coppola, and Burgess Meredith. **Marais** welcomes a new pastry chef, **Ron Hively**, formerly of Delphin's Gourmandise in Marblehead. A sous chef at one of the highly publicized gang of four restaurants has been scouting around looking at a certain Brookline restaurant location. The **Cafe Promenade** at the Colonade Hotel has opened their outdoor cafe and has the same menu that **Chef Grandon** offers inside. **Chef Andree Robert** of **Maison Robert** has returned from a visit to Provence and introduced a lighter, simpler summer menu filled with those wonderful Provencale flavors. **The Peacock Restaurant** in Cambridge has gone completely smoke-free. ❑



Hillary Tracy, David Waters, Robert Parker, Joan Parker at High Tea, Upstairs at the Pudding



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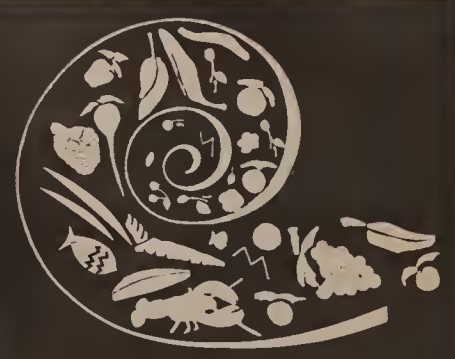
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Restaurant Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

Ararat
71 Arlington St., Watertown, 924-4100 $
Dine in this casual, authentic Middle Eastern and Armenian restaurant. With only two items priced over five dollars, this menu offers some of the best deals around. Choose between tender rotisseried chicken or their addictive lamb kabobs. All dishes are served with generous portions of rice pilaf, salad, pita and hommos. Take-out is also available. Hours are 11a.m.-9p.m., Mon.-Sat. Beer and wine available.

Blue Wave
142 Berkeley Street, Bos., 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-6
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. The Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

Boodles
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos., 266-3537
A,D,MC, V, En Route $$$$, D-5
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7a.m.-10:45a.m. Continental Breakfast: 10:45a.m -11:30a.m. L: 11:30a.m-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. until 11p.m..

Cactus Club
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$, C-5
Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors." Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, and prarie oysters are just a sampling of the traditional staples that are served daily. Call to reserve for parties of eight or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Cafe Monagene
1032 Beacon St., Brookline, 232-3303
M, V, A, $$, D-4
American cuisine featuring comfort food with a modern multi-ethnic flair. Pastas from macaroni and cheese with oven-dried tomatoes and roasted garlic to red pepper linguini with house-smoked salmon and trout. Private function room. Late night menu served until 1a.m. Full bar with eclectic beer, wine and single malt list.

Cityside At The Circle
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-1
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting.

Commonwealth Brewing Company
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$, B-7
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30a.m. to midnight Sun.-Thurs. and until 1:00a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

Cornucopia on the Wharf
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$, C-7
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located on the waterfront. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.
Country Life Vegetarian Buffet
112 Broad St., Bos., 350-8846 $, C-7
Sample creative macrobiotic dishes buffet-style in quaint country surroundings. Eggplant Parmesan made with tofu and broccoli quiche with tahini sauce. All-you-can-eat lunch buffet for $6, ($7 for dinner). Open Mon.-Fri. for lunch. Tue., Wed., Thu. and Sun. for dinner. Sun. brunch 10:00a.m.-3p.m.

The Daily Catch Restaurants
323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093
441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696
$$, B-7
This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

Davio's
269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

Harvard Street Grill
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-3
Chef John Vyhnanek personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, or the house specialty, grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. The award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce . is the perfect way to top off this delightful meal. 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

Il Nido Locanda Italiana
257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272
A, DC $$, B-7
If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional, authentic Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming, warm atmosphere, Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrioni to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, an abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner Nightly. Closed Mondays.

India Samraat
51A Mass. Ave., Boston, 247-0718
V, MC $, D-5
Superb Indian cuisine. All Samraat dishes are cooked in The Old Indian Tradition. Specialties include Chicken Tikka Masala ($8.95) and Vegetarian Thali - 3 full courses ($9.95). Dinner served 5-11 p.m. weeknights, 12-11p.m. weekends. Luncheon hours 12-3 p.m. weekdays. Super lunch Special 12 - 3p.m .Mon - Sat. ($5.75). Take-out/delivery and catering services available.

Jamaica Jamaica
162 Prospect St., Cambridge, 864-9368 MC, V $, B-4
If you can't afford the trip to Jamaica, then cross the bridge to Cambridge and sample the Caribbean inspired dishes at this Cambridge eatery. Try the popular island dish Roti - dough cooked on a flat surface that is filled with curried potatoes and vegetables, chicken, shrimp, lamb or beef, it's hearty and full of flavor. Feeling daring? Pour on a few drops of their Jerk sauce, but be sure that there is plenty of cold water handy.

Jose's Mexican Food
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza . Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

Legal Sea Foods
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$, C-6
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Seafood's has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

Mamma Maria
3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$, B-7
Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Marketplace Grill & Oar Bar
301 North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 227-1272
MC, V, A $$, B-7
Faneuil Hall's newest restaurant located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market Building. Offering regional American cuisine. Dine overlooking historic Quincy Market. Unusual appetizers, pastas, seafood, entrees, salads and sandwiches available for lunch and dinner. Open Mon - Sat 11:30 - 11p.m. Oar bar open til 2a.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC ,A $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

Moon Villa
15-19 Edinboro St., Bos., 423-2061
A, D, MC, V $
A dynasty of its own, this Chinese eatery has a long history in China Town. Known for its seafood, try their fresh fish specials steamed, deep fried, with black bean sauce or without. Open daily for lunch and dinner - until 4a.m. for those with late night munchies. Come for dim sum Sat. and Sun. noon - 3p.m..

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant .
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $, D-4
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route, C-6
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This saloon roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. Barbecue is the name of the game here, they do It different than anyone else. Open 11 a.m.-2a.m. all week.

Patisserie Francaise
54 JFK St., Cambridge, 354-9850 $(lunch)$$(dinner), A-3
If you yearn for Paris in the summertime, try out this little French café in Harvard Square. They serve fresh food from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and until 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Lunch consists of omelets, salads, soups, and sandwiches. Dinner adds typical French cuisine, freshly-cooked, to the menu. And the desserts include every chocolate and fruit-filled concoction you could imagine.

Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

The Sabra Restaurant & The Sabra Grill
45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A, V, MC, D, CB $$, C-6
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Stromboli
187 North Street Newton, 630-0002
12 green street, woburn, 935-0070
V, MC, A$$
Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli , simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function!

Downtown's Newest Irish Restaurant & Pub
The Harp
Across from Boston Garden
June 23 Tim Crandell (7:30-10:30)
June 24 Ndodaclue (Raggae)
June 25 Bud Light Spotlight 5.0
June 26 Toadhouse
June 30 Tim Crandell
July 1 Live Band
July 2 Standing Hamptons
July 3 Live Band
July 4 D.J. Danny
85 Causeway St., Boston
617-742-1010

Allston's Best Irish Pub
Kinvara Pub
On the Allston/Brighton Line
June 23 Grinning Lizards
June 24 The Pour Boys
June 25 Classic Five
June 26 Dennis Healy Band
June 27 Coupla
June 30 Grinning Lizards
July 1 Dave and the Shades
July 2 The Pour Boys
July 3 Shoot the Moon
July 4 Coupla
34 Harvard Ave., Allston
617-783-9400

Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Briar
June 23 Karaoke
June 24 Standing Hamptons
June 25 Boston Baked Blues
June 26 Response
June 27 Dave and the Shades
June 30 Karaoke
July 1 Live Band
July 2 "Da Mud Hens"
July 3 D.J.
Best Guiness in Boston
304-306 Washington St.,
Brighton 617-789-4100

Brunch Board

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

Aujourd'Hui
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos., C-6, 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

Bello Mondo
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

Armadillo Café
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, C-2, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

Cactus Club
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$, C-5
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

Cityside At The Circle
1960 Beacon St. , Brookline, 566-1002
A, D, MC, V $$, D-1
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

Copley Plaza Hotel - Copley's Restaurant
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, C-6, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's Grande Dame of Hotels - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., and is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelettes and waffles, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

Cottonwood Restaurant & Cafe
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, C-6, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to llfe by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

Hampshire House
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington Is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

Hungry I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

Marketplace Grill and Oar Bar
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'Leary's
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, D-4, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

Rowes Wharf Restaurant Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

Serendipity 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., B-7, 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

Spasso Italia
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bost., C-6, 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

The Trident Bookstore and Café
338 Newbury St., Bos., C-5, 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9p.m.

Warren Tavern,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

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Special Offer Special Offer Special Offer

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Cityside at the Circle welcomes The Summer Season with outdoor dining on our deck. It's the perfect place for lunch, dinner or Sunday Brunch. Enjoy Fresh Seafood, Salads, Pasta, Nachos, Burgers and more in the relaxed friendly neighborhood atmosphere.
Cityside at the Circle is the spot for Casual Summer Fun.
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We'll welcome you to a fine atmosphere of friendly, elegance and softly played music.
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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

Blues and Spice and Everything Nice

"There are still some great outdoor shows this summer. . . Bringing the flavor of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival to New England"

The Concerts on the Common series may be gone, but there are still some great outdoor shows in town this summer. And the series that's closest to Concerts on the Common in name talent is free! Just stop by Copley Square Park Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. for the WBOS-FM Earthwatch concert series, which includes such national attractions as John Sebastian (June 24), the Judybats (July I), Leon Russell (July 8) and Zachary Richard (July 15).

And speaking of the Judybats, their co-headliner may soon be making national waves beyond New England as well. In fact, singer-songwriter Ellis Paul (voted Outstanding New Folk/Acoustic Artist at this year's Pepsi Boston Music Awards) will be returning to local action on the heels of a trip down South, where he will play the Birmingham City Stages festival. Paul returns for two shows at Passim in Cambridge June 25 prior to his Earthwatch set.

Paul, whose debut album "Say Anything" is out on local Black Wolf Records, says of his Music Awards gig, "I felt really lucky to win, but the greatest thing was to get to play the Wang Center. It was surreal, hanging backstage with Aerosmith and rap artists and cleavage and big hair."

Big hair and cleavage aside, the 28-year-old Paul says "I don't want to be huge. I just want to be known as a good songwriter. I can be happy doing this the grassroots way, the same as Bill Morrissey, Patty Larkin and John Gorka have built their audiences."

His distinctive high, lonesome voice showcases the sensitive insights in songs such as "Angel," about a kid caught up in the inner-city drug culture. Paul relates the song back to three years he spent as a social worker in Jamaica Plain working with troubled youths, saying, "My songs are based on real life, but I was never one to set an idea in my head and write about it. It's more in my subconscious. I never said `I'm going to write a song about the inner city'."

ELSEWHERE

When it comes to outdoor summer fun, people who enjoy roots music won't find a better time than the annual Big Easy Bash at the Stepping Stone Ranch in rural Escoheag, R.I. Bringing the flavor of the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival to New England (there's only one stage, but plenty of good eats), the Big Easy Bash features sassy Charmaine Neville, zydeco king John Delafose and blues guitar upstart Sue Foley, as well as smorgasbord band Brave Combo, Tex-Mex folkie Tish Hinojosa, the Cajun-spiced Basin Brothers and swamp-beat boogiers the Sundogs. The festival runs June 26 – 27. (Call 401-351-6312 for information.)

Other recommendations: warm up your dance steps for the Cajun/Bluegrass Festival at the ranch on Labor Day by stopping by Johnny D's Uptown in Somerville on Mondays for Krewe de Roux and Cajun dance lessons or walk on the darker modern rock side with vitriolic P.J. Harvey at Avalon June 25 and The The (with ex-Treat Her Right guy Jim Fitting on harmonica) at Great Woods June 26. ❑

Freelance writer / photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe.



DEEP THOUGHTS: *Singer/Songwriter Ellis Paul contemplateshis music*

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Alternative Americana

A Round-up of Classical CD's to Refresh Your July Fourth

We sit on our coolers, eat hot dogs, and moo while things explode over our heads. And as we sit there every Fourth of July, chewing and mooing, the local school band honks out Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture. When I was little I liked this, especially the cannons going off at the end. But it's been twenty-some years. By now I've had it with that 1812 scene. I'm ready for music which can convey the spirit of America and New England without requiring heavy explosives. It's ironic that, all through the Cold War, we traditionally celebrated our independence with a rousing piece of music by a Russian. Now that we enjoy an era of cultural interchange, more and more is being made of our own national music. Over the past two years, there has been a spate of recordings of three pieces in particular which celebrate New England and its curious blend of Puritan austerity and Revolutionary fervor – pieces by American composers William Schuman, Walter Piston, and Charles Ives. If your beer goes sour at the thought of more Tchiakovskian pyrotechnics, you might look into these July Fourth alternatives for your Classical CD collection.

William Schuman's *New England Triptych* is the most popular of the three. Schuman based the piece on melodies by 18th century composer William Billings, who wrote, among other austere choral works, several Revolutionary War hymns. Billings was a Bostonian, and in fact is buried on Boston Common, his headstone right across from the Marais on Boylston Street. Imagine the man who advocated "teaching and admonishing one another in Psalms and Hymns and Spir'tual Songs" rotting within jay-walking distance of all that thirtysomething singles action.

William Schuman's orchestral transformation of this early American music is extremely rugged and powerful, full of brash, patriotic energy, yet not without its introspective side. Particularly moving is the haunting central section, based on Billings' "When Joseph Wept" – a kind of American version of the famous Vaughan Williams *Tallis Fantasia*. There have been at least five recordings of this piece released within the past year and a half. I'd recommend either the old Hanson/Eastman-Rochester Orchestra recording (paired with the Ives *Three Places in New England*, Mercury 432 755-2), the Sedares/Phoenix Symphony recording (paired with a surprisingly handsome symphony by Bernard Hermann, who wrote the music for the film *Psycho* – Koch 3-7135-2), or the Slatkin/St. Louis performance released last year, shortly after the composer's death (featuring Schuman's ambitious final symphony, "The American Muse" – RCA 61282-2).

Harvardian composer Walter Piston wrote his *Three New England Sketches* for the 100th Worcester Music Festival. Although the piece was written for Worcester, it is still very beautiful. Each movement depicts a quintessential New England scene. The first, "Seaside", evokes a gray, bitter day at Scituate or Newburyport, waves monotonously battering the rocks on the shore. The second movement, "Summer Evening", is a kind of scherzo, alive with muted excitement – you can almost see kids scampering under streetlights, and fat insects bumping off screen windows at the local ice cream stand. In the final movement, "Mountains", the canvas spreads, and we're treated to a vast orchestral portrait of Mt. Monadnock or the White Mountains – looming, rugged, and loud.

Once again, there has been a spate of recordings of this work in the last year or so. I'd recommend the Schwarz/Seattle Symphony recording on Delos (paired with the 4th Symphony and a sparkling harp capriccio, DE 3106), or, as Delos is often out of business, the Slatkin/St. Louis Symphony version (paired with "The Incredible Flutist" and the 6th Symphony, RCA 60798-2).

The *Three Places in New England* by eccentric Connecticut composer and insurance salesman Charles Ives is the earliest of these three works, but also the most difficult to come to grips with. Ives begins with a portrait of a St. Gaudens statue in Boston Common depicting "Colonel Shaw and his Colored Regiment", a Civil War memorial. A depleted military marchbeat drags beneath fragments of a more suave, sophisticated tune, suggesting grisly sacrifices underlying the stable, charming world of Beacon Hill. In the second movement, "Putnam's Camp, Redding, Connecticut", two festival marching bands collide uproariously. Each plays at a different tempo, in a different key – this is a typical Ives shtick, which one can also hear in his wonderful *Holidays Symphony*. By playing several popular songs, marches and hymns simultaneously, Ives creates a brand of highly condensed, post-modern Americana – sort of like eating apple pie and Mom at the same time. Not to everyone's taste, but amusing to some. Finally, in the third movement, "The Housatonic at Stockbridge", Ives paints a picture of a languid river, and a river-side dreamer who longs ineffectualy to travel to the sea. It's complicated listening, but it's very rewarding. I'd suggest either the Hanson/Eastman-Rochester Orchestra recording mentioned above, or Michael Tilson Thomas conducting our very own Boston Symphony - both of these recordings available at mid-price.

Three works, each offering three views of New England. With all that variety, why cloud your Fourth of July with the same old noise and gunsmoke? Branch out, wake up, smell the coffee. 1812 is over in a big way. ❑

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About Last Night. . .
Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ

The Ritz Roof Restaurant Opening



FLYING FISH: *Ice sculptures at the Ritz Roof's Raw Bar*

It was an oasis in the shimmering summer heat. The guests were well-dressed and well-behaved. Gentility was the rule of the day. Aftah all, this is the Ritz dahlings, and the last time someone made a scene here was when deah old aunt Muffy pulled her skirts up and did the can-can on the buffet table back in 1939. Well, I can tell you, the maitre d' had a seizure, one of the other dining guests fainted dead away, and they marched old Muff off in a strappy white number and we haven't seen her since. So, in comparison, the Ritz's press party to celebrate the grand re-opening of their roof deck restaurant was pretty damn tame.

IF YOU GO

THE RITZ CARLTON ROOF RESTAURANT

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS
6PM - 1AM
15 ARLINGTON ST
BOSTON
536-5700

The Ritz hasn't had their roof restaurant open since 1946, when a nasty hurricane (no, it wasn't Aunt Muffy) blew through town and destroyed the original. From 1933 (coincidentally – ha ha – when Prohibition was repealed) until 1946, the Ritz was "the" place to be of a swell summer evening, and it was viciously exclusive. You had to be one of the "best" members of Boston society to get close enough to the roof to even breath the same air as the Ritz regulars.

The times they have a-changed, however, and even the Ritz has had to admit the existence of the lower classes; starting Friday, June 18, the Ritz will admit the general public into the no-longer-rarefied inner sanctum. However, they will make you pay extra ($10 admission charge) for the pleasure of mingling with the nobs.

This is definitely not to say that you won't get your money's worth. The Ritz has fabulous views of the city in all directions, a customary dress code, so you won't have to look at any noxious touristy tee-shirts, a seven-piece swing band pumps out the jams (if you think "That Old Black Magic" is a jam), and the Ritz serves up its delovely and delicious menu, including lobstah, oysters on the half shell, Boston creme pie, and of course, much, much champagne.

It was the much, much champagne part that really did me in for the opening on June 14. This little soirée was actually a press junket, the really wing-ding black tie affair happening on the following Thursday. The members of the press, being notoriously under-paid and under-fed, swooped down upon the mile-long buffet table like sharks on bait, while the intrepid waiters whizzed through the crowd, carefully side-stepping the media-mangers, and miraculously supplying me with a fresh glass of bubbly at an average rate of one every five minutes. The band played on bravely, even though while I was there, I didn't see a single couple take to the parquet dance floor.

Since this was a media event, and I was among my alleged peers, I strangely felt the need to behave rather respectably. This need was what precipitated my early egress, however, because I started to get the uneasy suspicion that if one more waiter passed me one more glass of champagne I would leave the Ritz in rather the same fashion as Aunt Muff, and we all know how gauche *that* would be. ❑

Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Bull & Finch Pub (Cheers)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

Cactus Club
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

Frogg Lane Bar & Grill
720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos, B-7. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m.. "Street Magic" A cappella every Wednesday at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

Province Street Pub
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

Warren Tavern
241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, B-5. A funky little bar whose clientele includes young professionals & athletes. Also claims to attract Boston's most beautiful women (?!) Local celebs don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

Pop/Jazz/ Blues/Reggae

Cantab Lounge
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

Nightstage
497-8200, 823 Main St., Camb, A-3. An intimate, well laid-out club with a seating capacity of just 250. National and well known local acts. Blues, Rock, Zydeco, Jazz, Folk and Country are propelled by a sound system that will blast you comfortably to the outer limits of space and back. One of Boston's best up-close-and-personal clubs. Casual dress. Call Ticketron 931-2000 for ticket info.

Paradise Rock Club
254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos, C-3. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

Rathskeller
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos, C-5. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

Ryle's Jazz Club
876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb, B-5. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryle's. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

Western Front
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

Dancing

Avalon
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

Live Music Schedule

To send schedule updates for our 7/7- 7/20 issue, fax them to Megan Gilmartin at 232-4305 by July 11th. All schedules must be legibly typewritten.

WEDNESDAY 23RD

Bill's Elements Watson/ Plan Be/ Slow Children/ Welcome Down Boston Beach Club Motion Bunratty's Beyond Id/ Krullet/ Sons of John Glen Johnny D's Reggie Houston/ Amasa Miller Trio Middle East Hullaballoo/ Pig Pen/ Usalos/ Dog Regattabar The Donna Byrne Quartet Ryles Babkas Scullers Michel Camilo Sit 'N Bull Pub Duke Levine Band The Tam Welcome Down Willow Jazz Club The Fringe Zachary's Randy Roos Group

TUESDAY 24TH

Bunratty's Mercybeat/ Santa/ Gestalt/ Signal/ BlueShift Harpers Ferry Average White Band Johnny D's Sue Foley Middle East Rein Sanction/ Heatmiser/ Deeper Mi/ Blair's Carriage/ Regattabar Stanley Turrentine Ryles Joe Maneri Quartet Scullers Michel Camilo Sit 'N Bull Pub The Allen Estes Acoustic Trio The Tam Robin Lane & the Derangers The Western Front Rumbafrica Toad Jennifer Trynin Band Tuesday's Ice Cream Scott Vercoe/Marcello Garcia Quintet Willow Jazz Club Phil Person Quartet Zachary's Bob Sinicrope Trio

FRIDAY 25TH

Bunratty's Seka/ Voodoo Gearshift/ High Defiance Harpers Ferry The Band that Time Forgot Johnny D's Brave Combo Middle East The Barnies/ Meringue/ Red Tomato/ Klugman/ Flipper/ Dwarves Regattabar Stanley Turrentine Ryles Brazilian Nights Scullers The Manhattans Sit 'N Bull Pub Luther "Gultar Jr" Johnson & Magic Rockers The Tam Calypso Hurricane The Western Front I-Tones Willow Jazz Club Gary Wittner Trio Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

SATURDAY 26TH

Bunratty's Trojan Ponies Harpers Ferry Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson Johnny D's Mighty Sam McClain Middle East Tsunami/ High Risk Group/ Jerkwater/ Dirt Merchants/ Fleshtones/ Duck Duck/ Vindicators Regattabar Stanley Turrentine Ryles Brazilian Nights Scullers The Manhattans Sit 'N Bull Pub The Boogaloo Swamis The Tam The Allens The Western Front I-Tones Toad Twig Willow Jazz Club Gary Wittner Trio Zachary's Bert Seager Trio

SUNDAY 27TH

Bunratty's Minimal Brain/ Disfunction Johnny D's John Carbo Band Middle East Little Mi/ Toast/ Shangrila/ Stout Ryles Natraj & Agbeckor The Tam Bruce Marshall Group Willow Jazz Club Jeff Covell Trio

MONDAY28TH

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & the Hot Ribs Harpers Ferry The Blades The Tam Tam Jam Willow Jazz Club John Licata Quartet

TUESDAY 29TH

Bill's Orangutang Bunratty's Shoeliss Tommi/ Resident Patients/ 100 Proof Johnny D's Holly & Barry Tashian Middle East Jim Carrol/ Cosmos Factor Scullers Frank Wilkins Jazz Vocal The Tam Molly O and Deep Fun The Western Front Dave Buda Willow Jazz Club Dave Bailou Quartet Zachary's Cuong Vu Quartet

WEDNESDAY 30TH

Boston Beach Club Mighty Charge Harpers Ferry Grand Larceny/ Little Boy Blue/ Two Bones & a Pick/ Nicki Skipper & Another Roadside Attraction Johnny D's Dr. Carrot Middle East Opium Den/ Midnight Call Scullers Mid-Life Crisis Sit 'N Bull Pub Duke Levine Band The Tam The Accidents and Johnny One Note Willow Jazz Club The Fringe Zachary's Rob Scheps Core-Tet

THURSDAY 1ST

Harpers Ferry DD & the Road Kings/ Part-Time Lovers/ Kat N the Hat Band/ Walk that Walk Johnny D's Steady Earnest Scullers Nina Freelon The Tam Macey's Parade Tuesday's Ice Cream The Phil Williams Quintet

FRIDAY 2ND

Harpers Ferry Easy Ray & the Daily Blues Band/ Peter Gliftos & the Blues Party/ Toni Lynn Washington Band/ Used Blues Johnny D's Heavy Metal Horns Scullers Mark Murphy The Tam Universal Language

SATURDAY 3RD

Harpers Ferry Swanky Moes/ Evil Gal & the Hammerheads/ Driving Sideways/ Loaded Dice Johnny D's Rick Russell Band Scullers Mark Murphy The Tam The Band that Time Forgot

MONDAY 5TH

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & the Hot Ribs

TUESDAY 6TH

Johnny D's Cosy Sheridan Scullers

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BOSTON'S BEST LITTLE BAR
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Boston's Best Buys

Sharyn Fireman

What's New?
The savvy shoppers who have discovered this tiny treasure trove of accessories, art, antiques, and furniture return every few weeks to see "what's new" at What's Next. Selections, chosen for individuality and quality, are priced to sell quickly.

Folk art from the Ivory Coast, from $45 to $300, is marvelous and makes great collector's items. The "White House" for political birds is great fun, as are an antique painted screen, birdcages from the Adirondacks, and handmade tapestry pillows in great colors for $50 to $150. Most intriguing are ceramic garden stools by artist Eric O'Leary, whose work is displayed in the Tokyo Museum. These are perfect for indoors or out, and, at $300, are half of their usual price. For the accessories junkie, this shop is a must. Personal checks, MC/VISA accepted..

What's Next, 335 Boylston Street, Newton, MA. just past Chestnut Hill Mall and before turnaround for the Atrium Mall. Parking on John Street immediately after Sunoco Station (965-0793, 964-8688); Mon. – Sat. 10:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. or by app't. Closed Saturdays July and August.

From the Sole
Here's the best tip for saving the "soul" of your shoes....run, don't walk, to your nearest Instant Shoe Repair (at four locations). Cobbler Mac Shlayen will cover the bottom of your shoes with a tissue paper-thin layer of rubber. When the rubber wears out, it gets replaced, always leaving the original leather sole intact.

Rubber heels are $9, cowboy heels $12, rubber half soles and heels $28, weatherproofing $6, and shoe dyeing (fabric) $15. Many other shoe repairs are available, including retail products such as shoe trees, silicone sprays, inner soles, and polishes. In June and July all work is 10% off and all retail supplies are 20% off. Personal checks, cash, no charges.

Instant Shoe Repair, Cambridgeside Galleria, (Map 6-B, 252-0810); 113 High Street, Boston, (Map 7-B); 51 Mt. Auburn Street, Watertown (Map 1-B); 11 Elm Street Danvers. 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. most locations.

Hairy Sunday
Bon Visage, a full-service Newbury Street salon, is now open on Sunday, which, according to owner Maureen Burke, "is a great day to spend at the salon. The atmosphere is relaxed, pleasant, unhurried and even children can get a cut." Walk-ins are O.K., although the salon is being "discovered" quickly as a Sunday place to go so appointments are advisable.

Cut and style runs $30 to $40, manicures are $13 with tips, wraps and sculptures available. Pedicures are $30. A one hour glycolic acid facial is $42.50. Products carried by the salon are Goldwell, Paul Mitchell, Taite, and Braccato. Personal checks (in state, please!) MC/Visa accepted.

Bon Visage, (Map 6-C) 69 Newbury Street, Boston, second floor (536-0800); Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Door is locked, so ring buzzer.

Sweet Repose
Also available now on Sunday, next to Bon Visage, is Repose, a massage therapy center. Available types of massage are Shiatsu, Sports, Swedish and pain relief. According to owner Evelyn Clark, these skills are used to individualize each treatment by choosing the correct balance of techniques.

Traditional massage therapy (Swedish) is the systematic manipulation of the soft tissues of the body. Pain relief therapy relieves trauma due to injury, illness, or overuse of the body. Sports massage is further defined to maximize athletic performance. This type of massage can prevent injuries and speed recovery from strenuous work-outs.

Shiatsu is "finger pressure" and is meant to balance the vital energy which flows in connected channels throughout the body. Loose fitting clothes are worn for Shiatsu and no oils or lotions are used. A discount is being offered to clients who purchase a series of three massages for $150 (to be used by one person only). Rates: one hour $55, half hour $35. Personal checks, MC/Visa accepted.

Repose Massage Therapy Center, 75 Newbury Street, Boston (Map 6-C 267-9115); Sunday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Jack of All Trades
Need a quick coat of paint in your office or home? Windows need cleaning, carpet need steaming? Tom Purtell is the one person who can do all that and more. At $35 an hour, he will dry-clean or steam extract your carpets or area rugs (no Orientals). Windows will. be cleaned inside and out for residential and commercial buildings (no second floors on commercial work).

Janitorial service is a specialty for commercial offices. Light painting touch-ups or just a coat or two to "freshen up" a room or office is also available. Light furniture-moving for residences or offices is also offered. Take advantage of this very specialized service. Discount with mention of this column at $25 per hour.

Beacon Cleaning, Brookline (734-8509).

Send suggestions for **Boston's Best Buys** to Sharyn Fireman, c/o *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station Street, Suite 7A, Brookline 02146 or fax to 232-4305, six weeks before sale. Please do not phone. ❑

Sharyn Fireman is an interior designer and owner of **Buy Design**, *a service providing access to National Design Centers and purchasing of fine home furnishings, fabrics and accessories at designer prices. She can be reached at the Buy Design office, 494-0303.*


Nicole Lamy

Doyle and Decain Inducted Into Hall of Fame

Silk Panties, the Mongoose, and Sex-on-the-Beach are just some of the odd requests Eddie Doyle and Billy Decain have had to pour, mix and shake as bartenders at the Bull & Finch Pub on Beacon Street for 18 and five years respectively. In a ceremony Friday night June 11, both Doyle and DeCain were honored by *Bartender Magazine* and inducted into the Bartender's Hall of Fame. Each received commemorative rings and engraved silver beer mugs at the lively festivities, proving that even though "Cheers" has ended the partying has not. -Nicole Lamy

Improper Impersonals

Feel the urge to unleash your frustrations or vent your hostilities on an unsuspecting friend or enemy? Look no further than the Improper Impersonals, a forum designed for pranksters, irate neighbors, relatives, maniacs or any would-be target of your acid tongue. Best of all they're FREE! Send your Impersonals to us at Improper Impersonals, The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146. Or fax it to us at 232-4305.

Dear Mulligan,
You are such an idiot. You think you know what the hell you're doing, but you don't. Way to run everything down the drain. Contrary to popular belief, there are opinions other than yours, and, guess what! Most of them are light years ahead. Fascinating, isn't it? I wish I had the nerve to smack the shit out of you the way you deserve it. Might actually knock some sense into your infantile little cranium. Although I doubt it. There's quite obviously no hope for someone as dense as you. Pleasant dreams after the trust fund runs dry.
Someone Infinitely Smarter Than You

Val,
Start at the gleaming dome and finish at the weary howling fields. Beware of those bearing chocolate-covered artichoke hearts.
The 23 have spoken

Hey Pam!
Just shut up and keep your legs spread!
The King of the Ass-Bangers
Luke C.,

Baby Doll,
Why isn't your arm around me! Mmmmmm. Barney is a cross-dresser. Don't forget your pill, and while you're at it, better double up on the Prozac. This means turtle, to those of you scoring at home. Never, ever stop Baby, maybe we should pull over, we are in CT you know. All my love always,
Peachy

Everyone in Brookline knows you'll sleep with anyone and that you satisfy no one. There are three reasons for this:1. You just lie there all tensed up; 2. You don't lubricate, so it's hard to get in you; 3. You have a ridiculously low pain threshold. You need professional help, Pam!
One of Many

Pam,I will not compliment you by telling you just how spiteful, malignant and arrogant you are. I am going to express how much I pity you, as much as my pity bores you. You must have spent a long time lying to yourself. You seem to believe the lies which you spew. I don't weep in self pity, or in pain for my "poor, mangled heart". The tear that fell represented all my rage, fury, and hatred, for every girl you've mentally RAPED! The tear is for all who had seen "goodness" in your degenerate soul. Believe me, I know who I am. I'm not the "little girl" you once knew. I've grown up. I've hardened. I don't put up with the bullshit this time. I don't need you. I don't need to be told I'm loved. I don't need to wake up with you on top of me. When you were horny and I wouldn't give in, I was "cold". When the table turned, when you were tired, I was a whore. I couldn't think a clear thought, that's how badly you screwed with my mind. I am no longer ready to jump on the T and succumb to your fantasy Now teacher, teach your fine pupil that you can have a healthy relationship with someone over the age of sixteen, without sex! You can't do it, can you?!! You'll never change! You can't love with your penis. You haven't the slightest notion of love.
Once Succubus,
SEV X

Norman,
I hope that you are really happy now! I wasted 2.5 years of my life with someone who has no conception of the word love...you made a fool of me
- use Pamela,

Jacob,
Words cannot describe the foulness of your base acts. Very soon you will have to answer for the crimes you have commited against Kindred and Kine. -Esau

We are shocked by your recent attack in this paper on Randy. Considering what a crummy screw you are (and we all agree on that) you should be grateful he found something to praise you. Frankly, if you weren't so willing to take it up the Hershey Highway, no one would want to have sex with you.
Ron K., Steve M., Harry C, Bryan W.

Ann Margret,
Hey you fat cow pattie from hell. One more word about Jamie and I'll beat the stuffing out of you. Nice try last summer, you boyfriend stealing wench. Get a grip girl! Why would he take chopped liver when he has prime rib at home? Quit gossiping, Vinnie doesn't want to hear it. Feel like you were used? Well girl, you were! He treated you just like the tramp that you are. Beat it wench. Get your own man. Although what man would want you? Nobody, but **nobody** likes a fat chick. Do me a favor. Stay out of the North End, because if I see you, you'd better run back to Quincy where you belong. "Used and abused". See ya, wouldn't want to be ya.
Rosemarie

Little One:
Hey, too bad it's not YOUR birthday this month – I'd pay for you to have that chinchilla removed from your ass! Never mind – he probably likes it, since there's a bunny in there too. I do have a surprise for you, though. It's hot, sticky, and wet, and I found it in the gutter. That's right – Marlboro miles! See you soon. PS. When I was in your conference room the other day, Bill Clinton called and asked for your theories on the new reductionist economic policy debate. He left a number to call him back – 1-800-GET-ME-SOME.
Love, Precious

Dear Eddie:
OK, you weasel, here's where I finally get even for all the crap you've pulled on me! When I get through with you, scum-butt, you're going to be sorrier than a mouse smothering in a snake's belly. Remember 1989, puke-pail? That's the year you met **HER**. Who the hell do you think you are, treating me like garbage? By the time I'm through with you, you'll be more miserable than a diabetic in a bakery. Before you met **HER** you thought I was wonderful, you filthy little ball of used toilet paper. It's not my fault you're both blind and stupid, horse-butt. And don't think you can ditch me just because you met **HER**. You can't edge me out of your heart, Eddie – it's my own personal playground, and I'm SWINGIN', not SLIDIN'. I'll teach you to undersell my personal value, diaper-pail.
Always your favorite,
Elizabeth

Dear Amy, Jay, Rob, Kai, Chris, and Mike:
Thanks for taking me out on my BIRTHDAY last week! Nothing like stumbling into traffic and crawling up the stairs to make you appreciate such good friends. That poor cab driver will probably never pick up a drunk again! Hey, anybody wanna go to Grendel's this weekend. . . .? YO, THE GRIND!
Love, Ya Housemate
er - so just continue to sit at the pinball machine at Kelly's and waste your life away. You're the loser in the game you played with me - what goes around, comes around, so I hope you suffer half as much as I did...make it double. Die, you loser.
P.S. Yeah, that was a vindictive screw that night, so remember it well, cuz "ya never gonna get it."
Guess who - EEEEEEEEK!

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — JUNE 9- JUNE 22, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)

The last of the nasty aspects, a Mars Saturn opposition pitting reformers against reactionaries, young Turks vs. old farts, is hitting us right now. However, by the weekend, life should be "loverly," as peaceful, artful Venus dodges stray shots to bring back romance and harmony (of sorts). An expensive, optimistic sun Jupiter square on Sunday promises more than it'll actually deliver, but still good news is good news anyway you look at it. Take advantage; before you turn around, Mercury will be turning retrograde (exact 7/1 at 5:29 a.m.) for its three-week retrospective. Get the machines repaired, merchandise delivered, letters written, agreements signed, crucial calls made ASAP because Mercury's change of motion affects us all before the scheduled due date. Increased sensitivity to parentage and patriotism, appropriately enough, during the Mommy Daddy, Cancer Capricorn full moon (exact 7/3 at 1:45 p.m.). Festivities for the Independence Day weekend may be dampened by a chilly Venus Saturn square. Pay homage to the folks and society's norms, but don't feel too bad if your new romance can't weather its first big test. On Monday Venus flips into double edged Gemini, the sign that knows two loves are better than one.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

Venus in your money house rewards your talent and tenacity, your ability to stay the course, at least until the July 4th weekend, when friends may disrupt the easy flow of goodies. Can't live with 'em, can't do 'em in. During the full moon, family matters loom larger than they really are; blame the lighting and theatricality of the leading characters in your historical drama. Mercury's backpedalling through your house of domestic bliss is great for writing, but not for rewiring electrical appliances. Be careful in the kitchen.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Voluptuous Venus in Taurus makes you the tastiest treat in the zodiac this weekend, beloved by Aquarius and Pisces. Your artwork is appreciated, too. But after the passion subsides, after Scorpio presses your buttons, your Venus ruler can leave you feeling high and dry when she splits for Gemini on the 5th. Nevertheless, you shouldn't be any poorer for the experience. Lucky, but risky aspects this week, so if you feel your numbers are coming up, place that wager. Just don't spend the jackpot before you've collected.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Since your Mercury ruler is turning retrograde on July 1, buy what you must, schedule repairs, demand answers before this cosmic due date arrives. Since Mercury rules your sign, you're apt to have problems with communication devices (except body language,) before the rest of us do. After Mercury turns around, money matters sit on the back burner for the next three weeks. Pay attention to what happens during the full moon July 4th weekend so that you can adjust your plans for the rest of the summer.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

A particularly expensive weekend ahead if you aren't careful, if you can't curb birthday hysteria and your friends' best intentions. Mercury turns around in your sign on the 1st, so a decision recently arrived at might have to be thought through again, particularly travel plans. The Cancer Cap full moon illuminates the closest relationships, i.e., your life and/or business partner. Pay attention to their messages, and if you're not sure, ask. They're probably as confused, as uncertain as you.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

A woman prominent in your profession or community sees that your best work is properly appreciated, then she messes with your household before trying to attach herself to your social scene for the 4th. Could she be Mom in all her earthly glory? Friends provide a chance to add to your finances on the 27th, but the operative word here is, "chance." Of course you know deep down you can't lose; when your sun ruler plays fast and loose with lucky Jupiter your confidence is unshakable.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

Substance and quality, earthly rewards for ethereal beauty, good taste and the good sense to be born an earth sign. Goodies flow between you and your Taurus and Capricorn brethren this week, but it's the Virgo reputation that's spreading, your career that's expanding. Enjoy. Your Mercury ruler turns around so fast on the 1st that it could dull the edge you've just been given. Patience is the virtue that gets you through the summer doldrums, revising your relationship with professional peers and casual friends alike.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)

Oh happy day! You'll feel twice-blessed as your Venus ruler beautifies the house and the people in it. Artistic and technological marvels appear with little effort, joint purchases are made without a fight. Peace reigns over the weekend, passion during the week. Get what you can while you can, because Mercury's retrogression can affect your work situation, and by implication, your home life. An offer from abroad, a writing or travel assignment may appear when the sun squares expansive Jupiter in your sign.'

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Venus in your partnership house arranges for an array of happy couplings this weekend, although if you're struggling for the upper hand, you might lose your grip by the middle of the week, out-waited, not outwitted, by bulldogged Taurean determination. Plus, a promise of money for a venture with enthusiastic friends, a stock tip from one of them, or just an excuse to party like there's no tomorrow. Mercury turning around in your house of international travel and scholarship can postpone trips, communications and conferences.

SAGITARIUS (NOVEMBER 22-, DECEMBER 21)

An erratic financial matter may be stabilized by a co-worker's idea and your steady hands on approach. Perhaps you'll pay off a debt by providing a service, but the big career coup comes through a partnership deal that could bring the kind of success you've envisioned ever since the sun last joined forces with your Jupiter ruler back in September. (Remember?) After too many delays, the final piece of the puzzle appears. Mercury's retrogression can be a plus, giving you time to carefully check out their resources.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

Peace and plenty as beneficent Venus rewards the planets in your sign. Artists do especially well, praise and profits flow with ease. A true life romance can be just as satisfying as the fantasy, so enjoy every minute of this sweet confection of a weekend because it won't come again soon. As Mercury gets ready to turn around, a deal you thought was progressing, the rapport you had with a partner had can stop dead in its tracks. Don't sign anything after Wednesday. Be patient with the flakes and, above all, kind.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

A hot and, we hope, cheap romantic thrill when Venus trines your Uranus ruler this weekend. But if you're determined to spend money, look for an investment in entertainment that can eventually (autumn) reap a big return. Otherwise simply have fun at home, expanding your bag of tricks or plans for a July 4th bash. Retrograde Saturn comes back to Aquarius on Wednesday, so you may feel inexplicably sad, a touch more anxious for no apparent reason. That's the reason.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

Another chance at the great romance, only this time it'll involve casual friends and neighbors. Just who have you been hanging out with and what sort of invitations to what sort of parties have been extended? Your urge to sacrifice something special meets with general approval this weekend, people think of you as an angel, an artist of the spirit. They, in turn, are offered the run of your house and everything in the cupboard. Are you testing your mate's or roommate's patience and generosity or what?

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REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

BRIGHTON 1 BR in house. Modern kitchen and bathroom, porch, parking, excellent location. $560. 254-4186

BROCKTON 2 and 3 bedroom, remodeled, exc. cond., Sept, util DLD no pets no wash mach. (508)583-8485.

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

BROOKLINE Seeking housemates for 5-bedroom Cleveland Circle apt. in gorgeous building. Literally across the street from the C and D train lines, close to Reservoir, restaurants, and stores. Back porch and roof deck. Lots of basement storage. Avail. in July. $330+. Call Laurie at 232-3507 days.

CHARLESTOWN Owner-occupied three family brownstone. Nice res. neigh. w/ on-street prkng. Conven. location. $345.00 for rmte. or $690 full rent. Call 1-800-244-2756 ext. 603 or 617-242-9632.

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BOSTON Riverway, 2 bdrm. Seeks 1 M/F. Beautiful, large, sunny, renov. living & dining rms. Eat-in kitchen. Hdwd flrs, d/d, w/d. Parking, near T. $450. /mo. heated. Or sublet 4/17 (flexible) through 9/1 731-5752.

BOSTON Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm near NU. Avail. 7/1 & 8/1. $500/month, including heat and hot water. Great location, cute apartment. 247-7547

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

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CAMBRIDGE GREAT PLACE! 1 M seeks 1 M/F to share 2 BR on Harvard St. w/ fireplace, lndry, and storage. No smk/ pets. $450 inc. heat. 354-5871.

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SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END 2 BDRM. APT. near BCH. Seeking non-smoking, prof. to share 1200 sq. ft., htd. w/d, hdwd floors on gentrified street. $550 w/ off street pkg. 236-1917 avail. now.

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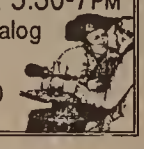
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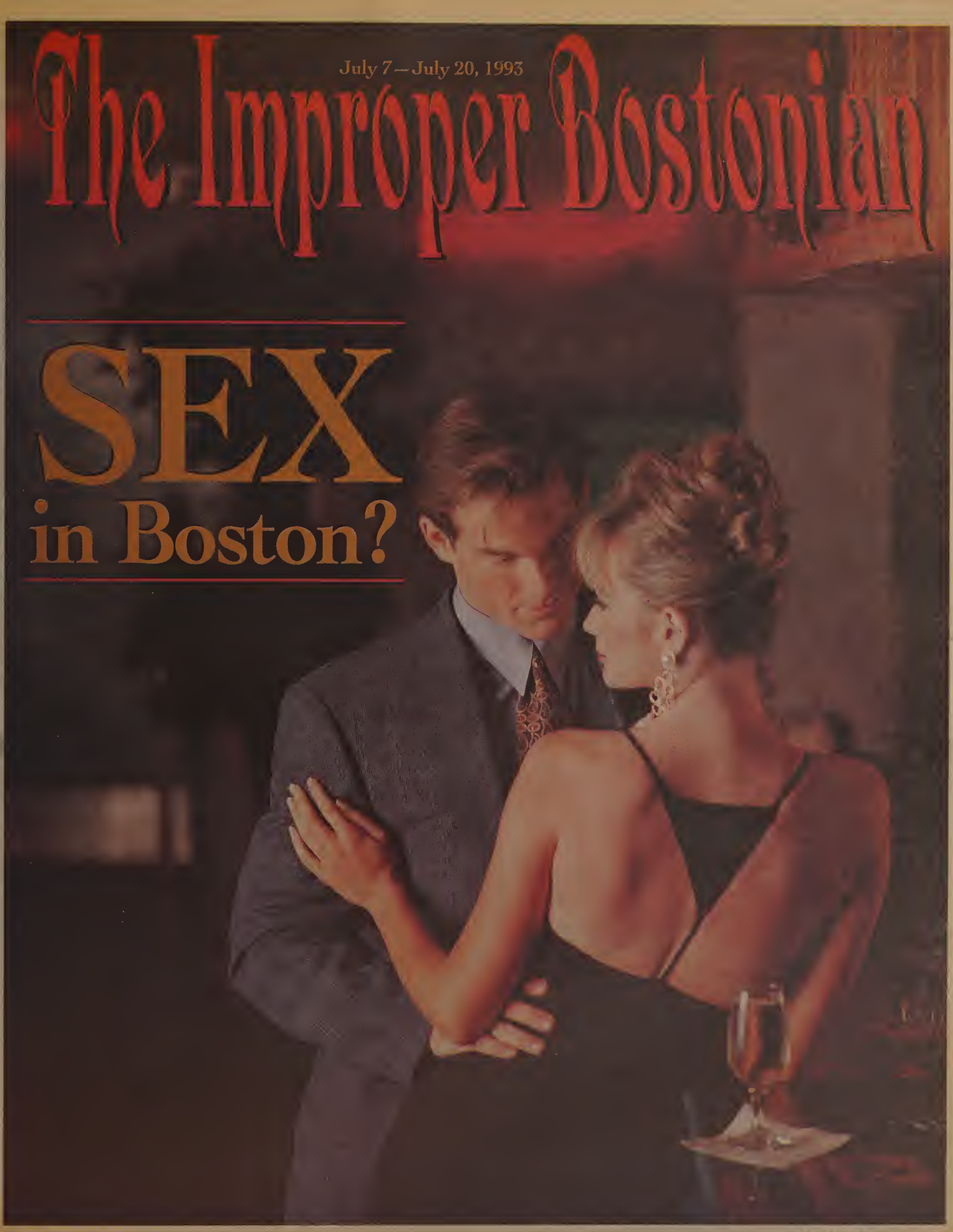
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July 7—July 20, 1993

The Improper Bostonian

SEX in Boston?



The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Foaming Your Own

This is the kind of friendly store that people wander into as if it were their own home, and that's because the relaxed, friendly brewers who come here are members of the fermentational community. At The Modern Brewer, everything is available for you to make your own beer or ale, and that includes the advice of the employees, who are themselves brewers. Like the pleasures of knitting or bread-

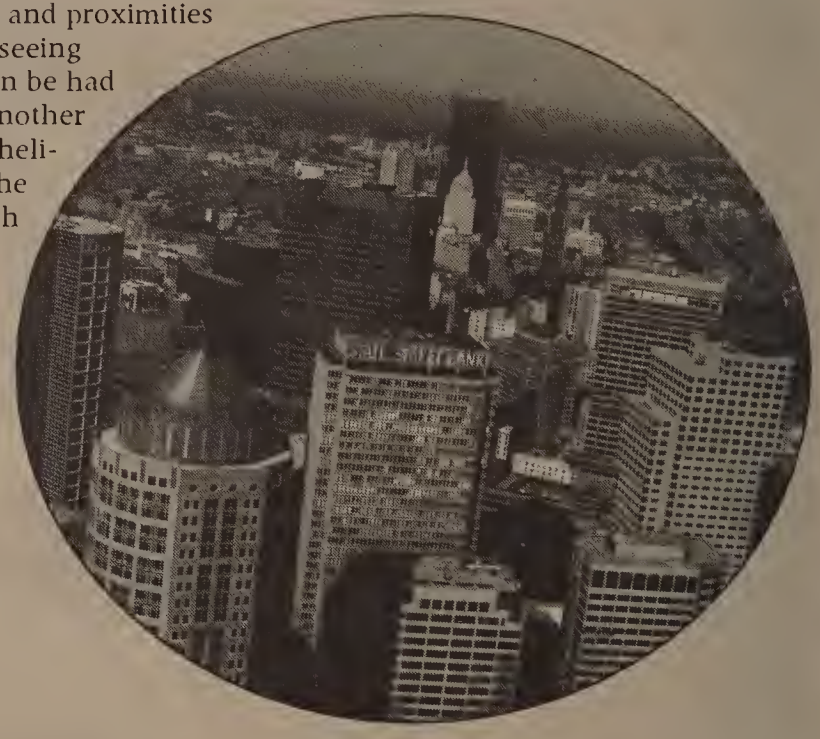


baking, the time spent is part of the fun; it takes a few weeks from start to quaffing, though much of that is spent simply waiting. Malt extract – sold in horizontal containers exuding caramelized drips – is one way to begin, or you can choose some of the dried malts in burlap-lined barrels that fill the shop, which bear appetizing names like "Scottish peat-smoked malt." Hops, crunchy and flower-like, are added and boiled together and then put into the large glass "carboy" jug with its mad-scientist-like twisted glass airlock. Yeast is then added, and the primary fermentation is underway, lasting days. A thorough sanitizing of the equipment adds to the laboratory feeling of the endeavor. More sugar is added, and the product is bottled, and again it sits till it comes to the point of perfect freshness. This on-tap quality of the resulting beer is one reason brewers like to brew. And, like all good hobbies, numerous refinements and variations are available, such as going the "mash" route of boiling those sexy, aromatic grains yourself. Some like to brew with buddies. The means of production of rootbeer and cola, involving similar steps, are also for sale here.

Modern Brewer
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"Hel" of A Good View

As the helicopter banks, it appears to peel the city like a giant orange, offering otherwise unknown vistas out of its 360 degree windows. From 1,000 feet up, the effortless glide down Route 2, looking down at all those suckers trapped in their cars, is a bliss greater and far more intimate than what you get in a plane. It's all fluffy green treetops and, as it turns out, a veritable Hollywood of swimming pools. The closely-viewed houses and pie-piece streets of Cambridge are followed over the Longfellow Bridge, hovering over the breathtaking Charles River, and into the city itself. In the Public Garden, the Swanboats seem even more toy-like when seen from above, and the townhouses of the Back Bay look elegantly urban. As you scrape the skyscrapers of downtown Boston, mosquito-ing around them excitingly closely, there comes a certain sense of freedom (after all, you don't have to park or stop for lights!) that is nothing less than thrilling. Distances and proximities drunkenly rearrange themselves. This sightseeing adventure, in a Robinson R22 helicopter can be had for $250 for four people ($62.50 apiece). Another beautiful and yet also pragmatic use of the helicopter is for transport, say, to the Cape or the Vineyard (landing can occur in a big-enough backyard). After their initial helicopter experience, some sightseers (and increasingly more women) are getting "swept up" in flying and decide to take flying lessons and move towards getting a pilot's license. This involves 45 hours of flight training and 35 hours of ground school work for around $7,000.



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With so much effort and attention focused on the saving of money, there's a whoosh! effect of perhaps only slightly guilty relief in seeing that there's a whole magazine devoted to unabashed *pricey-issimo* acquisition. In the *Robb Report*, pesky words like "affordable" will never be heard; the more expensive the better. The very highest end in cars, yachts, art, stereos, watches, super-premium whiskies, motorcycles, and even "status pets of the 90's" are shown in high glitter and gloss. And the ads, flowing seamlessly from the editorial content, are ones you really read, featuring one-of-a-kind things. They offer leisure toys for the rich and famous, like jukeboxes, fancy guitars, wall-sized video games, with virtual reality and 3-D graphics, investment-protectors (Doberman guard dogs standing taller than the Porsche behind them, fortressing well-dressed blonde children) and gorgeous real estate all over the world, in high-color photo ads that don't flinch at beginning the price with "$1 million." In the July issue, three one-percent limited partnership shares in the New York Yankees are offered ("Sit in the Owner's Box at Yankee Stadium. Entertain your clients in a grand style."). Amazingly, you can buy and fly a newly-produced Messerschmitt jet fighter. *The Robb Report*'s Christmas gift extravaganza issue, for the person who has everything and needs even more of it, makes wonderful brocaded-armchair reading for the rest of us, and the editor Rob R. Feeman (a man whose name has two financial puns in it) is soliciting ideas for next December. Even if you aren't Cher/Ross/Michael/Donald, it's fun to imagine this much liquid gold slithering through your life. Given the pricey contents, the subscription price of $65 isn't too high.



The Robb Report
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1-800-229-7622

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *the Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, The Boston Globe, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. *Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146*

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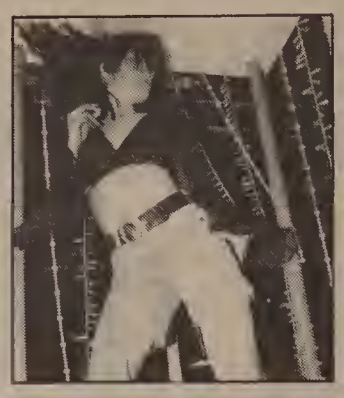
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The Improper Bostonian

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July 7 - 20, 1993



8 Sex in Boston?

Depending on whom you talk to, either nobody's getting any, or there's a hell of a lot more going on than you suspected. Who's really doing what in the city? Join us as we take an Improper look at mating and dating in Beantown.

By Nicole L. Mills



15 Contemporary Art at Harvard's Fogg Museum

Arts editor Ruth C. Morss takes a look at a new installation of twentieth century works from abstract to pop, on view now at the Fogg Art Museum at Harvard University.

by Ruth C. Morss



29 Summer Music

Paul Robicheau goes "Tribal" as he reviews local band Tribe's new summer release, and looks at Peter Gabriel 's recent concert and the Lollapalooza line-up.

By Paul Robicheau



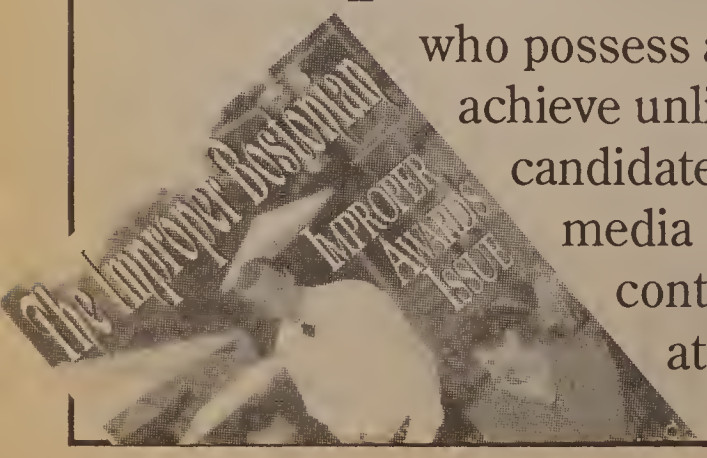
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HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

7 The Scollay Square Farmers' Market, an open-air food fest featuring farm fresh produce, local honey, herbs, flowers, baked goods, and plants will be running every Monday and Wednesday through the summer from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Buy fresh, tasty, and locally grown goodies and support Massachusetts farmers. At City Hall plaza, or in Copley Square on Tuesdays and Fridays.

THURSDAY

8 You've heard about the outstanding watercolor exhibit, but there's more to the **MFA**! Of special note is an **Art Nouveau** exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3.

FRIDAY

9 Vive La France! Come dance and dine under the stars at the French Library's19th annual **Bastille Day celebration**. For one spectacular evening, the block of Marlborough Street between Berkeley and Clarendon streets take on the splendor of Paris. Tickets are $20-$150; call 266-4351 for more details or reservations.

SATURDAY

10 Beginning today and running through tomorrow, enjoy **WorldFest** on the Boston Common, an international festival sponsored by Oxfam America and designed to help fight global poverty and hunger. South African reggae star Lucky Dube will head the musical lineup, while there will be scores of arts, crafts and food booths.

SUNDAY

11 The Society of Young Jewish Professional, the largest and most successful organization of its kind, cooks it up at Esme (116 Boylston St.) with it's **"Summer Sizzler"** party. It begins at 7:30 p.m., tickets are $10-$15, and there will be a DJ, dancing and hors d'oeuvres. Ages 21-39; call 376-3939.

MONDAY

12 Can't remember a thing from your college literature courses? No problem! The ART presents **"The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged)"** through July 18. Call 547-8300 for times and tickets.



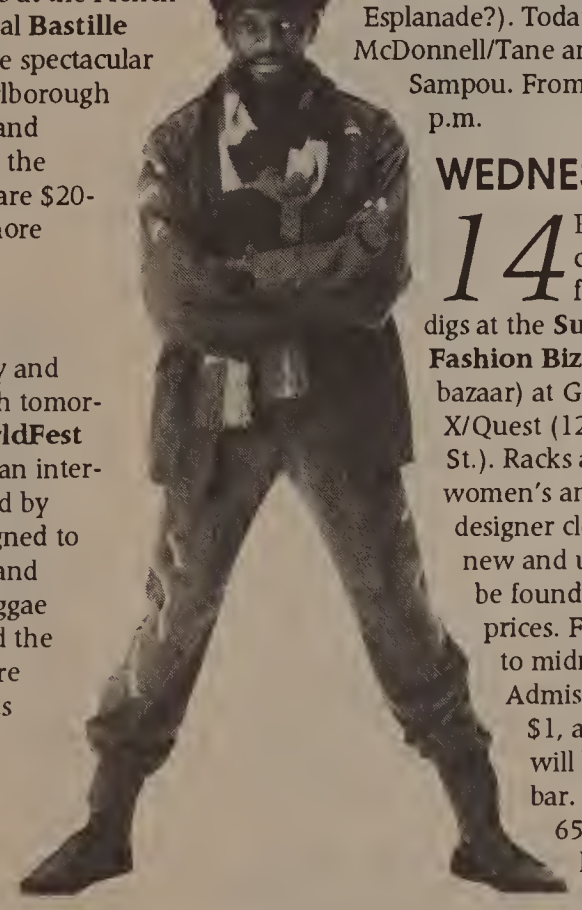
PARADE OF WHEELS
Classic and antique cars parade through the grounds of beautiful Gore Place in Waltham on Sunday the 18th.

TUESDAY

13 The Boston area's finest acoustic performers take the stage at the **Hatch Shell** this summer in a folk/acoustic series (unplugged Esplanade?). Today, see McDonnell/Tane and Les Sampou. From 7:30-9:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

14 Be a "closet cannibal" and find some cool digs at the **Summer Fashion Bizarre** (no, not bazaar) at Generation X/Quest (1270 Boylston St.). Racks and racks of women's and men's designer clothing - new and used - can be found at bargain prices. From 6 p.m. to midnight. Admission is only $1, and there will be a cash bar. Call 424-6531 if you have clothes to sell.



WORLD HIP HOP
South African reggae star Lucky Dube will perform at WorldFest on Boston Common Saturday the 10th.

THURSDAY

15 Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for **"Miss Saigon"** the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the native woman he left in Vietnam. It's a must-see. Call 931-2222 for times and ticket prices. Yesterday was opening night, so hurry!

FRIDAY

16 Kevin Pollack, a master of impressions - from Columbo to Capt. Kirk - will perform at **Nick's Comedy Stop** (Warrenton Street, in the theatre district) tonight and tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Tickets are $12. Call 482-0930.

SATURDAY

17 It's a **midsummer night's arts party** at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education (42 Brattle St., Harvard Sq.) from 7 p.m. to midnight. Creative costumes are encouraged to be worn to this celebration of art, poetry and music - the band Mozamba will perform tunes in the spirit of Mardi Gras and Carnaval. Free hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Tickets are $12. Call 547-6789.

SUNDAY

18 The **Paradise Road Auto Club** hosts a classic and antique car show on the grounds of New England's largest federal mansion, Gore Place. Beautiful old cars will be on view from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the estate, located at 52 Gore Street in Waltham. Tours inside will also be available. Call 894-2798.



DON'T MISS MISS SAIGON
The theater sizzles this summer with this hottest ticket, opening Wednesday the 14th.

MONDAY

19 The Tour de Hope "bike hike" the weekend of July 24 covers 160 miles of the beautiful coastlines of New Hampshire and Maine. Entry fee is $35, and includes an all-you-can-eat breakfast, post-ride barbecue, overnight parking and lodging, first aid, bike mechanics, water bottles and race T-shirts. Money goes to benefit the N.E. Medical Center's children's cancer center. Call 956-7656 to register.

TUESDAY

20 Benjamin Franklin himself gives a walking tour of Boston, beginning at the Old South Meeting House! It's a three-hour tour that includes a historical performance, tour and lunch at the renowned Maison Robert. Cost is $30; call 482-6439 for more information or reservations.

PROFILES

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER

SUZY BECKER

She Learned It From Her Cat

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



Suzy Becker's voice, tentative and soft as the blurry watercolors in her book *All I Need To Know I Learned From My Cat* (1.4 million copies have been published in 16 languages), comes at you with surprising speed, as if she were wheeling in her thoughts on some sort of pushcart of urgency. Yet this is somehow appropriate, because her whimsical style coexists with a drivenness and social vision. Look again at those cats intruding in paper bags and toilets and you will also see that the book is, in fact, a moral one, made up of what she calls "little life lessons" writ feline. Even as a child, Becker had the desire to "make the world a better place," which may explain why she fled early from her job as a copywriter on the grounds that it felt like a sellout. The greeting card business she founded in 1987, the Widget Factory, was a better vehicle for what she acknowledges as her idealism, and led Workman Publishing to discover her. Together they came up with her spoof of Robert Fulgham's tales of kindergarten wisdom. With its carbonated, slightly lopsided, handwritten words, her messages and drawings are uncynical, and yet gently ironic. A picture of a cat getting a stomach pat says "Make yourself vulnerable," while the next page has the cat grabbing the patting arm: "But don't be afraid to bite the hand that feeds you." Elsewhere, she promotes both appropriate outrage: "Get mad when you are stepped on," but also forgiveness: "Forget that you were stepped on." On the heels (or paws) of her success, Becker quickly moved on to writing a second book with the help of school children she'd both taught and interviewed. This one's called *The All-Better Book*, full of solutions to world problems. "Can you think of a cure for prejudice?" she asks. "Invent a microscopic dot you stick to your clothes that makes you be nice," responds Jake, age 9. Becker, who bicycled all across the country after college, is organizing a September bike-a-thon called "Ride Far" that has already raised $77,000 for children with AIDS. She has also been chosen as a White House Fellow, a job that will help her explain the "whole unwieldy process of the government so we can come back and interpret it to our communities." Not bad for someone who had to learn everything from a cat. ❑



ROGER BERKOWITZ

The Incredible Mr. Legal

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

The first thing you notice about the office of Roger Berkowitz, CEO of Legal Sea Foods, is its simple and charming clutter. There are no faux putting greens or impressive scenic views. Only a modest desk and sitting area that are littered with fish trinkets and seafood regalia. The walls are not covered with rare or exotic works of art; rather, they are covered with photos of family or celebrities that have sampled the cuisine at one of his many restaurants. There is even a Jethro Tull boxed-set on the floor in the corner of the room. The only object in the room that has the slightest smell of power and authority is a Japanese Sushi Chef's coat that is tightly bound over the back of Roger's chair.

"In the beginning," Roger says in a soft spoken manner that lacks the bravado of the stereotypical CEO, "We were a struggling family business. We were just trying to earn a living with the product that we knew best." Roger reflects back to the time when Legal Sea Foods was just a small fish market that his father had started in the 1950's. Back to the times when people were forced to eat fish for economic or religious reasons. When people weren't exactly craving fish for its culinary pleasures. "I grew up hating fish," Roger laughs, as he recalls memories of his mother's disastrous attempts at fish dinners, "She would take a wonderful piece of Haddock... pour milk over the top, place it in the broiler and burn it." He thinks that this was a regular occurrence in many households at that time. "No one really knew how to cook fish," he adds, "But I think as times have changed, people's perceptions toward fish have changed."

Roger credits the success of Legal Sea Foods to the freshness of his products and the sophisticated manner in which they are handled. "We're all about consistency and quality," he says earnestly, "It's sort of a religion around here." And it is from that religion that the mantra "If it ain't fresh, it ain't legal" comes.While Roger is at the helm, Legal Sea Foods will keep expanding and evolving. As far as the future of the company is concerned, Roger is very excited and optimistic about his plans. "We're always tweaking the menu," he says, and then adds with a mischievous grin, "You're going to be seeing some interesting things." ❑

CITY RAVE

COMPILED BY JON KOOKER

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW



MOVIES

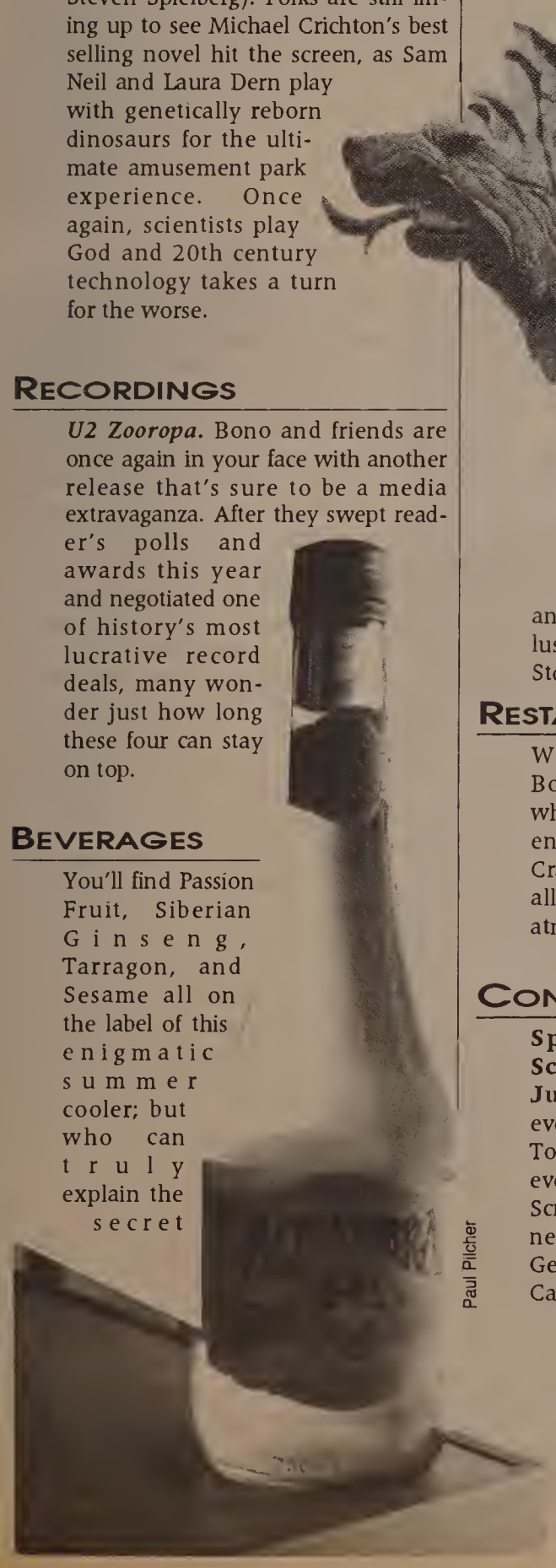
Jurassic Park (Universal Pictures, Steven Spielberg). Folks are still lining up to see Michael Crichton's best selling novel hit the screen, as Sam Neil and Laura Dern play with genetically reborn dinosaurs for the ultimate amusement park experience. Once again, scientists play God and 20th century technology takes a turn for the worse.

RECORDINGS

U2 Zooropa. Bono and friends are once again in your face with another release that's sure to be a media extravaganza. After they swept reader's polls and awards this year and negotiated one of history's most lucrative record deals, many wonder just how long these four can stay on top.

BEVERAGES

You'll find Passion Fruit, Siberian Ginseng, Tarragon, and Sesame all on the label of this enigmatic summer cooler; but who can truly explain the secret behind Aqua Libra's genuinely delicious flavor? If you think you've tried everything, try this. Available at specialty food shops on Newbury.



Paul Pilcher

VIDEO

Dracula. Directed by Francis Ford Coppola. If the first run passed you by, this aesthetic master work is out on home video. Looking past the



abstract eroticism and gothic gore, actors Gary Oldman and Sir Anthony Hopkins make this a lush and faithful adaptation of Bram Stoker's novel.

RESTAURANTS

West Street Grill. 15 West Street, Boston, MA. A hidden city oasis, where you can stop by for a drink or enjoy summer classics like Maine Crab Cakes or a Carpaccio Sandwich, all in a genuinely classy yet casual atmosphere.

CONCERTS

Spin Doctors, Soul Asylum, Screaming Trees. Great Woods. July 13. At this MTV sponsored event, dubbed the Alternative Nation Tour, there's a little something for everyone. From fierce guitar with the Screaming Trees and Soul Asylum, to neo-Deadhead with the Spin Doctors. Get tickets now for a one night show. Call Ticket Master at 931-2000.

GETAWAYS

Cadillac Mountain Bikes. Wake up with the sun high atop Bar Harbor's Cadillac Mountain, straddle your own custom mountain-descent bike, and glide through some of the East Coast's most awe inspiring scenery. That's right, it's all downhill from there. No crowds. No peddling! Call for information at (207) 288-3278.

TOURS

Walk to sights that no car or trolley can take you with Cushing Tour Tapes. Each rental comes with a portable tape player and batteries because 78% of sight-seers prefer to be on foot. Whether you're from ıt of town, or Boston-born-and-raised, there's always something new to discover on the Freedom Trail or in historic Cambridge, now all at your own pace.

BOOKS

Mad Monks on the Road. Jim Crotty, Michael Lane (Simon and Schuster, $11.00.) From the creators of the world's



first mobile magazine comes the world's first alternative travel guide. Mad Monks Crotty and Lane, the self-professed pioneers of dashboard publishing, now bring their eccentric road tales to your coffee table. Call 1-800-GET MONK for your subscription to *Monk Magazine* and read about their encounters with Nirvana's Kurt Cobain and empathic cats. Available at Tower Records.



SEX in Boston?

by Nicole Mills

It's late on a Saturday night and Newbury Street bars are warm masses of twenty to thirty-somethings. The athletic and tanned patrons, posing, drinking, mingling, spying for Mr. or Ms. Right *Now*. The night is in full swing at the notorious last stops for those who don't intend to spend the wee hours of the morning watching American Gladiator reruns.

Despite AIDS and a renewed nation-wide campaign for "family values" (espousing monogamy and an almost sweetly naive sexual innocence as an ideal), sexual activity amongst unattached people is at a high. Newbury Street is just one solar system in the universe of Boston bars where young singles go to meet someone for a short-term, "no money down" relationship. Even though the image of the swinging single died out with disco balls and Studio 54, unattached people are still having sex, *even* in Boston. A bastion of hedonism the Hub is not, especially when compared to sin cities like New York or Bangkok, but Boston does have its fair share of pick-up joints, one-night stands, and sexual acrobats.

Michael, a waiter who works in the Back Bay, is loitering outside of Lansdowne Street's Venus de Milo late on a Saturday night. The skin-clad go-go dancers in their cages have long since stopped gyrating, but the music still pumps. On the street, couples make last-minute arrangements: Your place or mine? Michael, wryly observing the scene says "There are nights when I go out, I just want to hang out, have a good time. Then there are other nights when I go out to meet someone. The night doesn't end until I've connected." Five minutes later he saunters off to kiss a blonde woman with tight cut-off shorts, who he says he met earlier in the club. After a brief discussion, they leave together. Michael definitely "connected" tonight.



The Sex equals Death message of the late 80s has given way to a counterrevolution in urban sexual patterns. The holding tanks of AIDS–inspired monogamy and abstinence have burst into a frenzy of sexual backlash, countering all the warnings and admonishments and "new morality?" How are people reacting to the frightening sexual climate that we're living in? Judy Steinberg, medical co-director of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases clinic at Boston City Hospital, says that the rates of sexually-transmitted diseases have gone down since 1990, both in Massachusetts and nationwide. "If the numbers for STD's are any indication," she says, "then promiscuity is down." It could also be, however, that the sexually active have modified their behavior to make it safer, as a result of increased educational efforts on behalf of groups like the AIDS Action Committee.

While it may no longer be politically correct to rack up notches on a bedpost – and with the HIV grim reaper glaring down upon us – Bostonians are hardly restricting their sexual activities to just one partner. "Just because someone has sex often, or is seeing more than one person doesn't mean that they're promiscuous anymore," says Christine, 25, an accountant from Brookline. "As long as

they're careful, and they're not hurting anyone, it shouldn't matter."

At Gen X, a new club in the Fenway area catering to the twenty-something generation, there are cupfuls of Lifestyles condoms on the bars, which the bartenders frequently toss at customers who are getting physical. "Get a room!" somebody yells to one couple locked in a tight embrace. The man's hands are planted firmly on the woman's backside, and the her left leg is wrapped around his body while she balances precariously on her right. When they finally break apart, she heads into the bathroom. Her girlfriend, primping inside, asks if she'll sleep with him. She shrugs, replying "Maybe. My ex-boyfriend might show up, and I might go home with him. But if he doesn't..." Is she looking for a relationship, or any kind of commitment? She shrugs. "No, I've had it with relationships for awhile," she grumbles. "I just want to have fun being single." Which means, to some extent, being able to have sex with whomever she chooses.

On a Friday night at Zanzibar, a popular downtown nightclub inhabited by men in suits and women in cocktail dresses, the capacity crowd is mingling and dancing in the faux tropical setting. Bill, a Stockbroker, is working the crowd like a politician. Twenty-eight years old, his well crafted preppy-boy-next-door look positions him as a worthwhile catch. He claims to have slept with over four hundred women, a good percentage of whom he met in this very club, or elsewhere in "the Alley." (Boylston Place) "For the most part, it's easy," he says. "You can go home with a woman, and most of them you don't have to worry that she wants a S.O. (significant other) or anything. They know how the game goes."

In the balconies on the second floor of Zanzibar, couples cozy up inside the booths carved in the wall, getting as intimate as possible without actually engaging in sex. Bill says, "I'd bet most of those people just hooked up tonight, and I bet most of them go home together. If they're already that far along, they're definitely going all the way. And you know you don't act that excited with someone you've been dating for awhile."

The thrill of a new encounter and a potentially great sexual experience is what motivates Bill, and many other singles in the bar scene, to seek out a one-night stand. The hormones start pumping and the attraction gets so overwhelming, they just can't wait to get home. And sometimes, they don't wait to go home. Bouncers at almost every club in the city have stories about the lustful couples they've surprised in bathrooms, balconies and back alleys. A Zanzibar employee claims to have surprised more than a few couples en flagrant delicto up in the dark and seemingly secluded balconies and an ex-doorman at Joe's American Bar & Grill recalls the night they had to kick a couple out of the ladies room because they were in one of the stalls after last call. "They came out buttoning up their clothes, they didn't even seem to care that everybody knew what they were doing."



Surprised? Don't be. One minute romances are more prevalent than you might think. Even in the era of the modern-day plague, social mores and good behavior seem to fly out the window in the face of the combined lust-and-alcohol-induced tidal wave.

Gazing from a vantage point above the foray, Bill is prowling the depths of Zanzibar like a shark, he spots some likely prey, she responds with fleeting eye contact and a toss of the hair, he moves in for the kill. It is quite evident that it's not just men who are out looking for a one-night fling. Women are starting to go out more aggressively, and they're not necessarily looking for a long-term relationship. What has happened to commitment? Women traditionally were the ones who wanted commitment and marriage, and they used sex as the bargaining chip for securing the ring around their finger. After all, mother put it so subtly: "He won't buy the cow if he can get the milk for free." But it would seem that women, at least single women through their twenties, are less interested in getting the ring and more interested in having fun while they can.



Meg, a 24 year-old graphic artist from Newton, says "I enjoy sex. Sometimes a relationship is too much to handle, and I have so much else going on in my life right now, I don't even really have time for one. But that doesn't mean that I'm going to be a nun until I have a boyfriend. Some of my friends won't sleep with someone unless there's some kind of bond there, but a lot of my friends will have sex just to have sex. Mostly, the guys I sleep with are people I know, but I've had one-night stands with guys I just met. I don't feel guilty about it," she adds, "It's my business."

There are, of course, opposing views. Not everyone engaged in the bar scene is in search of a casual encounter. At the Beacon Hill Pub, Sally, a first-year law student at Suffolk, puts it this way: "I can't just go home with someone. I have to get to know them first. I don't mind giving my number out to someone, but I want to know them before I sleep with them." Has she ever had a one-night stand? "Yeah, I've had two, but I always felt awful about it the next morning. I knew that I just did it because I was drunk. I'm also terrified of AIDS. After my second [one-night stand] I was awake every night for a week thinking that I was going to get it." She had not used a condom, partly, she says, "Because I'd been drinking, but partly because he seemed like a nice guy, and I just told myself I wouldn't get it."

Wishful thinking is hardly adequate protection. You'd have to live on Mars these days not to know how deadly and wide-spread AIDS is, and that unprotected sex with multiple partners, homosexual, heterosexual or whatever-sexual, is the fastest-growing method of transmission.

The federal government has concluded that using condoms greatly reduces the risk of contracting a sexually transmittable disease, but the only 100 percent sure protection is abstinence. But how many people are conscientiously abstaining from sex, practicing safe sex, or being monogamous with a partner who's been tested?

Michelle Frost, a spokesperson for Fenway Community Health Center, which caters to a mainly gay male population, says that there is a definite increase in the number of heterosexual women coming in to be tested, and that more people are coming in to be tested now than a year ago. "There is a definite movement, and a definite change. People are getting the message and are more aware of the rising numbers [of AIDS victims]," she says. But are people changing their behavior? "It's hard to tell just from people coming into the test center. Wanting to be tested means that they are afraid that they have been exposed to the virus, but it doesn't mean that they are changing their behavior."

Women engaged in unprotected heterosexual sex are more at risk than their male partners, but Maureen, 30, a financial planner for a downtown firm who goes out at least twice a week and who has slept with four different men in the past month, says "I only used a condom with one of them.

Of the other three, two of them I already knew, and with the third I just let myself get carried away. I know it's stupid, but somehow you tell yourself it'll be okay." However, she adds, "In the morning you hear something on the news about [AIDS] and you start to freak out." Maureen had an AIDS test done last year that came back negative, and is considering going for another one. "But it's so scary," she says, "sometimes you just think you'd rather not know."

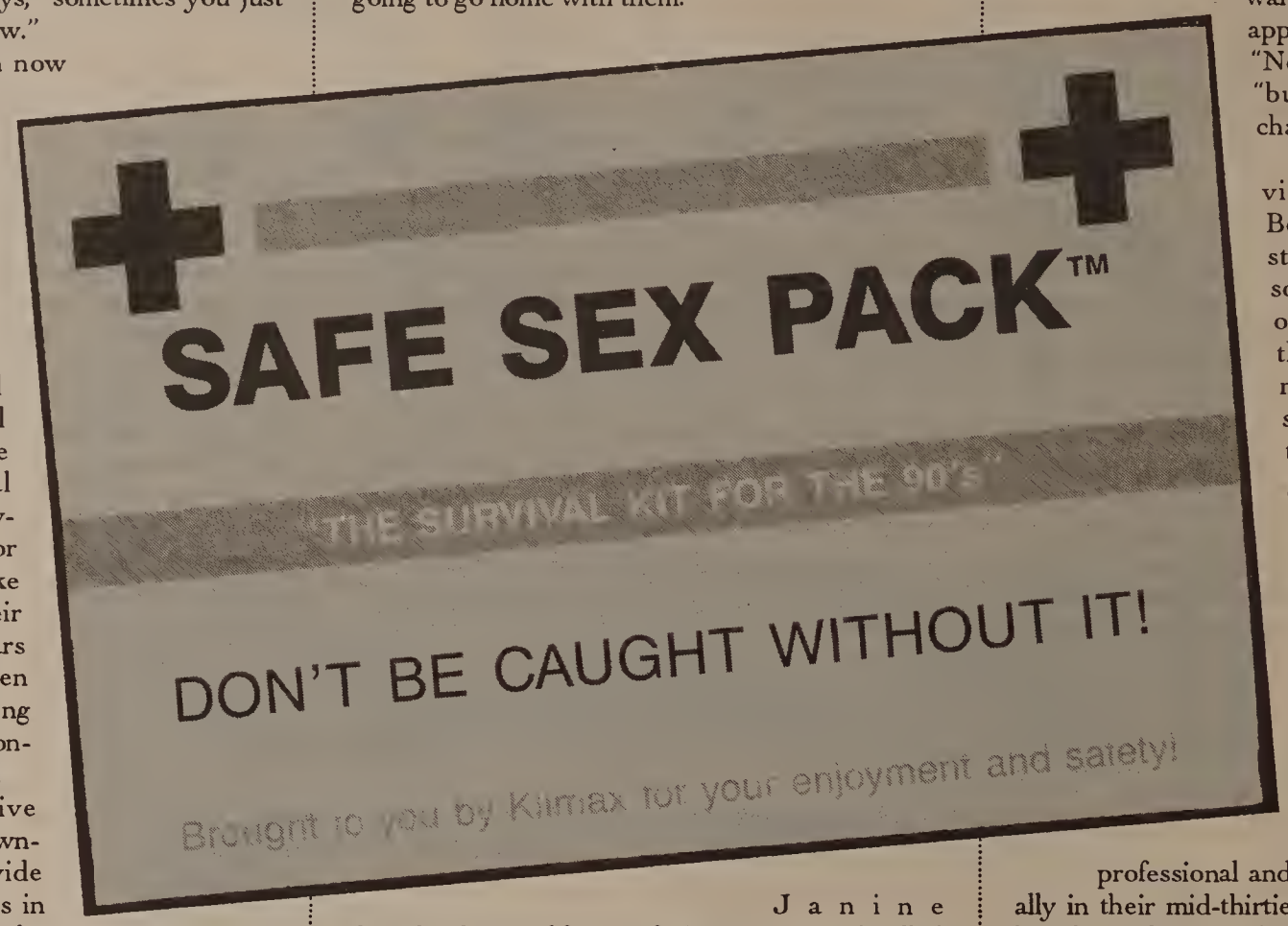
Many bars in Boston now have condom machines in their bathrooms, but many more do not make condoms available for their clientele. Boston City Councilor David Scondras has been pushing for legislation that would require any establishment which has a full alcohol license, a legal occupancy of 100 people or more, and an annual entertainment license covering more than just T.V. or background music, to make condoms available to their customers. Owners of bars and restaurants have been balking however, displaying an alarming reticence to confront the realities of AIDS.

Scondras' legislative aide, Chris Norris, says owners are reluctant to provide condoms on their premises in the belief that it ruins the "family" atmosphere of their establishments. "But," he argues, "if they have a full entertainment and liquor license, they're not really a Mom and Pop kind of place anyway. We're not forcing them to sell condoms, we're asking that they make condoms available in places where people are drinking and being entertained, to the extent to which they do anything, they can do it safely."

If you can't find condoms in the bar or club you hang out at, there are still options besides the corner drug store. Condoms have become almost a trendy accessory. What was once relegated to the back flap of a wallet or the back of a night-stand drawer is now in designer colors, and even flavors, and are displayed in flamboyant, eye-catching packaging. Aaron Cohen, the owner of Condom World on Newbury Street, opened his store in April of 1992, in the wake of other "condom boutiques" like Condomania in New York and Condom Sense in Portland, Maine. He says that while about 60 percent of their business comes from the novelty aspect of the store, with items like tee-shirts, flavored body oils, and joke condoms, there are many serious customers who appreciate the selection. "Some customers come in once a week and buy a couple dozen at a time. They must be pretty active, but at least they're using them."

In these dangerous times to be looking for love, the bar scene is scary and unsure for a lot of singles. What alternatives have sprung up to meet others with mutual interests, shared activities and values? You can always try a dating service.

Janine, 29, is an executive assistant in a banking firm. Pretty and outgoing, she doesn't look like she needs help meeting people. "I'm shy," she admits. "I don't have time to go out that much, but when I do go out, I don't really have a problem getting approached by guys in bars, but I do have a problem maintaining a conversation when I feel that they are only interested in whether or not I'm going to go home with them."



Janine thought she would try a dating service and called one in the Boston area. So far, she's gone out with two different men she met through the service, and says "The first guy was okay, not right for me, but he was nice and we had a good time. The second one was a nightmare. He was boring, he was disgusting when he ate, and I think he thought I wanted to go home with him!" She laughs, remembering. "In some ways it was better than the bars. At least I knew something about them before we went out, but there was still a feeling of pressure. When it's set up, it's not just a casual meeting, and you can feel awkward, and you can still be disappointed." Will she go back? "Not right away," she admits, "but I might give it another chance."

There are 32 dating services listed in the greater Boston area. Most of them stress lack of time for personal socializing and dislike of the bar scene as some of the reasons people become members. Some of these services specialize, catering to homosexuals, ethnic groups, or people who are HIV positive. How successful are these services? Who goes to them? Are they the last resort for people who can't find someone any other way? LunchDates, which claims to be "Boston's oldest locally-based dating service" claims that their clients are largely professional and educated. They are generally in their mid-thirties, and are not the lost and love-lorn of society, but people who want to meet someone "nice" and get to know them before jumping into the sack.

LunchDates claims that of 200 members who met their spouse through the service, 84 percent of

The Swinging '90s – Still Swapping

It's hard to believe a swing-scene could exist in this era shrouded by AIDS. It's even harder to imagine what kind of people would still be free-falling in such retro sex. All I could envision was ugliness—heinous spouses desperately seeking reprieve from themselves. Or, perhaps, modern-day sex-fiends - crazed Casanovas satiating themselves in the shock-value of an orgy. Either way, I wanted to find out more about it - strictly for the sake of journalism, of course.

Through a lifestyle (read: porn) magazine called *Adam*, I secured the address of the only swinging organization listed under Massachusetts: "The Sterling Club." Drafting my letter was difficult, but eventually I managed to suppress my kid-in-a-candy-store interest in the swing-scene down to an analytical tone not unlike that of a lab scientist: "After all, this would be just another responsible experiment for myself and my significant other."

If I could find a significant other, that is. Although no one accepted the "sake of journalism" thing, a woman I was dating named Sarah* finally succumbed to her tentative curiosity - and my incessant groveling.

A week after I mailed the letter, Ed called. (Just "Ed.") Ed was the Julie McCoy of the swing-scene: he organized the parties and the dances, sent out the mailings, and - "most importantly" - conducted the interviews. Something told me my interview had already begun. "What's the relationship you have with Sarah? Do you understand that we *don't* accept single men. How long have you been seriously involved with Sarah?"

I assured Ed we were a couple who had made the undying commitment to swing together for all eternity. He invited us to a bar in the Greater Boston-area for the final interview. It turned out to be more of a "Q&A" session as 10 to 15 other couples also on the breach of swing inundated Ed with questions on the art and etiquette of open sex. Here are his answers to the most common questions:



1. Is swinging legal? Ed skittered around this question for awhile but settled on this: swinging is only illegal in the same way that *all* sex out of wedlock has been illegal in MA since 1692. But (relax) not one case is cited in the *Mass Court Reporter* because such "layaway laws" simply aren't prosecuted.

the men and 91 percent of the women found mates who met all their criteria for a perfect companion. These people filled out checklists with priorities of what they desired in a member of the opposite sex, such as "Nice/considerate/warm, sense of humor, attractive/fit, self-confidence, and family values."

Great Expectations, a Newton-based dating service, claims to have over 135,000 members nationwide, and prospective love-seekers can screen out the losers via a video-taped interview. Their promotion says "You won't waste time on blind dates or meet the wrong types with our exclusive video screening approach." The previewing and prioritizing allow someone who is looking for a date to categorize and rate potential mates without the hassle of actually meeting them.

If you're looking for another alternative to the bar scene, but dating services sound too contrived, you can always sign up for a class geared towards singles, like those offered at the Boston Center for Adult Education. In their Singles Series, the BCAE offers classes for single professionals such as "Singles Beer Tasting," "The Art of Making Conversation," and "A Single's Guide to Dating and Mating." This last, for $31, is taught by Dr. Robert Heller, a psychologist who has worked extensively with singles and dating-related issues, and who has been teaching this particular course for thirteen years. The class gives students a crash course in "How and where to meet others; develop a dating strategy; and use a dating service or personal ad."

Dr. Heller says that his students are a broad mix of people, from young, never-married professionals to older widows or widowers who are back in the dating scene after a long absence. Asked why people seem to need so much help meeting others, he replied "Some of the students are new to town, some of them are shy and don't know how to initiate a conversation, and some are just exploring all the available dating options."

If, after all that instruction, you still need a few pointers on, say, how to create a personal ad, there are plenty of examples out there for you to choose from. The back pages of a surprising number of local magazines and newspapers display personal ads, ranging from the tame: "High energy guy seeks great looking, slim female who enjoys cycling, running, swimming and other more subdued pursuits," to the outright bizarre: "24 y.o. WM needs to have Dom females use his mouth as a toilet bowl."

Personal ads like these are a way to find someone who is willing to take that walk on the wilder side of the sex game. There's all kinds of action out there, but most of it comes under the heading of "seek and ye shall find." If you're looking for anything outside the usual range of sexual activity, you have to know first what you want: Bondage? Domination? Threesomes, foursomes or moresomes? After that, it's merely knowing where to look for it.

Unconventional sexual practices are more out in the open now than ever before, as evidenced by the extreme popularity of events like Man Ray in Cambridge's D & S (Dominance and Submission) nights hosted by "Mistress Diana" every other Friday. Is there a new acceptance of "kinky" sex, or is it just that more people are willing to talk about it and actively seek it out?

Susan Phelps, owner of Hubba Hubba in Cambridge, a boutique that caters to the naughty-minded, believes that unconventional sexual practices are definitely more wide-spread now than they were five years ago, and she thinks the trend is due, strange as it may seem, to AIDS.

"People are looking to get more fulfillment out of an existing relationship," she says, "they're trying to get more mileage out of their monogamous partners because they don't want to experiment with exotic sex with strangers anymore. Bondage and fantasy can add excitement without a new partner." She cites the fact that more and more of her customers are suited-up business men, sometimes with their wives. "The clientele is getting pretty mainstream."

If you don't want to jump into the naughty sex scene with both feet, you can ease yourself in with a call to a 900 number. All they require is a credit card and your phone, and there's no participation necessary. To get the fantasy of a kinky experience without the drawbacks of a personal encounter, you can dial "Vixen" or "Candy" or listen in on "Amateur Confessions." After choosing from a menu with options like "Horny Housewife," "Two Beautiful Women and What They Do When They're Alone Together," or "The Plumber," you can listen to what is supposedly the hottest phone sex available, aiming to produce your fantasies on demand.

These calls tend to be universally awful, prerecorded and scripted in a way that brings any erotic tension down to the level of a deodorant commercial. They do, however, provide the outlet of an erotic encounter without any of the risk. They might just be the new "safe sex," if you can find one that produces any kind of sexual stimulation at all.

Most single, mainstream Bostonians, however, are not looking for way-out options to deal with their social and sexual lives. It's more like performing a juggling act between fulfilling their sex drives and staying healthy. AIDS has not scared the masses into completely avoiding sex, but it has given them reason to rethink their priorities. Meg, the free-lance artist, says, "Sometimes it's tiring not having the stability of a relationship, but it's not like you can just go out and get one. In the meantime, I'm not celibate, but I am very careful. Sometimes I wonder what it would have been like to have had the sexual freedom we've achieved, without this plague hanging over our heads. Maybe we'll never know."

Spouses After All These Years

by Anthony Tedesco



2. Do swingers practice safe-sex? Condoms are provided at parties. And although the HIV-neg swing group hasn't caught on yet, Ed insists that more swingers are using condoms than in the past - but it's your responsibility have it available.

3. Are most swingers bisexual? Although Ed estimates that one-half to two-thirds of the woman are bisexual - or at least bi-curious - he insists that he hasn't seen any bisexuality among men for the last five or six years - "mostly because of the fear of AIDS."

4. Who swings? Sterling attracts upper-to-middle-class professionals aged 30s, 40s, 20s, and 50s - in that order - according to Ed. He attributes the socially-select crop of "Sterling" to the screening process. Through a front called "The New England Couples Connection" Ed funnels inquiring swingers to the organizations that he believes would suit them best. "If one spouse comes to us in a beer-stained T-shirt, for example, they'll probably feel more comfortable in one of the clubs in Southern NH, Southeast Mass., or Providence RI because they cater to more of a - for lack of a better phrase - blue collar crowd." Most participants are married, some are couples - none are single men. "Our service is just too close to prostitution" explains Ed, as if he were upholding some sort of moral code, a code which is conveniently overlooked if the single man lives in a posh house and is willing to host a swing party. Especially now that "Sterling" has withdrawn from its rented suburban house because it wasn't covering its costs.

5. Are there rules to swinging? Believe it or not, there is some order to open sex. Most events include an area for socializing, as well as a number of different rooms that are available for couples interested in each other sexually. The rooms are categorized as follows: (a) *Open room:* This area is provided for your basic, free-for-all orgy; anyone in the room is fair game. It's also the only room an unescorted male or female may enter. (b) *Semi-private:* Though slightly more conservative than the open room, couples may still approach you, and you may still approach other couples. And as long as you're not shunted by a "No thank-you" then it's probably OK to join in. ("No thank-yous" can be expressed verbally, or more tacitly by a shake of the head or by moving away the newcomer's hand.) (c) *Private room:* for all intents and purposes, couples in private rooms are at separate parties. You may not approach another couple, and are entitled to the same respect. Mattresses may be curtained off for further privacy. And finally, although these specific rooms are governed by rules, sex is usually appropriate in any room except the bathroom.

Having successfully completed "Open Sex 101," Sarah and I were eager to compare the working-world of swing to its textbook counterpart. We chose to attend a "Sterling" dance, which were supposedly more conservative than the house-party gatherings.

Around 10 p.m. we arrived at the *Ramada*-like hotel located 15 minutes north of Boston. (Ed stopped arranging "Sterling" events in Boston for the sole reason that "The parking in Boston sucks.") We found the function hall and were cordially greeted as "Janet" checked our names off the guest list ("Tony and Sarah"). We paid our $30 per couple – which barely covers mailing costs and the evening's event, according to Ed - took two steps inside, five deep breaths, and scanned the scene. I couldn't believe it: 100 or so couples, and everyone looked...normal, like a scene out of your cousin's wedding. Men were dressed in jackets and ties; women in fashionable evening apparel - seductive yet refined. Aside from a few black–sheep uncle types with a tinge of 70s remnant in their dress, the crowd was generally upscale; the Deejay *(continued on page 16)*

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

Dave

★★★★

Ivan Reitman's Capra-esque comedy gleefully sticks it to the Republicans. Kevin Kline is a delight as Dave Kovic, an exuberant, generous, small-town guy who so resembles the President (a mean tight-assed Yalie) that he becomes his full-time stand-in. Dave's agenda – giving people in need top priority – pits him against Bob, his reptilian Chief of Staff (the wonderful Frank Langella) and allies him with the estranged First Lady (Sigourney Weaver). Like its hero, the film is high-spirited, but it loses its edge and becomes cloying whenever more than one "nice" person is on the screen at a time. Dave is to the Fourth Estate and the Beltway what The Player is to Hollywood.

K.Wilson

House of Cards

★★

When her father dies in a freak accident, a young girl, Sally (Asha Menina), withdraws into her own autistic world. She builds a huge house of cards with a winding stairway in the hopes of reaching the moon where she believes her father lives. Sally's mother Ruth, an architect, (Kathleen Turner) tries to get inside her daughter's mind by building another "stairway to the moon" in the backyard. Meanwhile, the Department of Child Welfare wants to take Sally away. Several subplots such as the romance between Ruth and a child psychologist (Tommy Lee Jones) are never fully developed. The many loose ends include unexplained supernatural forces.

M.R.D'Entremont

Last Action Hero

★★★

Summer movies should be no-brainer fun and this one definitely is. Using a "magic" ticket, Danny (Austin O'Brien) is transported into the movie world of his screen Idol, Jack Slater (Arnold Schwarzenegger). The two romp back and forth between Jack's world of make-believe (where get-away cars fly through the air and even the women behind the video store counters look like Hollywood starlets) and Danny's "reality" where the bad guys sometimes win. Those in the audience who insist on remaining adults can amuse themselves by identifying the many stars who appear in cameo roles and the various movie genre site gags and references.

T.Miller

Jurassic Park

★★★

Forget character development. Forget plot. Even the scary parts – and there are many – don't go over the top. The dinosaurs rule *Jurassic Park*, and they are amazing. They look real. The only entertaining humans are Dennis (Wayne Knight), a treacherous, whiny computer genius responsible for the dinosaurs running amuck in Jurassic Park, and a greedy, cowardly lawyer (Martin Ferraro) who deserves to be turned into dinosaur food. If you wish lawyers were an extinct species, you'll enjoy director Steven Spielberg's visual lawyer joke. The talents of Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum as scientists are utterly wasted.

K.Wilson

Life With Mikey

★★★

To paraphrase Gertrude Stein: Michael J. Fox is Michael J. Fox is *Life With Mikey*. A former child TV star (Fox) and his older brother (Nathan Lane) run a children's talent agency. The talent is wanting as is the agency. Open auditions produce the same star-wannabes with mothers in tow. The cute, recurring kid-bits underline the brothers' desperation for a meal-ticket talent. Christina Vidal cops a street-smart attitude, Mikey's wallet, and a contract as the Sunburst Cookie girl. She's just what is needed to push the agency to the brink of profitability. The film is pushed to the brink of sappy. But it's saved by Fox's Mikey. Like Fox, Mikey is charming in an off-handed way. So is this movie.

T.Miller

Made in America

★★

A brilliant, beautiful black teenager (Nia Long) and her smart, independent mother (Whoopi Goldberg) discover that the girl's sperm-donor father was not an accomplished black man, but a white yahoo (Ted Danson) who hawks cars on TV. The movie is annoying in spite of a likable cast. It only superficially explores the question of what makes a family. The animal acts; broad, mostly not-very-funny comic routines; and sentimental scenes would all play better on TV. But if your idea of a good time is watching a monkey and a trained bear upstage Ted Danson, and an elephant chase bicyclist Whoopi down the streets of San Francisco, by all means, see this movie.

K.Wilson

Much Ado About Nothing

★★★

The opening of director Kenneth Branagh's latest film is full of fun and promise as both men and women prepare themselves for the battle of the sexes. Beatrice (Emma Thompson) and Benedict (Kenneth Branagh) are worthy adversaries, precursors to all the smart, snappy, sexy, big screen couples we love. Hero (Kate Beckinsale) and Claudio (Robert Sean Leonard) are beautiful young lovers. When the vindictive Don John (Keanu Reeves) tricks Claudio into believing his love is a wanton hussy, the battle turns ugly. Finally, all's well that ends well. The movie slows down as the director relies more and more on close-ups to tell the story.

K.Wilson

Sleepless in Seattle

★★

No trouble sleeping here. A young boy from Seattle, Jonah Baldwin (Ross Malinger), phones a radio talk show and says his widowed dad needs a new wife. A woman in Baltimore, Annie Reed (Meg Ryan), becomes obsessed with the young caller and his father Sam (Tom Hanks) and realizes that she and her fiancé are mismatched. The premise is clever but the plot is rehashed. We get two hours of amusing, but all-too-familiar, "Will they (meet) or won't they?" Annie loses interest in her fiancé because there are no surprises in their relationship. Ditto our reaction to this movie. Still, Hanks and Ryan are great. Maybe next time they could do *two* scenes together.

M.R.D'Entremont

Visions of Light

★★★★

A dizzying paean to a host of ace Hollywood cinematographers, from *The Birth of a Nation*'s Billy Bitzer to *Blue Velvet*'s Frederick Elmes. This wonderful documentary insists that it's the unheralded cameramen who often deserve the real credit for making movies soar as "art." *Visions* backs up its claim with scene after scene of magisterial visual splendor illustrating the signature talents of various Hollywood cameramen: Lee Garmes, William Daniels, Arthur Miller, Gregg Toland, then, and Caleb Deschanel, Vilmos Zsigsmond, Nestor Almendros, Gordon Willis, now. Do these names register? Only the cinematographers really know, and appreciate each other's work.

G. Peary

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

The Firm

"...A Cruise Character Is A Player, Even When, Especially When, He Chooses Not To Play..."

Risky Business (1983) catapulted Tom Cruise to fame and fortune, and its young protagonist's acquisitiveness, cheerful cynicism and unabashed selfishness helped define the Reagan era. *The Firm* has its roots in the 80s but attempts to move beyond them. It doesn't entirely succeed.

Hotshot Harvard Law School graduate Mitch McDeere (Tom Cruise) joins a small, exclusive Memphis law firm because they offer him big money. He soon learns he has made a deal with the devil. To save himself and his wife Abby (Jeanne Tripplehorn), he pits himself against three formidable, corrupt, and brutal opponents: his new law firm, the Mafia, and the FBI.



A LEGAL PRISON: *Tom Cruise as lawyer Mitch McDeere & Gene Hackman as his designated mentor Avery Tolar*

IF YOU GO

The Firm

★★

Directed by Sydney Pollack
Based on the novel by John Grisham
Screenplay by Robert Towne & David Rayfiel.

The Firm gets off to a running start as a straightforward drama/thriller. It's as though director Sidney Pollack is urging us to hurry up and pay attention because we've got a lot of plot to get through. He establishes character and motive with decisive sledge-hammer blows. But there's little build-up and suspense and after a while we zone out.

The Firm is at its worst when it attempts to be a serious, literary, moody study of complex characters and relationships. The biggest sacrifice on the altar to literary pretension is Avery Tolar (Gene Hackman), Mitch's mentor. Avery may seem like a sleaze – and a damn good sleaze, too – but he's crying on the inside, a man in despair who loathes himself and longs for vicarious redemption through Mitch. But is a man who woos his charge's wife with lines such as "I can give you marital advice and hit on you." redeemable? And what about the writers who put the words in his mouth? Abby, too, is given her share of weighty lines such as "I loved you all my life, even before I knew you."

Mercifully, *The Firm* has some lively moments: quirky scenes with low-life characters who seem to have dropped in from other movies. Gary Busey as a private eye and Holly Hunter as his brassy secretary are out of a film noire spoof. When Busey disappears after a few minutes on screen, we feel sorrier for ourselves than we do for his character. David Strathairn is droll and engaging as Mitch's jailbird brother Ray, and the ever-disturbing Ed Harris is good as a high-strung, bullying FBI agent with a shaved head.

Mitch McDeere is a typical Tom Cruise character: likable, bright but not intellectual, ferociously competitive, somewhat corrupt but redeemable, sexy in a boy-next-door kind of way, a bit unpredictable but not dangerous. Cruise doesn't play marginal-fringe types: loners, eccentrics, or exaggerated, out-sized characters. His characters are always part of the mainstream; that's the source of Cruise's enormous appeal. A Cruise character is a player, even when, especially when, he chooses not to play. (Pollack establishes a curious relationship between Mitch and Afro-Americans in order, it seems, to make Mitch sympathetic, hip, and to dis-associate him from the establishment. It shows how far the mainstream has gone in appropriating black culture.)

Mitch gets to eat his cake and have it, too. He emerges from the fray, body and soul intact, with a big bank account. Why, when movie characters finally realize that money is not the most important thing in life, are they rewarded with – what else – money? Mitch even becomes idealistic about the law: it's not the system that is inherently corrupt or corrupting, rather institutions and individuals give the system a bad name. Mitch doesn't have to drop out. He can live his life with few strings attached while *I Did It My Way* plays endlessly in the background. ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

THE LADY VANISHES?

MFA's "Early Hitchcock" / Liv Ullman's "Sofie" at the Coolidge

The French critics who wrote obsessively about him in the 1950s and 1960s won the day with Alfred Hitchcock, eventually persuading just about everyone that the master of suspense was far more than just a popular movie entertainer. Hitchcock the director, they demonstrated, was also a supreme formal stylist, a deep-thinking moralist, a filmmaker whose guilt-ridden Catholic view of the world casts a corrosive metaphysical shadow over even his lightest genre concoctments.

With *Shadow of a Doubt*, *Notorious*, *Strangers on a Train*, *Rear Window*, *North by Northwest*, *Vertigo*, and *Psycho*, we are championing a handful-and-a-half of some the greatest films to emanate from Hollywood.

But what of Hitchcock's earlier years, before he came to America in 1939? Was there a long apprenticeship in Britain of workmanlike films? Or was young Alfred always a visual genius, immediately a magician of sound, inevitably a first-rate celluloid philosopher?

Until now, it's been a problem to tell. Although much British-period Hitchcock can be found at your local video store, most of the prints are faded, ghostly, and incomplete, and the sound tracks are scratchy and murky. Lots of the marble-mouthed English-accents simply get lost, making the intricate plots tedious to follow.

So let's celebrate the "Early Hitchcock" series of 14 programs at the Museum of Fine Arts starting in July and running through August. These are beautiful, new, reconstructed 35 mm prints of films Sir Alfred made in England between 1929 and 1937. Now we can see his work properly, and hear and understand what all those tight-jawed Brits are saying.

Where to begin? With the best of the series, a spanking new print of Hitchcock's classic *The Lady-Vanishes* (1938) showing on July 8. This is an irresistible spy saga of a nice old woman who mysteriously disappears, and of the sexy couple who chase after her Balkan kidnappers. The final shot is the most heartwarming in the whole of the Hitchcock *oeuvre*.

On July 15, check out Hitchcock's *Sabotage* (1936), a pre-World War II paranoia thriller based on Joseph Conrad's anarchist classic, *The Secret Agent*. It is most famous for the boy-carrying-a-time bomb sequence. July 22 brings the virtually unknown *Rich and Strange* (1931), which series curator Geoff Brown dares call "the most intriguing of all Hitchcock's British films," an almost plotless, and blood-less, tale of a young British suburban couple on an eccentric world cruise.

Looking to next month, the most rewarding British Hitchcocks on view are *Murder* (1930), on August 5; *The 39 Steps* (1935), August 12; *Blackmail* (1929), a silent film with piano accompaniment, August 19; *Young and Innocent* (1937), also on August 19, and my candidate for the most underrated film in the MFA series.

IF YOU GO

EARLY HITCHCOCK

THURSDAYS
THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
JULY 8 - AUGUST 19
465 HUNTINGTON AVE.
267-9800

SOPHIE

DIRECTED BY LIV ULLMAN
WRITTEN BY ULLMAN & P. POULSON
AT THE COOLIDGE CORNER THEATER
BEGINNING AUGUST 9
290 HARVARD ST., BROOKLINE
734-2500



HITCHCOCK CLASSIC: *Dame May Whitty, Margaret Lockwood and Michael Redgrave in "The Lady Vanishes"*

SOFIE.

Liv Ullman, star of many Ingmar Bergman films (*Persona*, *Scenes from a Marriage*, *The Passion of Anna*) makes a sterling career switch to screenwriter-director with this rich, passionate, philosophical tale of a young Jewish woman (Karen-Lise Mynster), growing up in Copenhagen at the end of the nineteenth century. Sofie is faced with a momentous decision: run away with the great love of her life, a Christian painter with a burning soul, or marry a likable dullard, who placates her family because he is an Orthodox Jew.

Sofie, adapted from a Henri Nathanson novel, is a Jewish *Madame Bovary*, more or less, and Ullman lets her tale unfold in a deliberately leisurely, contemplative manner: the 146 minute length approximates a long evening of easy-chair reading. The power of Ullman's story, through several decades of bar mitzvahs and kosher meals, births and deaths, grows and grows until the immensely moving climax.

Veteran Bergman actor Erland Josephson, Ullman's perennial co-star, steals the movie in a remarkable performance as Sofie's Orthodox father. As for the deft storytelling of Ullman (who, incidentally, is now a Boston resident),*Sofie* captured the Jury Prize at the 1992 Montreal World Film Festival. ❑

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching fim at B.U.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY

★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Cliffhanger	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★
Dave	★★★	★★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
Guilty As Sin	★★	★	★	★★	★★★	-	-
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
Last Action Hero	★★★	★★	-	★★	★★	-	★
Life with Mikey	★★★	★★★	-	★★	★★	-	-
Made in America	★★	★★	★★	★★	★★★	-	★★
Menace II Society	★★	★★★	★	★★	★★	★	-
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	-	-	-	-
What's Love Got to Do With It	★★★	★★★	-	★★★	★★★	-	★★★

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Comedy / Gerard J. Waggett

Walt Willey - From Daytime Drama to Nightclub Comedy

How To Lie On National T.V. and Become a Stand-Up Comedian."



STANDING ON HIS SOAPBOX: *Comedian Walt Willey will be at the Comedy Connection on July 18*

Soap actor and stand-up comedian Walt Willey never needed to wait for his turn at open mike nights. He never had to open for other comics, and he was never limited to five minute sets. Thanks to his immense popularity as Jackson Montgomery on the popular soap "All My Children," Willey leapfrogged into top billing at comedy spots across the country. "Jack," Willey says, "has opened a lot of doors for Walt."

Willey started on "All My Children" back in the early 80s as an extra, playing barflies, ambulance drivers, and the like. He also worked as an extra on "Saturday Night Live" during what he describes as "the season from Hell with Randy Quaid and Anthony Michael Hall." In 1987, following a short-term role on the now defunct "Ryan's Hope," Willey make his way back to "All My Children" to play Jackson Montgomery, Pine Valley's premiere legal, as well as its most eligible bachelor.

This past May, Willey and his one-time leading lady, Susan Lucci (a.k.a. Erica Kane), co-hosted the Daytime Emmy Awards. "I campaigned for that position quite heavily," he says. Having done stand up comedy, he feels, worked in his favor.

It was only a few years ago that Willey decided to pursue a sideline career in stand up comedy. "I launched my [comedy] career on Regis Philbin's show," he says. During an interview with Philbin, Willey, who had never done stand up before, decided to announce that he was "going back to stand up comedy. I said it to run up a flag," he says, "to see if anybody would salute it."

WALT WILLEY

AT THE COMEDY CONNECTION
FANEUIL HALL
SUNDAY JULY 18
CALL 248-9700 FOR RESERVATIONS

The Joker's Wild in New Haven, Conn., took the bait, and Willey ultimately paid for his lie. "I wrote a show, and I sucked," he admits. "I was drowning in my own sweat about five minutes into my set. The place was packed, and I was terrible."

He decided against booking any gigs immediately after that. Instead, he concentrated on writing a new and better set of material. "I learned from my mistakes," he says. "Then I started doing charity gigs, where I was one of several people doing different things. I was doing an AIDS benefit one night, and Chris Walken showed up. I may be the biggest Christopher Walken fan in the world. He laughed his ass off. He even asked for the manager to bring me to his table so that he might meet me. That was praise from Caesar as far as I'm concerned."

Due in part to that encouragement, Willey decided to try his hand at the comedy circuit again. He ended up doing one show with Regis Philbin, opening for Philbin's own comedy/music act. In a sense, Willey owed it to him. "I've thanked Regis numerous times for letting me lie on his show," Willey says, adding, "Of course, he didn't know I was."

Coordinating his comedy act with his day job is not as difficult as it was when he first started doing comedy. "When I first started, people were loathe to give me a Saturday night. They wanted me to do a Tuesday or a Wednesday so they could have two Saturday nights in terms of attendance. Now, my reputation has grown, and I put my foot down. I said, 'No, I'm not going to take any more days off work to do this. My job is on that show. I can't have the producers jumping through hoops so I can go play. Once I made that clear to these clubs, it's mostly all Saturday nights.'"

To please soap fans in his audience, Willey usually starts his act with a few minutes of "All My Children" jokes before moving into his own material. He even performs a song he wrote entitled "Here in Pine Valley" spoofing "All My Children," for which he updates the lyrics periodically as befits the plot twists.

It doesn't bother him that there are still people coming primarily to see "Jack Montgomery" as opposed to Walt Willey, the comedian. But in the midst of his third summer tour as he is, he points out that now "the people who come back [to my show] are coming to see Walt." ❑



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Fri. 7/9 & Sat. 7/10- Julie Barr, James Lemur, Tony V. Sun. 7/10 Boston's Birghtes, Colin Blake host. Thu. 7/15 thru Sat. 7/24- Ed Karsnick one man show "I'm Not Perfect." Fri. 7/23 & Sat. 7/24 10:30 p.m.- Chris Zito.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall
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Arts Review / Ruth C. Morss

Contemporary Art At Harvard

The Fogg Museum Lightens Up

The greatest hits approach to exhibition planning pays off handsomely in the case of "American Painting at Mid-Century: Highlights from a Private Collection" now on view at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum. The show contains 15 important examples of American painting created in New York during the "triumphant" years from 1948 to 1975. Almost all the artists are household names, and the anonymous collector clearly sought only choice pieces. The Boston public rarely has access to an outstanding private collection of 20th-century masters and, moreover, one so devoted to painting, a medium all but ignored in today's video age.



"The Kiss", Roy Lichtenstein, 1962

Strange as it may seem, Harvard has always been involved with contemporary art. The Fogg hosted the ICA's first exhibition in 1936, and the Harvard Society for Contemporary Art (1929-1936) exhibited such artists as O'Keefe and Calder. American Painting gives clear evidence that the present director of Harvard's art museums, James Cuno, plans to continue this distinguished tradition.

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American Painting at Mid Century

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The exhibition opens on an irreverent note. From the top of the entrance stairs, one cannot help but notice that the museum's Italian Loggia frames three exuberant abstract paintings. Perhaps Harvard is parodying its own traditionalism? Even the exhibition's title, which is displayed in bold colors on the entrance wall, is a take-off of Jasper John's adjoining *Target with Plaster Casts* (1955). Hanging on the outside walls of the galleries, smaller pieces by Pollock and de Kooning encourage close study of the artists' calligraphic and gestural approach to painting.



"Before and After", Andy Warhol, 1960

The rich strawberry color of Cy Twombly's *Red Painting* (1961) beckons one inside the first gallery. Directly across, *Arbeit Macht Frei* (1959), from the celebrated series of "Black Paintings" by Frank Stella, occupies a wall of its own. Huge and profoundly dark, the picture's repetitive impersonal geometry speaks of modern tragedy and dull misery. Franz Kline's *Untitled* (1957) adds a threatening note with his architectonic forms. The painting does seem actually to incorporate visitors who are dressed in similar colors. Across the room, Kline's influence on his friend de Kooning is obvious: In *February* (1957), the artist's brushstroke has become a swath of color that creates large rugged forms. Ambiguous objects from the real world invite free association (penis or lighthouse? I can't decide.) Nobody embodied the idea that the act of painting is supreme more than de Kooning's close associate, Pollock, whose tightly constructed drip painting *Number 5* (1948) weaves an iron web of surprising depth.

From this kettle of abstraction, Roy Lichtenstein and Andy Warhol burst onto the scene like so much Pop-corn. Using the vocabulary of mass media, both sought to magnify the printed page and thus pose fundamental questions about the nature of the very art that made them rich. Lichtenstein's *The Kiss* (1962) employs film technique (cropping and close-up) to produce bourgeois romance and supply the end to Casablanca that you always wanted. Warhol, who originated the technique of multiple images, parodies a common cosmetic procedure in *Before and After* (1960). Which is before and which is after? Who nose?

Although small, "American Painting" presents a cohesive summary of a vital period in American 20th-century art. Encore! ❑

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Something Useful. (Maybe.) / Anthony Tedesco

The Coming of Adult Films

A Guide To The Porn Videos Your Well-Respected Friends Are Renting

The day has finally arrived where even the most conservative professional feels comfortable walking into the neighborhood video store, handing the last copy of *Orgasm Alley (Western Visuals)* (seriously) to the elderly cashier who looks remarkably like their mother, and swearing on the Bible that it's for a Secret Government Project. And with all of this newfound acceptance and respect for adult films – also known as Porn-Flicks, P-Flicks, Skin Shots, Wild Romp Reels, Meat-Motion Pics and Do-Me-While-Pee Wee Herman Gets Arrested Tapes – comes the public's desire to keep abreast (couldn't resist) of its porn-video options.

That's where I come in. Over the last three days I've compiled this definitive Guide to Boston's Porn-Video Trends (won't Mom be proud), which outlines the videos currently available, as well as which ones are being rented most often.

I hope you enjoy it. I certainly enjoyed doing the research for it. (Just kidding, Mom.)

Mainstream Videos

If you'd like to ease your way into the Wonderful World of Nudie Films, you could begin by renting a few of the more sultry mainstream movies. The first one that comes to mind (as if it weren't always there) is *9 1/2 Weeks*, which features Kim Basinger having sex with all four food groups while romantic Mickey Rourke says things like: "Ya Hussy take that whole zucchini into your mouth, jump up and down on your right leg, keep juggling those olives, Tramp, and you'd better start singing 'Happy Birthday' to me in Spanish or you'll be doing this whole damn obstacle course over again!" Other equally hot flicks include *Wild Orchid* (sort of a sequel to *9 1/2 Weeks* – same Mick, new squeeze), *Blue Velvet* (Holy Wacked Fetishes, Batman), *Bolero* (Bo knows nudity), and *Henry and June* (Henry Miller's literarily-justified exploits).

But perhaps you require a tad more skin than R-rating has to offer. Yet you're still not comfortable gawking at *Bend-Over Babes 3* with your significant other. Fret not. The ever-resourceful adult film industry has developed a solution to this very dilemma: Instructional Sex Videos.

Instructional Sex Videos

Although far more explicit than mainstream movies, instructional sex videos are still extremely respectable because they feature wild, frenzied couples doing the nasty for Educational Purposes only. Here's a list of the most popular ones:

1. *Secrets of Making Love...to the Same Person Forever*. Playboy's rather tame answer to marital monotony.
2. *101 Ways to Excite Your Lover*. Playboy again; equally attractive models, equally hokey production.
3. *The Great Sex Series*. Informative yet painfully narrated by sexologist (defined as "One Who Panhandles Sex Tapes") Frank Sommers.
4. *The Better Sex Videos*. Shallow instruction broken up into eight different videos to fully achieve the 500 Colors Of Karate Belts Scam.
5. *Intimacy and Sexual Ecstasy*. Ancient Tantric yoga, and the fine art of using Ben-Wa Balls - what else needs to be said? (Except: "Honey, are you *sure* you put them in there?")

Remember: if at any time does the narrating Sex Therapist get naked to demonstrate a technique ("I am now engaging in the Chinese Basket position.") then you've probably already graduated to the next stage of adult-video viewing: hard-core porn.

Hard-Core Porn. (Welcome.)

According to a recent Improper poll taken by me over the course of five or six billion phone calls, an average of 30 percent of the movies rented in Boston video stores are adult films. And since I'm only renting adult films Wednesday through Saturday nights, it means there's a whole lot of other ~~respectable, professional, mature~~ people renting them too.

To help set your Adult Film Agenda, I've listed both the porn flicks your friends are currently renting most often, as well as the ones they've been renting most often since well before it was acceptable to rent adult films. I'm sure you can wing it from there.

Boston's Recent Top Porn Picks

1. *Butt Man's European Vacation*. Not the Griswolds. Not a gay video either, but easily could be.
2. *Chameleon*. Tory Wells has a set of acting skills like you wouldn't believe, and like I wouldn't even consider mentioning in a politically correct column such as this one.
3. *Face Dance 2*. Some faces, some dancing; though I'd have to actually see the film to be sure.
4. *Totally Teri*. Not to be confused with *Chameleon*'s Tory Wells, unless, of course, you want to.

Boston's All-Time Classic Porn Picks

1. *Deep Throat*. A major scientific breakthrough.
2. *Night Trips 2*. Blake's cinematography is excellent. And Paula Price's naked body doesn't hurt the film either.
3. *Night Trips 1*. No Paula, but plenty of other naked people, so just relax.
4. *Debbie Does Dallas*. Debbie has officially done everything; but Dallas is still her most popular conquest.
5. *Long Dong Silver*. You call that a penis?

And there you have it: a handy referral guide for your next wholesome Saturday night with the VCR. See you in the Adult section. ❑

(Rental information provided by FM Video, Hemenway Pharmacy, Downtown Books, Land Of Oz Video, Video Depot, Mike's Movies Inc., and other video stores too uptight to let me use their names.)

The Swinging '90s – Still Swapping Spouses After All These Years

(continued from page 11)

played top-40/slow-classic dance music. No one was even frothing at the mouth.

Sarah and I needed drinks, not to mention a few shots. At the cash bar we met David and Jen. The bartender brought their drinks over at the same time as ours and asked David if the drinks were together. "That'll be fine," he said, and paid for them. After stammering something about getting next round, all I could fumble out was to ask if they came to these things often. (So suave.) David, a tall, somewhat-courtly 30-something with a meticulously-groomed beard, said he and his wife Jen come to about three or four of the "Sterling" dances a year, but had never been to a house party. "We enjoy getting dressed up and going dancing" said Jen, "It's an exciting change of pace and a chance to see the friends we've made with this group over the years."

Five years, to be exact. David and Jen got involved in the swing scene when one of the more outgoing couples in David's computer consulting firm told us him about their experience. "They're a little more open to new experiences than we are, but they explained to us it could be as innocent as we wanted it to be - and for the most part it has been," insisted David. "These dances are more of an exciting social scene for us, rather than a sexual outlet." David and Jen have recently moved from Beacon Hill to Newton with their three children. Because he does most of his consulting from the office in his house, he's able to circumvent the kids by giving swingers his office number only. They've yet to have a problem.

David and Jen definitely fostered us into the swing scene, introducing us to most of the couples they enjoyed seeing at these events. And although one woman pinched my butt and then proceeded to grope her husband's office phone number into my back-pocket, the majority of exchanges followed classic courting process: introduction, light wit/general interests developing into more heartfelt confiding. The contacts we made ranged from Peter and Marina - a late-twenties, Euro-beautiful couple decked in *Armani*-wear, dark skin, and patronizing smiles - to Frank and Linda, a married, forty-something couple bursting with comic one-liners; personable and charismatic - though Frank was slightly stocky (a/k/a fat), and was sporting some type of frizzy-mustache experiment. Sarah and I didn't care - we were in it for the chase.

A chase which, for 20 to 25 of the more persevering couples, led to the post-dance "hospitality" rooms. The two rooms, reserved under a false Italian name were connected by open partition-doors. Both rooms were bathed in seedy red lighting and resonated slow, pulsing dance music. People drank B.Y.O.Beer stashed in the kitchen fridge. One room for drinking, small talk, organizing; the other room reserved for getting down to business.

The situation in the first room was comical: We engaged in prim-and-proper small-talk to the background sounds of primal grunting and an occasional "YA BABY! YES!" John and Kelly, an attractive, artsy South End couple in their mid-thirties, still thought it was comical even after eight years of swinging together. Their swing introduction came when John, an investment banker and "permanently budding" screenwriter, clipped "Sterling's" *Phoenix* classified-ad for Kelly. "I wanted to try it," says Kelly, "probably because I've always been the good girl - oldest daughter, Catholic prep, ivy-league - and it feels good not to be one once in awhile." After teasing Kelly with a "Tsk, tsk," John explained that his enjoyment didn't come from breaking the rules but instead from taking chances on something that was potentially risky but extremely exciting. He went on to liken swinging to everything from corporate raiding to bungee-cord jumping. And although the jealousy-aspect of swinging can be titillating, John says he'd rather swing in a separate room from Kelly and her partner. Even when they go to the swinging conventions in St. Louis or Nevada, he still prefers being one-on-one. Later he admitted that much of his same-room anxiety stemmed from the common occurrence of sexual stage-fright.

As for myself, I hadn't even the seen the stage yet, and the night was drawing to a close. So on pretend-run #3 to the bathroom, I finally mustered the courage to make a darting right turn, and stumble abruptly through the swing-room's doorway. Surprisingly, my stumbling didn't disrupt the swingers one bit. And neither did the sound of my chin. dropping to floor. What *did* disrupt the swingers was some gauche, schoolboy who took over my body just long enough to yell out: "OH...MY...GOD," and then left me to squirm in the embarrassment. Both intertwined couples looked right up at me in disbelief. And then smiled. And then went right back to having sex. Referring back to Ed's room-categories, I'd have to say this room fell under the *Semi-private* heading because, although only two couples were present, there was a whole lot of interaction going on. One woman was straddling a prone man while she was being kissed and massaged by the other man and woman, both of whom were kneeling on either side of her (see diagram) (just kidding). I couldn't believe this stuff actually went on.

Around 3 a.m. Sarah and I were ready to go home and said our good-byes to the promises of near-future dinners and dancing. Once inside the car, Sarah made me swear to secrecy for the 16-millionth time. For even though she was admittedly impressed at how normal the swing crowd was, she was also wary of the stigma open sex still held for most people.

As to whether or not Sarah and I actually participated in the sexual frenzy of the swing-scene, my responsibility as a professional journalist compels me to state, for the record, that I'm not telling. ❑

For more information on the "Sterling" Club write: PO. Box 542, Needham Hts., MA 02194.

**All identities have been changed to respect privacy.*

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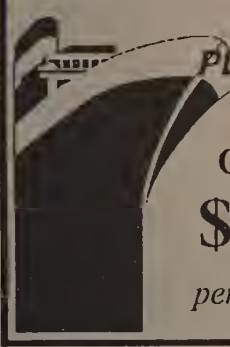
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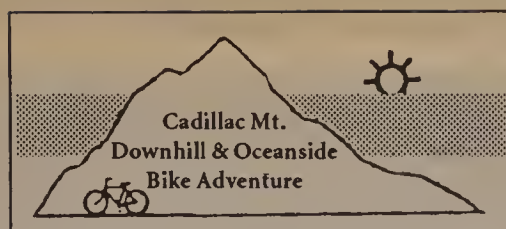
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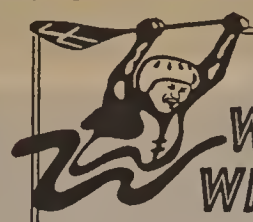
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THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S • M • T • W • T • F • S

			7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20				

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N.E. SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Boston
Black & white, color, experimental color, advertising, corporate, editorial, photojournalism and portraiture are all represented in this student exhibition through Sept. 13. Photographers were students in the two-year professional photography program.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Commonwealth Ave.
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball," which features fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. It runs through July 30. Call 353-0700.



SEE WHAT TAKES SHAPE. EXERCISE.

American Heart Association

© 1992, American Heart Association

TOURS

BEN FRANKLIN ALIVE
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston
This summer, you can have Benjamin Franklin give you a walking tour of Boston! It's a three-hour tour that includes a historical performance, tour and lunch at the renowned Maison Robert. Cost is $30, and the tours are given every Monday in July and Tuesdays in August. Call 482-6439 for more information or reservations.

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – all seen while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically-designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St.
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

ODYSSEY CRUISES
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the *Spirit of Boston* ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef. Call 654-9700 for reservations.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past – this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St.
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St.
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave.
An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors are on display until Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." On view through Aug. 1 is John Singleton Copley's "Watson and Shark," the two large versions of his famous shark attack painting. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Part 2" until September. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle — all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Through Sept. 12. Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. ASL interpreters will be on hand July 10. Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. Call 522-6547 for more information.

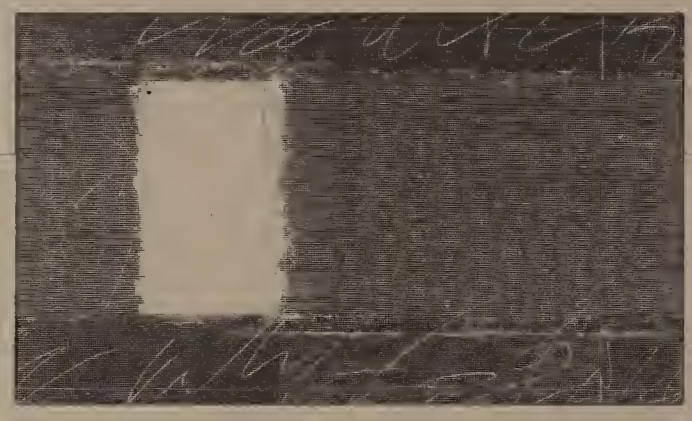
NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious—and dangerous—sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 - ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has anything to do with New England sports, including lots of interactive exhibits - like one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St.
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.



IMPROPER PICK

We don't know art, but we know what we like. Artist/philosopher SOLOMILA is having a show of recent works at Gallery Mourlot on Newbury Street through July 18th.Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
Elaine Stritch stars in the world premiere of *Cakewalk*, a semi-autobiographical work by Peter Feibleman about his turbulent, 40-year relationship with playwright Lillian Hellman (*The Children's Hour*). Runs through July 17. Concurrently, the ART stages Philip Glass' opera *Orphée*. Call 547-8300 for more information.

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Cambridge
Can't remember a thing from your college literature and history courses? No problem! The ART presents **"The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged)"** through July 18 and **"The Complete History of America (abridged)"** July 13-18. Call 547-8300 for times and tickets.

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Zero Church Street, Cambridge
A special workshop presentation of Shakespeare's tragedy *Macbeth* will be performed until July 11. So, get Out, Out (Brief Spot) and see it!

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St.
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St.
Acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

DELVENA THEATER COMPANY
Old Salem Town Hall
32 Derby Square, Salem
A nun accused of murdering her child is the shocking premise behind the powerful play *Agnes of God*. The DTC performs this work July 9 & 10 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $10; $7 for students and seniors. Call 643-9993 for more details.

(continued on following page)

WOMAN ON THE STREET

"If you could be invisible for a day..."

BY LESLIE



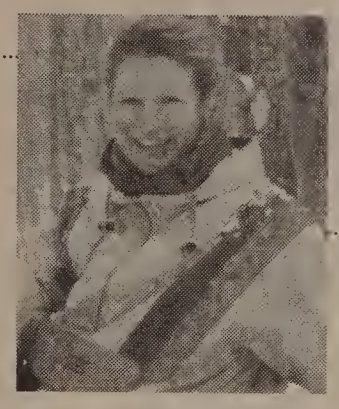
Rob, 28, Beacon Hill
"I'd be sitting in Lou Gorman's office and eating all of his chocolates, so he could read the scouting reports."



Sean, 25, Wellesley
"I would be hanging with Madonna watching her express herself."



Maureen, 30, Brighton
"I'd listen to this guy talking to his friends and find out what he really thinks of me. He likes to keep me guessing."



Mimi, 29, Cambridge
"I'd walk around the streets of Boston and feel safe for once."



Lauren, 26, Allston
"I think I'd spy on my old boyfriends for curiousity's sake."



George, 35, Cambridge
"I would play tricks on people who were jerks to me."

KENDALL CAFE
233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge
Well, it sounds kinky to us: Steps Theater Company presents *The Throb of Life*, an ongoing, continuing radio drama for adults only. Admission is $7; call 499-9580 for reservations and information.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St.
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St.
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Road, Beverly
Los Angeles comes to Beverly as the NSMT presents *City of Angels*, a winner of six Tony awards, including best musical. Stars John James (of *Dynasty* fame) and runs through July 10. Call (508) 922-8500 for times and ticket information.

Terrace Room
Park Plaza Hotel
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St.
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for *Miss Saigon* the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the native woman he left in Vietnam. It's a must-see. Call 931-2222 for times and ticket prices. Performances begin July 14.

LECTURES/READINGS

AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The AAC provides a free, confidential seminar July 21 at 6:30 p.m. to answer the financial, legal, insurance and job-related questions of men and women who have tested HIV-positive. Call 437-6200 x216 for details.

NOW
971 Comm. Ave., Boston
Work for women's safety and to ensure that the media and the government take such issues seriously. Help with the Clothesline Project and Court Watch Project. Meeting will be at 7 p.m. on July 15.

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE
10 Brookline St.
Central Square, Cambridge
T.T.'s presents Stone Soup Poetry every Monday. July 12 it's New York poets Linda Lerner and Andrew Gettler. Call 492-0082. Donation is $3; show begins at 8 p.m.

GALLERIES

ABSINTH GALLERY
215 Hanover St., Boston
Chess is the subject of the first exhibit of this new gallery in the North End. The gallery opens with Stephen Yaffe's sculptured chess set - 12 feet wide - through July 11.

ARTISTS FOUNDATION
State Transportation Building
8 Park Plaza, Boston
In a stinging indictment of man's intolerance for man, the Artists Foundation has gathered the works of 27 artists under the exhibition heading "Worse than Animals: Meditations on Racist Violence." It runs through July 31.

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CENTER
41 Second St., Cambridge
"The model minority" or "perpetual foreigner" are but two of the stereotypes about Asian-Americans that are examined and debunked in "Welcome to Asian America," a multi-sensual environmental installation created by Asian-American artists.

CLARK GALLERY
Lincoln Station, Lincoln
Sculptures, collages, furniture and jewelry (among other things) made from refrigerator doors, rusted metal, bones and beach glass (among other things) are just some of the *objets d'art* that you'll find at "Lost & Found," a group exhibition featuring 19 artists from across the U.S. who primarily use found and recycled materials in their work. There is a gallery talk July 8 at 7 p.m.; the exhibit runs through July 30. Call 259-8303 for more details.

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
This fun and funky shop has a new theme each month. From July 1-31, see "Trade and Mark," an exhibition of vintage advertising featuring famous logos and symbols - from the Smith Brothers to Elsie the Cow.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St.
French post-Impressionist Bernard Lamotte's estate will be on display throgh July 15. Featured are more than 100 oils, watercolors and works on paper that depict the cafes, parks and boulevards of the artist's homeland.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BAER SINGLES DANCE
Guest Quarters Hotel
Storrow Drive, Boston
Baer Events host an outdoor rooftop dance for singles July 18 from 4-8 p.m. There will be a live band; please dress casually (shorts and sneakers!) Cost is $10 before 5 p.m., $15 afterward. The event will be held rain (inside) or shine (outside). Cash bar.

N.E. MEDICAL CENTER
The Tour de Hope "bike hike" the weekend of July 24 covers 160 miles of the beautiful coastlines of New Hampshire and Maine. Entry fee is $35, and includes an all-you-can-eat breakfast, post-ride barbecue, overnight parking and lodging, first aid, bike mechanics, water bottles and race T-shirts. Money goes to benefit the NEMC's children's cancer center. Call 956-7656 for more information.

CLASSICAL

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER
Mass Ave. at Boylston St., Boston
World-renowned pianist George Winston brings his beautiful melodies here July 9 & 10 at 8 p.m. in a solo appearance. Tickets are $20; call 931-2000 or the BPC box office.

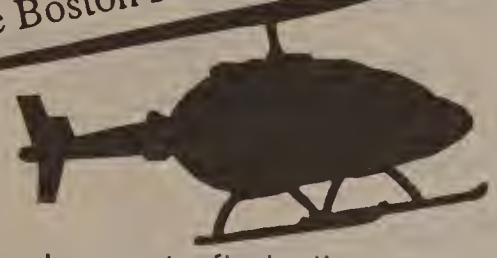
BOSTON POPS
Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The world-renowned Pops perform every Tuesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7:30 p.m., through July 11. Call 266-1492 for program information and ticket prices.

GREAT WOODS
Mansfield

(continued on following page)

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(continued from previous page)

John Williams will be retiring as Pops conductor after this year, so be sure to catch him while you can! He'll be conducting July 17 at 8 p.m. at this beautiful outdoor facility. Call 931-2000 for tickets.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Wednesday through Aug. 11 at 7:30 p.m., MFA presents "Concerts in the Courtyard." Enjoy jazz and classical music in their elegantly landscaped courtyard; bring a picnic dinner or buy it there. No alcohol, please. Doors open at 6 p.m.; call 267-9300 x300 for a program. Tickets are $12.

RUSSIAN ROMANCE
Robsham Theater
Boston College, Chestnut Hill
The stars of St. Petersburg, Russia, will shine the weekend of July 9 & 10 at 8 p.m. and on the 11th at 2 p.m. as soloists from the Chamber Philharmonic Society, Bolshoi and Kirov Opera Theaters will provide a rare glimpse of Russia's best classical and folk music. Donation is $10; for reservations, call 552-4800.

TANGLEWOOD
Lenox
Famous pianist Garrick Ohlsson performs an all-Chopin program July 8 at 8:30 p.m. in the Theatre-Concert Hall. Seiji Ozawa conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra July 9 at 8:30 p.m. in a program of Rossini, Donizetti, Previn and Mahler; soprano star Kathleen Battle will be a featured performer. The BSO performs again July 10 at 8:30 p.m. under the direction of Neeme Jarvi, with Garrick Ohlsson on the piano; the program features the works of Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff. On July 11, the Orchestra of St. Luke's performs at 2:30 p.m. with a program of Maw, Bruch and Brahms.

FILMS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
There's a Barbra (yes, it's spelled right) Streisand film screened every Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. through Sept. 7. This is pre-Bill employment, of course.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave.
BU hosts a summer film festival, with a cool movie each week. All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're **free**! Call 353-3635 for a program.

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features; each day has a different theme, and they change each month. For a full program, call 876-6837.

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park
New to the world of Omnimax is *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, which runs through Oct. 14. For the more tropically-oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

OTHER SIDE CAFE
407 Newbury St.
Every Monday night, SRS Films shows independent films and music videos before the evening's featured film. Movies start at 9 p.m. Admission is free. Call 783-4509.

N.E. WOMEN IN FILM & VIDEO
M.I.T.'s Bartos Theater
20 Ames St., Cambridge
Do you sense a pattern here? "A Midsummer Night's Screening" takes place July 14 at 7:30 p.m. and features three recent video productions: *Audrey Hepburn, in Her Own Words*, *The Moveable Feast* (about a North End family's trek to their roots in Italy) and *The Water Talks to Me* (about a family's struggle with the economic and social impacts of the dwindling fish stocks in the Gloucester area). Donation is $3; call 527-1974.

Linda Ventura / Photos by Nicole Lamy

IM/PROPER ATTIRE

Fashion Dos and Don'ts



"Oh my God, what if someone I know sees me with this perspiring plebeian?" Yes folks, you too in all your fashion finery may be embarrassed by the company you keep – this Bostonian was. Needless to say, rings of excess armpit moisture are not in style; never were, never will be. Moral of the story: never let them see you sweat.

With the hundreds of magazines, advertisements, pamphlets, and commercials that continually bombard us with conflicting advice on fashion, *The Improper Bostonian* now offers a solution to ease our already cluttered and misled couture consciousness. In short, one simple column, "Im/Proper Attire," that shows you all you need to know about the latest trends in fashion, as well as how to and how not to wear them.

(This, incidentally, is a point most magazines fail to reveal. We've all watched designer disasters parade past as we've sipped iced cappuccino at an outdoor Newbury Street cafe. It appears that just because one owns a Versace creation does not mean that one can wear it well, let alone accessorize it properly!)

This week we take a look at the summer that sizzles: how to look and feel cool and collected when the mercury starts rising.



Horrors! Did Goodwill have a sale? These leggings and heavy, horizontally striped garments are definitely improper attire for a sweltering summer day, (not to mention a brutal eye-sore!) Ah, but feast your eyes on this proper Bostonian: this crisp vest paired with flowing flowered pants looks as cool and comfortable as it must feel.



Straight from the Armani store window we see the versatility of the bathing suit this season. This unsuspecting Bostonian has something to smile about with the street-smart look of a sleek bathing suit perfectly paired with loose linen shorts.

Until next time - beware Boston, we're watching you!

Dining Review / R.E. Brunson

HARVARD ST. GRILL

"... The Food Was Found to Be Both Adventurous" and Creative With a Touch of Humor ..."

When dining at a restaurant where the chef/owner is in the kitchen, there is heightened expectation that the meal will truly be a special one and reflect the personal vision and creativity of the chef. Our group was not disappointed on our visit to the Harvard Street Grill - the food was found to be both adventurous and creative with a touch of humor.

The restaurant itself is a small storefront with peach colored walls, low lighting, and a shiny steel open kitchen in the back. The meal began with a pair of appetizers: the Coach Farm goat cheese with focaccia ($7.75), and the miso-marinated tofu with sweet and sour vegetables ($6.75). The goat cheese was covered with chopped chives and accompanied by a half dozen thin, crispy wedges of rosemary and cracked pepper focaccia. It also came with a wonderful spread of capers and sundried tomatoes balanced by a small salad of radicchio, watercress, and endive. Food for the eye as well as the palate. The miso-marinated tofu with sweet and sour vegetables came arranged in a dramatic vertical presentation: on a bed of watercress tossed in chili-garlic sauce, thin slices of tofu were piled high and layered with more watercress and finely chopped carrots, mushrooms, and gherkins. A reddish ring of sweet sauce that surrounded the whole construction provided a nice contrast. With the help of the wine, a Chateauneuf-du-Pape ($30), the two appetizers had really set the taste buds in action.

For entrees, the group chose the Maryland soft shell crabs ($23), the grilled boneless breast of duck ($17.95), and the loin of pork with curry glaze ($15.95). The soft shell crabs were simply and expertly sauteed in butter, lemon, and parsley. The three crabs were delicious, hot and tender. Thin strips of carrot, leek, and scallion made a resting place for the crabs with the crowning touch an edible flower.

The grilled boneless breast of duck was also beautifully prepared and garnished. The pink-centered duck slices made our mouth water. They were surrounded by a pool of pink pepper and cherry-red onion marmalade. The marmalade had a complex, slightly sweet flavor from the caramelized onions and a mildly tart flavor from the cherries - it was fantastic with the duck. An amusing toast duck backed by a mound of sprouts completed the dish. The final entree, the loin of pork with curry glaze, was nicely grilled and also had an interesting vertical presentation. The slices of loin were placed atop one another and jauntily crowned with one of the rib bones. The loin was tender and moist with an exotic curry flavor. A bed of lentil pilaf accompanied the loin along with a rich sweet tomato chutney.

We forged ahead to dessert and sampled both the chocolate ganache flan ($5.25) and the lemon cream tart ($5). The flan was not a flan at all but rather a thick rich wedge of creamy chocolate ganache on a crunchy pecan base.with a caramel sauce all around. Strictly the stuff for chocolate lovers. The lemon cream tart was also delicious with a tart lemon filling covered with a blueberry sauce. We left the restaurant impressed not only with the complexity of the flavors but also with the creative presentation. ❑

IF YOU GO

HARVARD STREET GRILL

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FRI - SAT: 5:30 - 10:30PM
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ATTENTION IMPROPER PARTY PLANNERS



If you are organizing an soiree, party or gala and would like pre-event coverage in the upcoming *Improper Bostonian* Social Calendar, send all pertinent information, three weeks in advance (or more), to:

Editor In Chief
The Improper Bostonian
17 Station Street, Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146

Please be sure to include date, time, place, ticket price, and dress code. Coverage is subject to space and time constraints.

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Chianti Classico

"...That Most Quintessential of Italian Red Wines..."

Hugh Johnson, dean of British wine writers, was probably not far off when he said that on the whole Italians are the world's least neurotic wine-drinkers. Maybe this is because Italy enjoys wine with its meals and leaves analyzing the life out of it to other nations.

A comprehensive tasting of Chianti Classico, that most quintessential of Italian red wines, provides an adventure in aroma and flavor diversity. The wide variations positively invite some attempt at explanation. While winemaking styles differ, the structure, the grip, and the underlying acidity of the Sangiovese grape lend a common unifying element.

A good Chianti's tart cherry flavors should start early on the palate and carry right through to the wine's finish, making it an ideal dinner wine. To my thinking, Chiantis never seem balanced if too soft in texture; there must always be an edge of high-pitched acidity so that upon tasting the wine our mouth waters for some bistecca, grilled chicken, or risotto. This, of course, presupposes enough richness of fruit extract so that the biting tartness does not dominate a thin or otherwise flavorless wine.

These essential requirements were never clearer than on a recent occasion when several dozen members of the Chianti Classico Black Rooster Consorzio arrived on the East and West Coast to present their wares. This organization was founded in the heart of Tuscany's Chianti production zone in 1924 by wine producers concerned with defending the region's quality image. Over the years, the voluntary group has probably done more to keep the level of quality and wine-making practices in the zone high than the Italian government itself. Its standards are more rigorous than those required by Italian law, and because well over 80% of the area's growers are members, what the Consorzio decides has a determining impact on the region's image.

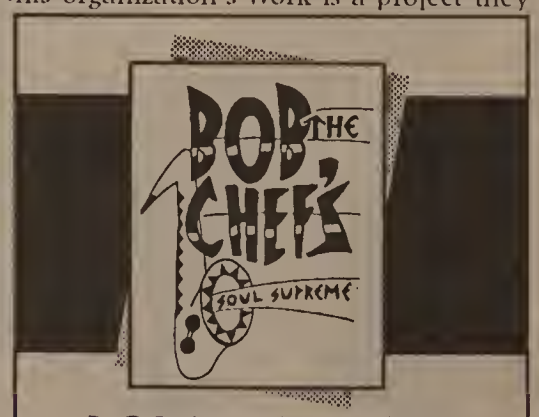
An especially exciting component of this organization's work is a project they refer to as Chianti 2000, which is a long term effort designed to provide scientific answers to how the best Chianti Classico can be grown and produced. For decades, Chianti prices were low and the wine was dismissed as a frivolous novelty in a straw basket. Because their commercial position was weak, Tuscan winemakers planted inferior clones, pushing production levels beyond acceptable limits. This reinforced the region's already tarnished reputation.

Chianti 2000 examines such issues as where the vines should be planted, which vines to plant and how closely together, how they should be trained, how the soil should be treated, and such production issues as ideal fermentation temperatures and the length of time finished wine should remain in contact with grapeskins. Experiments are ongoing and the information is shared among all participating companies. The overall impression is of Chianti Classico boldly and confidently moving into the future.

Having noted this, there is a particularly disturbing general disregard for certain aspects of the Italian wine laws, and this in a nation whose overall exports have been crippled over the years by a succession of frauds and scandals emanating from unscrupulous producers of cheap jug wine. Discussions with winemakers, for instance, revealed that virtually no quality-conscious Chianti Classico follows the stipulation that at least 2% of the grapes in the blend must be white. The issue is complicated; while there is not a single voice advocating that this mandatory inclusion of white grapes improves Chianti Classico, it remains the law. When reminded of this inconvenient fact, winemakers shrug, wink, evade the question, and point out how the law will probably soon be changed. This quite openly casual "interpretation" of the regulations to suit the winemakers' own needs does little to build consumer confidence in the export markets.

Tasting the wines, on the other hand, unleashes tremendous enthusiasm, particularly on the heels of Chianti's great 1988 and 1990 vintages. Overall the Classicos are very ripe and concentrated. The best, those with ample reserves of palate-enlivening acidity to offset the black cherry spice, make me want to stop sniffing and swirling the glass and start broiling and sautéing an Italian meal to be accompanied by this fine dinner wine. ❑

Sandy Block was awarded the title Master of Wine in 1992 by the prestigious British Institute of Masters of Wine. Of the 162 people worldwide who hold this title, only five are Americans. Sandy is also the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood,



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APPETEASERS

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At **Skipjack's crabfest** there will be pounding mallets and crabs galore. From July 26 through August 1, Skipjack's will have the crabfest at all three of the restaurant's locations - Copley Square, Harvard Square, and Brookline Village. Every night, from 3:30 p.m. to closing, the restaurants will be transformed into authentic crab houses, complete with brown paper table covers, sawdust on the floor, wooden mallets, and an endless supply of buckets of steaming blue crabs.



David Ball

Newly opened Rosalita's Texas Backyard B.B.Q. describes its fare as "Amerimex"

There will also be plenty of those wonderful Maryland soft shelled crabs. Every recipe imaginable from crab chowder and crab cakes to crab gumbo will be available, along with side orders of seasoned fries, beer-battered onion rings, and corn on the cob. So order a bucket and be careful where you swing that mallet.

VIVE LA FRANCE

The 4th is over, and that means Bastille Day is just around the corner. **Mellea Vineyards** in West Dudley plans to celebrate the French holiday in grand style with their Great Bastille Weekend. On Saturday, July 10 and Sunday, July 11, Mellea will offer samples of food from local French restaurants, accompanied by French music and art. Of course, Mellea's wine will also be flowing - be sure to try the new, Colonial Cuvee red and the just-released Chardonnay. The festivities run from noon to 5 p.m. both days and there is a stream and grassy hill in back of the winery for fans of the outdoors. The charge is just $2. For directions and information call (508) 943-5166.

PICNIC IN PARADISE

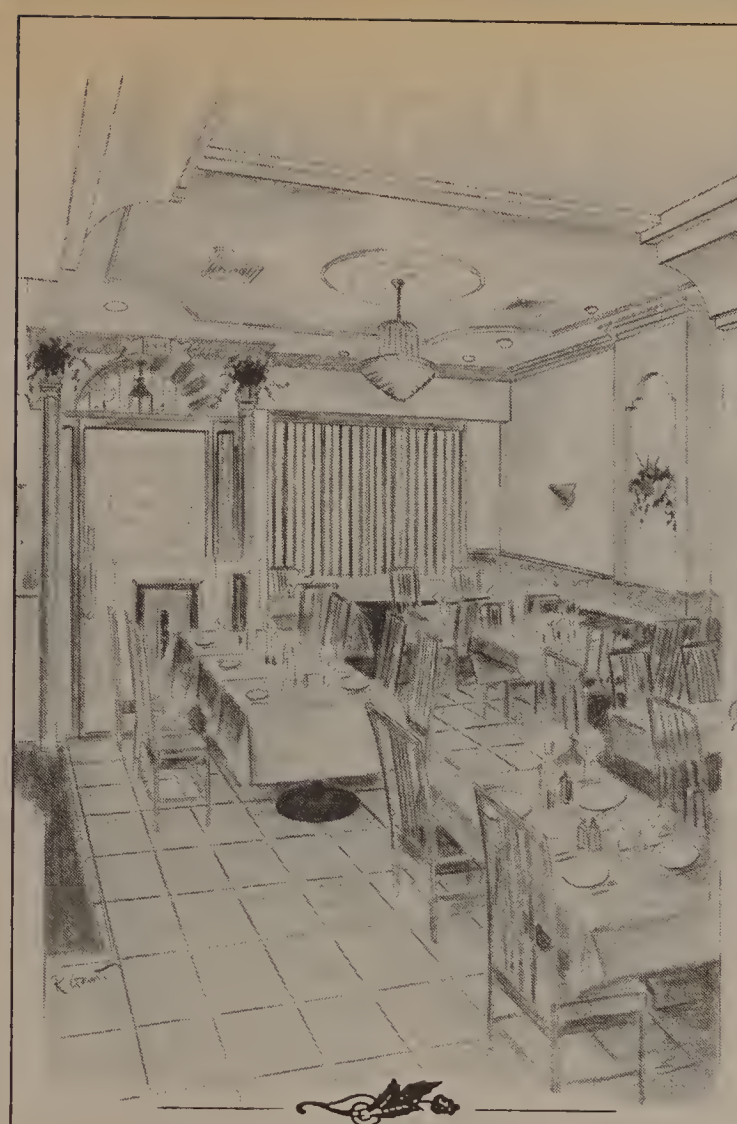
If one goes to Mellea on Saturday, then Sunday, July 11, is open for the elegant **Picnic in Paradise '93** at **Sakonnet Vineyards** in Little Compton, Rhode Island. The star wineries of the **New England Coastal Wine Group** will be filling glasses and famous chefs from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York City will be filling picnic baskets with wonderful food on the lawn of the Sakonnet house from 2-6 p.m. Some of the participating chefs are: **Tony Ambrose** former chef of the Bostonian Hotel; **Chris Douglass** - Icarus, **George Germon** and **Johanne Killeen** - Al Forno, **Pat** and **Bruce Tillinghast**- New Rivers, and **Steve Lyle** - The Odeon. Music will be provided by Sun Steel, one of Boston's premier reggae/calypso bands. Prizes will be given for the most creative picnic basket and leisure activities such as volleyball and croquet will be offered. The fee is $37.50 per person and reservations can be made by calling the Sakonnet vineyards, (401) 635-8486.

BACKYARD B.B.Q.

Rosalita's Texas Backyard B.B.Q. on Church Street in Harvard Square opened last week with a bang and a big bash. Everyone was there. The new chef is **Cliff Roy** who comes from Rocco's, as does Chef Danny Weisel of Armadillo Cafe who directed the set-up of the new restaurant. The food is "Amerimex," which features Texas barbecue dishes like ribs, smoked brisket, and smoked chicken, as well as south of the border specialties like burritos and enchiladas. All items are very reasonably priced, with most entrees under $10. And if you purchase an entree, there is unlimited grazing at the picnic buffet table. Rosalita's hand can also be seen throughout the menu with specials like Rosalita's Whim and her special sauces. So if you're looking for a backyard barbecue without all the work, take a trip to Rosalita's.

FAR EASTERN DELIGHTS

Another Season restaurant on Beacon Hill continues their prix fixe menus into the summer with a variety of exotic dishes from the Far East. The menus are offered Monday-Thursday evenings in addition to the regular menu and the price is $20 per person. The featured locales for the next several weeks are Korea, July 5-8, Sri Lanka, July 12-15, and China, July 19-22. The Sri Lankan menu looks particularly interesting, with grilled marinated fish and a hot roti filled with potato, cauliflower, and spices. For information and reservations call Another Season, 361-0880 ❑



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Restaurant Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

Blue Wave
142 Berkeley Street, Bos., 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-6
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. The Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

Bob the Chef's
604 Columbus Ave., Bos., 536-6204, D-6
Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's Restaurant is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy Fall Off the Bone Bar-B-Qued Spareribs, Chicken and Dumplings, or Soul Chitterings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7.00 to $9.00 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies. Winners of the 1993 Zagat Restaurant survey "BestBuy." The Improper Bostonian voted Bob the Chef's "Best Soul Food." Not only do they serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, but also Bob the Chef's Restaurant offers catering. So next time you are planning a party, let Bob the Chef's do the work. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 8am-9pm, friday and Saturday 8am-11pm.

Boodles
Back Bay Hilton Hotel, Bos., 266-3537
A,D,MC,V, En Route $$$$, D-5
Boodle's offers dining in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. Featuring a wide variety of fare from gourmet sandwiches and salads to sumptuous entrees & grilled fresh seafood and steaks. B: 7a.m.-10:45a.m. Continental Breakfast: 10:45a.m -11:30a.m. L: 11:30a.m-2p.m.. Light fare: 2-5:30p.m.. D: 5:30-10p.m., Fri. & Sat. until 11p.m..

Cactus Club
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A,D,MC,V $$, C-5
Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors." Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, and prarie oysters are just a sampling of the traditional staples that are served daily. Call to reserve for parties of eight or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Canestaro Pizzeria
16 Peterborough At., Bos., 266-8997, D-4
Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so stop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer thirty different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything—steak, proscuitto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. If you don't feel like going out to dinner, just call Canestaro Pizzeria for free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday 11am-12:30am.

Cityside At The Circle
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-1
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting.

Commonwealth Brewing Company
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$, B-7
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30a.m. to midnight Sun.-Thurs. and until 1:00a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

Cornucopia on the Wharf
100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$, C-7
New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located on the waterfront. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

The Daily Catch Restaurants
323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093
441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696
$$, B-7
This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

Davio's
269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

CRABFEST
July 26-August 1, 1993
(Dinner Only)
Our messy and marvelous Crabfest is everything it's cracked up to be. Tons of fresh blue crabs, soft-shelled crabs, crabcakes and more, served in an authentic Crab House setting.
One week only, *so make plans now.*
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The Seafood Experts.
5 Bennett Street,,Harvard Square 876-9900
199 Clarendon Street, Boston 536-35002
Brookline Place, Brookline 232-8887
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Green Briar Restaurant
304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100
AMEX, V, MC, DC, C-1
Brighton's best Irish restaurant. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads, burgers, etc. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. Also try our new, exciting brunch every Sunday 10-2:30. All of this enjoyed in our casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Call for details.

The Harp at The Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
MC, V, DC, $$, B-7
Words that come to mind when you dine at the Harp include variety, affordability, and great taste! Boneless Buffalo Wings, Grilled Chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, Boston's Biggest & Best Burgers, Irish Beef Stew, Fish & Chips, Corned Beef & Cabbage, and gourmet specials that will "knock your socks off"! Summer 2 for 1 dinners served Sat-Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features Traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wed-Sun. Reservation accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line.

Harvard Street Grill
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-3
Chef John Vyhnanek personally prepares his contemporary international cuisine from an exposed kitchen at the back of this warm, casually elegant storefront restaurant. The ever changing menu may include: tequila-glazed shrimp with cherry raisins, grilled salmon with sweet ginger and sesame spinach, or the house specialty, grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce & scallions. The award-winning chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce . is the perfect way to top off this delightful meal. 1992 Wine spectator award of excellence. Open Tues - Thurs 5:30 - 9:30p.m.; Fri - Sat 5:30 - 10:30p.m.. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

Il Nido Locanda Italiana
257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272
A, DC $$, B-7
If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional, authentic Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming, warm atmosphere, Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrion to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, an abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner Nightly. Closed Mondays.

Jose's Mexican Food
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge
(off Rindge Ave in the Fresh Pond area)354-0335
MC,V, $
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza . Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am-4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

Legal Sea Foods
Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$, C-6
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Seafood's has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

Mamma Maria
3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$, B-7
Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC ,A $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront
85 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-6425, B-7
Step into Michael's Waterfront check out what's new from under the sea. We've added to our menu Blackened Tuna with Curried shrimp and Jicama Slaw, Seared Salmon with Dalmation Bean cakes and Native Crab, Grilled Lobster with Seafood Summer relish, Wild Mushroom Raviolis with Shrimp, Pancetta, Roasted Peppers and Garlic Olive Oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in The Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Also coming up is the "Micro-Brew BarbeQue" on Thursday, July 29. This summer beer and food fest at Michael's Waterfront features twelve different kinds of beer and multi-course dinner, the opportunity to meet local brewers, T-shirts and giveaways, as well as the chance to win your own home brew kit. This event is by reservations only.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $, D-4
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route, C-6
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This saloon roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. Barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. Open 11 a.m.-2a.m. all week.

Province Street Pub
18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V
Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

The Sabra Restaurant & The Sabra Grill
45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A, V, MC, D, CB $$, C-6
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Stromboli
187 North Street Newton, 630-0002
12 green street, woburn, 935-0070
V, MC, A$$
Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli , simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function!

BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

AUJOURD'HUI
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Bos., C-6, 451-1392
Fast for several days before sampling this opulent Sunday buffet. Enjoy a view of the Public Garden and fine decor while you sip mimosas. Buffet items vary weekly. Save room for the dessert buffet. Sun. 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. $35 (all inclusive, except for tip); $18.50 for children.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, C-2, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$, C-5
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omlette. Reservations suggested.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St. , Brookline, 566-1002
A, D, MC, V $$, D-1
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, C-6, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's Grande Dame of Hotels - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., and is only $15.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelettes and waffles, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, C-6, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-panelled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omlette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, D-4, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SERENDIPITY 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., B-7, 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bost., C-6, 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ
338 Newbury St., Bos., C-5, 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little International flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

Summer Sleepers

Tribe's New Album Could be Boston's Summer Sleeper Hit, While Peter Gabriel Digs in the Dirt, and Arrested Development Heads to Lollapalooza

Tribe's new album could be the "Sleeper" hit of the year. At least it brings the Boston quintet another step on the road of evolution from local favorites to national pop contenders. Due in stores July 13, *Sleeper* is the band's first album to feature all new material and be released with the full strength of Warner Brothers behind it.

On first listen, *Sleeper* doesn't stand up to *Abort*, Tribe's debut on the Warners-distributed Slash label. That doesn't mean there aren't gems on Tribe's latest, starting with the seductive glide of "Red Rover," a viable successor to local radio hit "Joyride."

Of course, the idea is to break beyond Boston, something Tribe began to do with *Abort*, performing nationally and in Europe. "I'm not interested in being part of any particular scene really," lead singer Janet LaValley says. "We just kinda do what we do."

For *Sleeper*, the group hooked up with producer John Porter (School of Fish, the Smiths) and went for more of a live sound. "We've grown in terms of writing and what we want to get across," LaValley says, "and the knowledge of how a song is put together in the studio, how to get a certain sound, and what the vibe is we're going for."

Other vibe-capturing new tracks include the pithy "Supercollider" (about an atom smasher) and atmospheric ballad "Nevermind." The material is mostly written by keyboardist/singer Terri Barous, bassist Greg LoPiccolo and guitarist Eric Brosius, with lyrical help from LaValley.

"As far as lyrics go, Terri and Greg are really good lyricists, so it's not a difficult thing for me to enter into the experience of the song," she says, on the phone from the band's rehearsal space, a home where every member but LaValley lived when Tribe began in 1986 (Barous and Brosius still reside there).

However, Tribe recently encountered its first personnel change with the departure of drummer David Penzo "It was an amiable parting of the ways," LaValley says. "We had grown apart." He has been replaced by Mike Levesque (Modern Farmer, American Gladiators UK, Jennifer Trynin Band, etc.), who has joined for hometown dates at Venus de Milo July 12 (a record release party for media), Avalon July 14 and the Paradise July 15.

Three shows? "It's Tribe week," LaValley says with a laugh. Got to please those local fans.

Gabriel's Zoo?

Peter Gabriel noted on an awards show last year that U2's "Zoo TV" was the only recent tour he saw multiple times, and that admiration was evident at his recent Worcester concerts. He one-upped U2 by turning a circular satellite stage into a full-fledged second stage, and supplanting Bono's video cam-on-the-face spin with a claustrophobic mini-camera that turned portions of his face into a fisheye horror during "Digging in the Dirt." It was one of the few times during Gabriel's spectacular show, however, that he dropped the sometimes stiff grand-scale choreography that also marked the "Zoo TV" tour for the insular intensity of his past.



A SLEEPER HIT?: *Tribes new album "Sleeper" is due in stores on July 13th*

Elsewhere

X's comeback album *Hey Zeus!* delivers a garagey new bang that bodes well for its July 10 Axis date. Spin Doctors team with Soul Asylum and Screaming Trees at Great Woods July 13. But look for Lollapalooza to wreak havoc on Quonset State Airport in Rhode Island July 17 , thanks to Arrested Development (in its local debut), Alice in Chains, (the boring) Primus, Fishbone, Dino Jr., et al.

Freelance writer/photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe. ❑

Classical Music / M. Tobin Anderson

The Grave: A Fine and Public Place

The Boston Camerata's Requiem

It's difficult to think of the phrase "early music" without picturing bearded German women scrubbing away on bass viols. Joel Cohen and his early music group, the Boston Camerata, have done a great deal to dispel that image. Their new compact disc recording, a performance of Jean Gilles' Requiem (Erato 45989-2), provides a fine example of an early music performance that is at once elegant and compelling.

Gilles' Requiem is a work that demands tremendous poise and refinement. It was the mass-setting played at the funeral of Louis XV; and though it wasn't written specifically for that event, it was presumably chosen because it conveyed the kind of pomp and nobility suitable to a king's funeral rites. Whereas we now expect a requiem mass to be dreary and involve a lot of brooding and runny mascara, the French court of this period saw royal burial rites in particular as important political statements.

Perhaps the most extreme and stagey example is Charpentier's funeral music for Queen Marie-Therese; it actually involves frisky shepherds capering and singing, egged on by an angel and three big Virtues. Their "For she was a jolly good fellow" attitude cloaks the fact that the Queen was largely unlamented as the King was itching to marry his most recent mistress. In these works, death was not portrayed as truly disastrous, because the royal family had to maintain a decorous facade of absolute spiritual and political power to keep that whole hokey Divine Right story from blowing over and everyone from appearing in raunchy People Magazine exclusives and docu-dramas.

Gilles' setting of the requiem mass then, largely conveys a sense of attractive nobility. Joel Cohen is, as ever, more dramatic than most when approaching the music. He presents the mass along with the surrounding Gregorian chant, which lends an austerity to the bubbly Baroque proceedings. Purists might cavil at Mr. Cohen's usual eccentricities: the way, for instance, that he syncopates the Dies irae chant so you can rhumba to it, or the drummed funeral march he adds which, if your headphones are set up right, starts somewhere down the hall and ends somewhere up your nose.

Though there are a few passages where the momentum flags, the Camerata takes a work which is essentially just handsome and polite and really makes a substantial case for it. I've never heard the final choral Requiem aeternam sung with such intensity. The disc was in fact recorded in Aix en Provence, where Gilles got his musical start.

If you're looking for a good introduction to the Boston Camerata, I would probably concentrate on any of Mr. Cohen's other lively Erato and Elektra/Nonesuch recordings of medieval music. I would recommend this performance, however, to anyone specifically interested in Baroque music, or in a very noble and stylized attitude towards death, or anyone who has an old dead Bourbon monarch in the pantry they've been meaning to bury in style. ❑

Correction: In our previous issue, we highly recommended a Delos recording of works by Walter Piston (Delos 3106), but expressed concern as to whether Delos was still in business. We have since been assured that Delos is indeed in business and is currently distributing to this area. We apologize for any confusion this might have caused.

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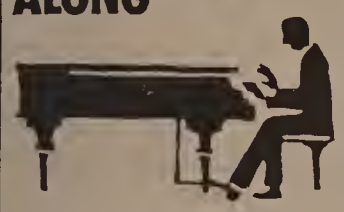
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July 9 — Swinging Johnsons
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July 12 — Luck of the Draw
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About Last Night. . .

Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

Havin' a Few Whiskey's

The Place to Go When You Know Where You Want to Be

I must admit, I never used to go to Hunter's. At, least, not if I could possibly help it. Now, I know I'll get some flack for this, but it just really wasn't my kind of crowd; there always seemed to be too many aimless, trying-really-hard-to-be-somebody types, or a bunch of guys who hadn't been able to get into either Dad's or the Pour House, both just a few doors down Boylston Street. In other words, Hunter's always seemed like a second-run, second choice kind of place to me.

All that has changed now, though. Since re-opening a few months ago in its present incarnation as Whiskey's, this bar has done a face-lift on more than its decor. Sure, there are still a few of the left-over regulars muttering into their beers about how they almost ran for state Senate back in the 70's. But the bulk of the crowd is made up of post-college tuppies (Twenty-ish Upwardly Partying People) who look like they could have played the extras in St. Elmo's Fire. The atmosphere is kind of like a college party, except everybody has already been out of college for a couple of years. They all still know each other, though, and Whiskey's is their post-college hangout, sort of a surrogate for the B.U. Pub.

IF YOU GO

Whiskey's
855 Boylston Street
Boston
262-5551

The new decor at Whiskey's is much brighter than the dimly-lit, beery ambience of the old Hunter's. There's more room to move and schmooze, and it was while moving and schmoozing that I, of course, ran into some people from my misadventurous Figawi week-end down on Nantucket. Boston is just too small a town to run and hide in, and before I could duck my head in shame, they had spotted me. So I had to go over and confess that No, Figawi was not an isolated incident, and Yes, I do drink as much up here as I did down there, and No, I did not steal anyone's underwear! Nothing like being blamed for something which you are not sober enough to defend yourself against.

When I finally escaped, we decided to go check out Whiskey's outdoor patio area on the sidewalk on Boylston Street. It was expecially nice out there because the weather was perfect, and we got front row seats to the exciting parade of all the hustling homeless people who work this section of town. Their game plan is pretty clear: the drunks who spill out of the bars along this stretch will be easy targets. Since most of them don't know how much money they've spent anyway, what's another buck or two? And, as far as game plans go, this one seemed to work pretty well. The other exciting part was getting to watch the cross traffic of people heading from the Cactus Club to Dad's, and then having to walk all the way back to the Cactus Club again, shuffling defeatedly after having been told that they were simply too old to be let in to the "diner full o' teenagers."

We, meanwhile, sat back all nice and comfy, sipping our cool drinks and laughing to ourselves, because we knew who we were, and we knew where we wanted to be, and by golly, that's where we were.❑

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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Bull & Finch Pub (Cheers)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

Cactus Club
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

Frogg Lane Bar & Grill
720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7
At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowds of Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m.. "Street Magic" A cappella every Wednesday at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

Province Street Pub
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

Pop/Jazz/ Blues/Reggae

Cantab Lounge
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

Paradise Rock Club
254-2052, 967 Comm. Ave., Bos, C-3. One of Boston's best live clubs. Inside, you'll find one of the last of the small stages which still attracts national and international acts. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Dress is casual. Dancing on non-band nights. For show tickets, call Ticketmaster at 931-2000. Minimum age varies by show.

Rathskeller
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Sq., Bos, C-5. Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M. The Rat attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs. No dress code.

Ryle's Jazz Club
876-9330, 212 Hampshire St., Camb, B-5. If you're a Jazz fan, don't miss Ryle's. Downstairs you'll find an older crowd listening to traditional Jazz music. Upstairs is funkier with talented fusion musicians. Feel free to move between floors. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. Casual dress.

Western Front
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

Dancing

Avalon
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance dub located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Harp at The Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and Dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials! Casual dress. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green line.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400, C-2
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is thee place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts, where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed.-Sun. Sun night DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guinness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2 AM and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

Let Us Help You To Fill Your Empty Tables



Have Your Restaurant Listed in The Improper Restaurant Listings and Brunch Board

Call 232-3507

Live Music Schedule

To send schedule updates for our 7/21 - 8/3 issue, fax them to Megan Gilmartin at 232-4305 by July 9th. All schedules must be legibly typewritten.

WEDNESDAY 7TH

Boston Beach Club R.D. Riddim **House of Blues** Sticky Mike & The Jam **Johnny D's** Duke Levine **Scullers** The Doug Houge Group **Sticky Mike's** Two Bones & a Pick

TUESDAY 8TH

Great Scott The Candles **Green Briar** Mark Morris & Catunes **House of Blues** Lynn Harrison & The Hardliners **Johnny D's** Who's Kiddin Who **Market Place Cafe & Grill** Brian Walkley Band **Scullers** Didi Stewart and Friends **Sticky Mike's** Doublecross **The Rat** Dirty Trixx/ Flash Addict/ Atunga/ Mr. Hyde **Tuesday's Ice Cream** Scott Vercoe/Marcello Garcia Quintet

FRIDAY 9TH

Great Scott Toadhouse **Green Briar** The Sense **Hard Rock Cafe** The Keep **House of Blues** Magic Dick & "J"Erome Geils: Bluestime **Johnny D's** Mike Welch **Market Place Cafe & Grill** Brian Walkley & Bob Gay **Scullers** Norman Conners **Sticky Mike's** Barbeque Bob & The Rhythm Aces **The Rat** Dambuilders/ Smackmellon/ Clugman

SATURDAY 10TH

Cecil's Paul Rishell **Great Scott** Toadhouse **Green Briar** The Response **House of Blues** Lil'Anthony & The Locomotives **Johnny D's** Eddie Kirkland **Market Place Cafe & Grill** Brian Walkley & Bob Gay **Regattabar** Olga Roman **Scullers** Norman Conners **Sticky Mike's** Little Boy Blue

SUNDAY 11TH

House of Blues Mike Welch **Regattabar** Olga Roman **Tuesday's Ice Cream** Chris Bergson-Rosen Quartet

MONDAY 12TH

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & the Hot Ribs Blues Jam **Market Place Cafe & Grill** R.D. Riddim

TUESDAY 13TH

House of Blues Smokin Joe Kubek **Market Place Cafe & Grill** Dave B. & the Hot Shots **Regattabar** The Bruce Katz Band

WEDNESDAY 14TH

Boston Beach Club Noddaclu **House of Blues** Johnny Hoy & The Bluefish **Market Place Cafe & Grill** Mike Duke & the Soul Twisters **Regattabar** Billy Novick and Guy Van Duser **Scullers** Peter Calo **Sticky Mike's** Doublecross

THURSDAY 15TH

Great Scott The Candles **House of Blues** Paul Rishell and Rhythm Aces **Market Place Cafe & Grill** Brian Walkley Band **Regattabar** Gary Burton Quartet **Scullers** Scott Hamilton/Dave McKenna & the Concord All-Stars **Sticky Mike's** Johnny Hoy & The Bluefish **Tuesday's Ice Cream** Hugh Albert Quintet

FRIDAY 16TH

Great Scott Da Mud Hens **Green Briar** North-South Connection **House of Blues** Popa Chubby Band **Regattabar** Gary Burton Quartet **Scullers** Scott Hamilton/Dave McKenna & the Concord All-Stars **Sticky Mike's** Honest Eds Blues Band **The Tam** Search Party

SATURDAY 17TH

Great Scott Da Mud Hens **Green Briar** The Response **House of Blues** Popa Chubby Band **Regattabar** Gary Burton Quartet **Scullers** Scott Hamilton/DaveMcKenna & the Concord All-Stars **Sticky Mike's** Rapt Rascals & The Sorority Horns

SUNDAY 18TH

House of Blues Uncle Ben **Tuesday's Ice Cream** Original Tuesday's Sextet

MONDAY 19TH

Boston Beach Club Silas Jr. & the Hot Ribs Blues Jam

TUESDAY 20TH

House of Blues BBQ Bob **Regattabar** John Payne Quartet

Sharyn Fireman

Boston's Best Buys

From Sequins to Psychadelic to Cd's: Delights for Any Thrifty Boston Shopper

Toonville
This small store is packed with records, c.d.'s and tapes, many of them out of date, that you can pick up for a "song"! This is a special place for the collector if you are seeking out-of-date labels. They have a very sizable collection of old 78's and 45's. Not only do they sell old records, but they'll buy them too. Be sure if you're in that market that the records are in perfect condition and in original album covers if they're 78's. They buy back c.d.'s from $2 to $5, and tapes from 50 cents to $2. This store has a special for the summer on opera with bargains at 40% off. Pick up *Carmen* or *Pirates of Penzance*, at $5.99, and boxed sets like *Fidelia* at $11.99. Excellent selection of the classics and symphonies too. Boxed sets of Beethoven are $11.99. Check out the case of used c.d.'s, all in perfect condition and all current, now $9.99. Selections run from the classic, jazz, blues and reggae to fifties rock 'n roll, pop, rap and new age. All their merchandise is guaranteed. There is not a musical trend you won't find here, including famous vocalists and Broadway musicals. Check out the bargain bin for a dollar (we spotted Bon Jovi in this one!). Normal record prices for a single LP. are between $3 and $6. You can also pick up music and movie videos currently on sale.

Looney Tunes
1106 Boylston St., Boston
1001 Mass. Ave,. Cambridge
Checks, Visa, MC, AMEX, Discover
Open Mon. - Sat. 10a.m. to 9p.m. , Sun. Noon to 9pm.

Green Piece
A twist on recycling, this store will give you 20% off a minimum purchase of $11 if you return their plastic shopping bag. Owner Kathleen White describes the stores concept best as "experienced clothing!" Items here are great fun, from antique to funky. Feather boas, old hat boxes, platform shoes, bell bottom jeans and corduroys abound. Used Levi's are $15. On special currently are Indian wrap skirts for $4 or 3 for $10. One rack has a serious collection of leather jackets priced 50% off already marked prices of $10 to $25. The styles range from plain to bomber, 60's Dillon to 70's boxy style. The sunglasses are super...Lennon's are $6, cat eyes with rhinestones are $7 and Jackie-O's are $8. Check out the $5 sale rack of 60's dresses with their weird colors and patterns and styles. This is a great place to keep in mind for costume parties, Halloween, etc. The staff is very helpful in "pulling it all together" for you. There are racks of velvet and brocade vests and waistcoats starting at $5. Plenty of grunge, hippy items and granny sweaters with sequins; neat short black velvet jackets, huge sweeping raincoats, and, if you're really in for a change, pick up some off-beat hair dye to go with your new fashion statement!!

Oona's
1210 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
1110 Boylston St., Boston
AMEX, Visa, MC, Checks
Mon. – Fri. 11a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sun. 12 to 6 p.m.

Comin' Round Again
If you love designer labels and expensive clothes, but your pocketbook is on a diet, this is a real find. Owners, Barbara Rome and Kathy Desilets believe that resale clothes can be fabulous, well-priced and command personal attention. Not only will they accessorize you when you come into the store, but if you are a shopper who particularly likes Chanel suites or Escada, or gowns by Valentino or Bob Mackie, you'll get a call when an outfit arrives that is your favorite label and size. July is their 25% off sale. Pieces we discovered were a stunning white wool 3-piece Adolfo suit with a black windowpane pattern, originally $3500, size 10 -1 2 marked to $690 now less 25%. An entire section of Issey Miyake, Yamamoto and Comme de Garcon is marked 25% off. Also 25% off the marked price are a George Simonton silk faille theatre suit, size 4 , ($210), and a size 8 Yves St. Laurent 2 pc. silk in black and white Dalmatian print($310). Evening wear is plentiful. Check out a strapless short Norma Walters, size 10, with black jets and rhinestones, was $190, now $142.50, and a fabulous floor length Halston off-the-shoulder in burnt amber silk gazar, size 6, $157.50. Many sweaters currently priced at $40-$150 are now 25% off. Bags (Fendi and Sharif), scarves, belts, and shawls are all on summer special. Clothes brought in for consignment must be dry-cleaned with cleaning tag attached, on a hanger and not more than three years old. The better the tag, the better the price. Shop splits the sale 50-50.

Deja Vu
222 Newbury St., Boston
424-9020
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All credit cards accepted, and checks.

Sharyn Fireman is an interior designer and owner of ***Buy Design****, a service providing access to National Design Centers and purchasing of fine home furnishings, fabrics and accessories at designer prices. She can be reached at the Buy Design office, 494-0303.*

Buying or Selling?

. . . Then check out the Improper Classified Section! With a bi-weekly readership of 190,000 young active and affluent adults and distribution covering Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Allston, Brighton and Newton, we've got the market you want.

For more information call (617)232-3507

Improper Impersonals

"Your Mother Was a Hamster and Your Father Smelled of Elderberries!" Love 'em or loathe 'em, the place to tell the world about it is on the Improper Impersonals page. Every issue we'll choose the funniest, most outrageous barbs, quips, and digs to publish. And it's FREE! Mail your Impersonal to: The Improper Bostonian Impersonals 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA, 02146, or FAX it to (617) 232-4305. Entries may be edited for space and clarity.

To Impersonal writers:
Could your write-ins be MORE boring? Je ne croix pas. The other night I had insomnia, until I picked up the Impersonals section. Those of you who have been writing in lately: save those last few brain cells for your necessary bodily functions. Those of you who are thinking about writing in, please don't waste your semi-precious time if your IQ is not above 30 AT THE VERY LEAST. And Rosemarie, if you could spell, you might not have to worry about Vinnie running off with "chopped liver." After all, he has "prime rip" at home (I edited that one out). Another announcement from the inside: from now on, anyone named "Pam" is going to be called "Spam" in the Impersonals section, so unless you're a pork product, don't bother writing in.
Toni with an I

Marcey and Mike:
Talk about a match made in heaven. You guys are worse than Howie and Stevie.
Robyn

Little One:
How's that chinchilla? He's been pretty talkative lately – shut him up! How can I enjoy our time together with him squeaking and starting trouble? Hey, I seen (BZZZZ! AAAAAghghghghi) uh, I mean, I SAW Mayor Flynn the other day, and he said he'd give you a call in your conference room later this week.
P.S. The 4th of July weekend is OVER! I don't know how it went yet, but I still love ya and wanna be your honey, bunny. Needle needle nit nit!
Precious

Julie,
I know your name and where you work, but hopefully you'll track me down.
Fond admirer

Julie:
How lovely it was to hear from you after so long. Your phone call informing me that you're moving in with someone else was a humiliating kick in the crotch, but at least it was unexpected. Now I have just one question: as you gave that ragged, rusty knife one last twist, did you enjoy the feel of blood pouring over your hand? Did you wash it off immediately or did you revel in its warm, silky smoothness as it dripped down your forearm? Out, damned spot!
P.S. Have I ever told you that you have the smallest breasts in the known universe?
Jon

ACE:
We're just two lost souls swimming in a fishbowl year after year. Running over the same old ground, have we found the same old fears. How I wish you were here. . .
LA-Lil

Don:
Hey you Georgia redneck! Sorry I didn't make it down there last week, but my overalls were in the wash, and if I stepped off a Yankee plane in Atlanta without the "proper attire" y'all would probably hang me from the nearest peach tree. I would have called, but I wasn't sure if you'd installed telephones down there yet. I heard you did get running water, though – congrats! Hey, I'm just kidding! I love you and miss you guys and can't wait to see you soon. Hi to Mark and Daniel! Take care.
P.S. How's Clayton State? Rigorous, huh? Don't forget those welding skills you learned a while back – you might need 'em someday!!
Love, the Yankee Rebel

Mr. DV Guy
Congratulations on your recent success. Those will get what they deserve in more ways than one.
Horace & Verdillia

To my horrible neighbor,
I have just a few things to say to you. You steal my newspaper everyday, you leer from your kitchen window with the lights off, we can see you creeping around in there, and you let your smelly dog out in our yard whenever the mangy animal needs to go. If you think that we are staring adoringly in your direction when we sit on the porch, you're so wrong it makes me dizzy. If we could make our house face the other way, we would. I can't wait until your lease runs out. - Your angry neighbor is sick of you.

To everyone who helped me out after the fire:
Thank you so much. Everyone was truly amazing (excluding the obvious). Just think – not only do I have a story, but if this had not happened, I never would have received a fire extinguisher for my birthday!
-G

Dear Thief,
This is for the loser who was pilfering items from a local eating establishment. You may find yourself with a few extra dollars for now. But when the angry staff discovers your identity you will more than likely be beaten senseless.
Sincerely,
C.O.T.W.

Dear Evil:
Thank you for the pokes and prods, the door knobs and drive-ins, the cha-chas and cosmonauts. I feel super-magnetically drawn to every bone, pore, muscle and organ that connects you and fills me up.

Joby,
I cannot believe that I caught you reading this again. It must really suck to get bagged twice. By the way, she is HOT!!, but I still haven't seen the commercial yet.
Mike

JS:
I have planned a yard sale at your Nantucket residence. I made sure to mention that you'll take any interested buyers out for a test sail- especially those Hampton Beach Figawi weekenders or anyone from the Michigan. Actually, the whole point is to fix you up with some facinating people. I'm such a good friend that I ordered a slew of pastel button- downs for you from Penny's. I think that it will beef up your image. Thank you so much for the C&B jug...I got your Mom some multi-color Bertucci's placemats to show my appeciation. She's a classy gal huh? Classy parents for a classy guy!
Love Ya!-El

Chainsaw head:
Please confine your powertool-welding, stogie-smoking antics to before 3 a.m.
Your Loving Neighbor

Sandy Dog: Sometimes you really get my goat going.
Love From Minja

SQ'ers, Storytellers, Vampires and other Assorted Strange Folk:
From now on your messages will be encoded and subliminal. You'll just have to look harder for them. Real hard. Be seeing you.
Double

Kevin from F—— Towing, $35.00 to drag my car (at high speed) from Brookline to Brighton with a flat tire, $20.00 to store it for an entire hour, & $10.00 labor. If there is a God, I hope that when you (and the rest of the vultures) die off there will be nobody around lacking enough self-respect to replace you. I'd like to say more, but I believe that what comes around goes around. I also hope that I'm there to see it. By the way, do you have to pay your friends not to avoid you?
Victim of your service

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

©1993

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

JULY 7- JULY 20, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)

Astrological overload. Some weeks there's nothing doing; some have one major, maybe two minor aspects influencing behavior; and then there's this astonishing lineup: the Cancer sun opposes deceptive Neptune on Sunday and explosive Uranus on Monday, conjuncts retrograde Mercury and trines cathartic Pluto on Thursday. In between confused and shocked reactions to the events happening out there, peaceable Venus trines Jupiter, the great benefactor. This rewarding combo means money well-spent in the pursuit of wisdom, pleasure, love and even bigger bucks. How will we notice the good stuff in the midst of discord and dismay? No doubt Mercury will whisper that enough is enough, the outside world has fucked with our inner peace and it's time to heal wounds. That's when the regenerative power of Pluto kicks in. So whether we uncover a deep, dark secret or a secret stash, give or receive spiritual sustenance, everybody is involved in this benchmark of a week. As the sun triggers the forces of change, freedom, faith and fantasy, shit happens. Remember, 1993 is the Year of the Triple Conjunctions; live dangerously. A chance to start something somewhat new (Mercury is retrograde until the 25th) comes with the new moon, exact Monday morning at 1:24 a.m. in late Cancer. Because Mercury opposes Neptune and Uranus later in the day, the news of the world will be weirder than ever.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

Home base is where the action is, although your spot could be in question. Are you moving? Getting a second or third mortgage? Funds to improve your property (and psyche) are there, so is money for shrinkage and rehab. Abuse, of sorts, from the paternalistic powers that be, also a shift in your career path. The latter comes as a logical consequence of New Year's resolutions (try to remember) and the challenges you unwittingly met at your birthday. Success with clever co-workers and legal aides, ideas sell.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Amazing how well you're functioning, how you're landing on your feet during this topsy-turvy year. Just like Saddam Hussein, Taureans manage to come through shit smelling like a rose and very much in control of the garden. Earth and earthsigns, even the disruptive planets in Capricorn, have been good to you this year, no? The peaceful, prosperous trine between your Venus ruler and philosophic, philanthropic Jupiter is even better. Lotto? I would bet conservatively (an acre or two of) the farm.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

The Cancer sun in your money house calls for a show of hands to reveal where the power lies, why it's been flickering on and off since January, and when you're going to get some more. One of the joys of a retrograde Mercury is the disinterestedness (or desperation) to recall promises made but since forgotten in the flow of events. Right now your Mercury ruler insists you say/do something before history repeats itself. No fear, Venus in your sign makes you so attractive no one can spurn your request or obvious charms.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

More birthday madness, a series of one-on-one meetings with partners you feel two ways about. Don't blame yourself when the problem this week is the on-again, off-again nature of the planets in your marriage house. Perhaps you'll call the whole thing off, perhaps you'll reach another compromise. Neptune and Uranus are changing the nature of government and its seats of power so imagine what they're doing to your dominion. Happily, passionate Pluto offers a satisfying way out: ye old in-and-out.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

A really big week as your sun ruler brings to light problems with your craft, health or the services you render – another variation of a story that's been going on all year. If it isn't resolved now, there'll be another bank of choices to make in January. Much of your personal power is hidden in the solar oppositions, but come your birthday, you'll step out of the shadow and, in September, profit financially from the confusion and changes you face now. Clear the closet, look at your history again, patch holes in your ego.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

Good friends and lovers or a casual acquaintance and casual sex, social responsibility and/or fun for the hell of it? Conflicts and compromises for the next two weeks, at least one too many for your discriminating mind, but none of your choices (should you actually make one) hurt anybody, least of all you. Instead you manage to work out a thorny creative matter, speak your piece to a neighbor or sibling and still have a terrific time with a good-looking, well-read androgynous creature. Plus money is plentiful.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23- OCTOBER 22)

Like Aries, you're on a seasonal see-saw, getting high on career changes and a growing reputation, coming down when confronting an erratic situation at home, within the family. There's not much you can do about the polarity right now, but instead of doubt and dysfunction, look on the bright side. While your Venus ruler trines (rewards, affirms, supports) lucky Jupiter in Libra, you'll be justifiably pleased with yourself and your new, improved philosophy of life. Fun and games and plenty of funds.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Buzz, buzz, what's the story? Mercury and the sun trine your Pluto co-ruler this week, so obviously something about you is being said, written or implied. What secretive Scorpionic stuff will be revealed? No matter, because the trine aspect is so favorable, what you/they say, write, etc. will be favorably received as well. Foreign correspondents, libraries and long distance phone calls figure prominently. A good-looking companion or two (Venus is in Gemini) have measurably more good luck when you're around.

SAGITARIUS (NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 21)

The money game continues – fluctuating values, veiled promises, unexpected expenditures – but whether you chalk it up as a win or a loss won't be decided this week. More information is due, although where it is supposed to come from can be a retrograde Mercury mystery. Instead, give yourself over to the joyous trine between loving Venus and your Jupiter ruler. Max out on a beautiful opportunity and rewards material and ethereal, because they'll do wonderful things for your career and reputation. Fun pays?

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

Don't let your memory fail you just because Mercury is retrograde. What you thought you heard at the last new moon (Father's Day weekend) comes up again only now, as the Cancer sun meets Mercury in your marriage house, you may feel that you have to act on the info. But this isn't the whole story or the end of the matter either – Mercury still has to turn direct and bring this stage of your partnership to a conclusion in early August. Remember, don't sign anything until then. And lighten up.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

Everybody wants something from you this week – your novel view of a situation, a friendly ear at work or simply a strong physical presence by their side. Aquarians know instinctively when and how much to give without being intrusive. January birthdates particularly get an added bonanza, along with a heartfelt thank you, from fellow air signs Geminis and Librans with the grace, taste and bucks to show you a good time. Their optimism is infectious, so you'll feel like floating on cloud 9 with them.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

What's currently on the fire has to be tended until it's done: no distractions, no drifting off to play with the kids if a project needs your attention or artistic touch. Not much about this fortnight is clear cut; the verbal blunders of a retrograde Mercury, the sun's opposition to your impressionable Neptune ruler can keep you on edge, looking for another avenue, another outlet for your spirituality. Gospel? Water ballet? It's a good time to dip into your reservoir of creative ideas and replenish your soul.

Call (900) 933-0033 for Rockie's DAILY forecast. 18 years old or over. Touch-Tone phones. $1.25 per minute. L.A. Weekly (213) 667-2620 $1.25 per minute.

Mind Body Awareness

To advertise in our Mind Body Awareness Section, Please Call Robyn at the Improper Bostonian Classified Department at 232-3507

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- Decide on classification of Ad.
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- State the terms of the sale, the price, whether you're "flexible or negotiable."
- Include phone number and times to call.

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RATES: Line ads, six lines long: one issue - $29, four issues - $87, eight issues - $150, twelve issues - $200. Additional lines - $7 per. Bold heading - $5. Classified display -$20 per column inch. For frequency discounts, call for prices.

REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

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REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

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BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-1210.

BROOKLINE Seeking housemates for 5-bedroom Cleveland Circle apt in gorgeous building. Literally across the street from the C and D train lines, close to Reservoir, restaurants, and stores. Back porch and roof deck. Lots of basement storage. Avail. in July. $330+. Call Laurie at 232-3507 days.

CHARLESTOWN Owner-occupied three family brownstone. Nice res. neigh. w/ on-street prkng. Conven. location. $345.00 for rmte. or $690 full rent. Call 1-800-444-2756 ext. 603 or 617-242-9632.

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BOSTON Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm near NU. Avail. 7/1 & 8/1. $500/month, including heat and hot water. Great location, cute apartment. 247-7547

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available Immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. In 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd flrs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

BROOKLINE Rooms avail. In 3 bdrm apt. Walking distance to B+C lines, Bread & Circus. Bright, spac. int.. Fam. neigh, quiet. Ideal for students, near BC & BU on Summit Ave. $366/mo. Avail Aug.1st for 1 yr. Beth 536-3003(9-5)

CAMBRIDGE GREAT PLACE! 1 M seeks 1 M/F to share 2 BR on Harvard St. w/ fireplace, lndry, and storage. No smk/ pets. $450 inc. heat. 354-5871.

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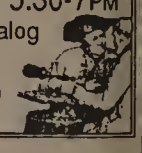
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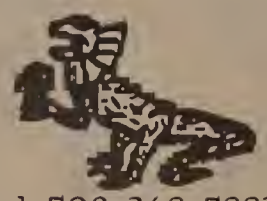


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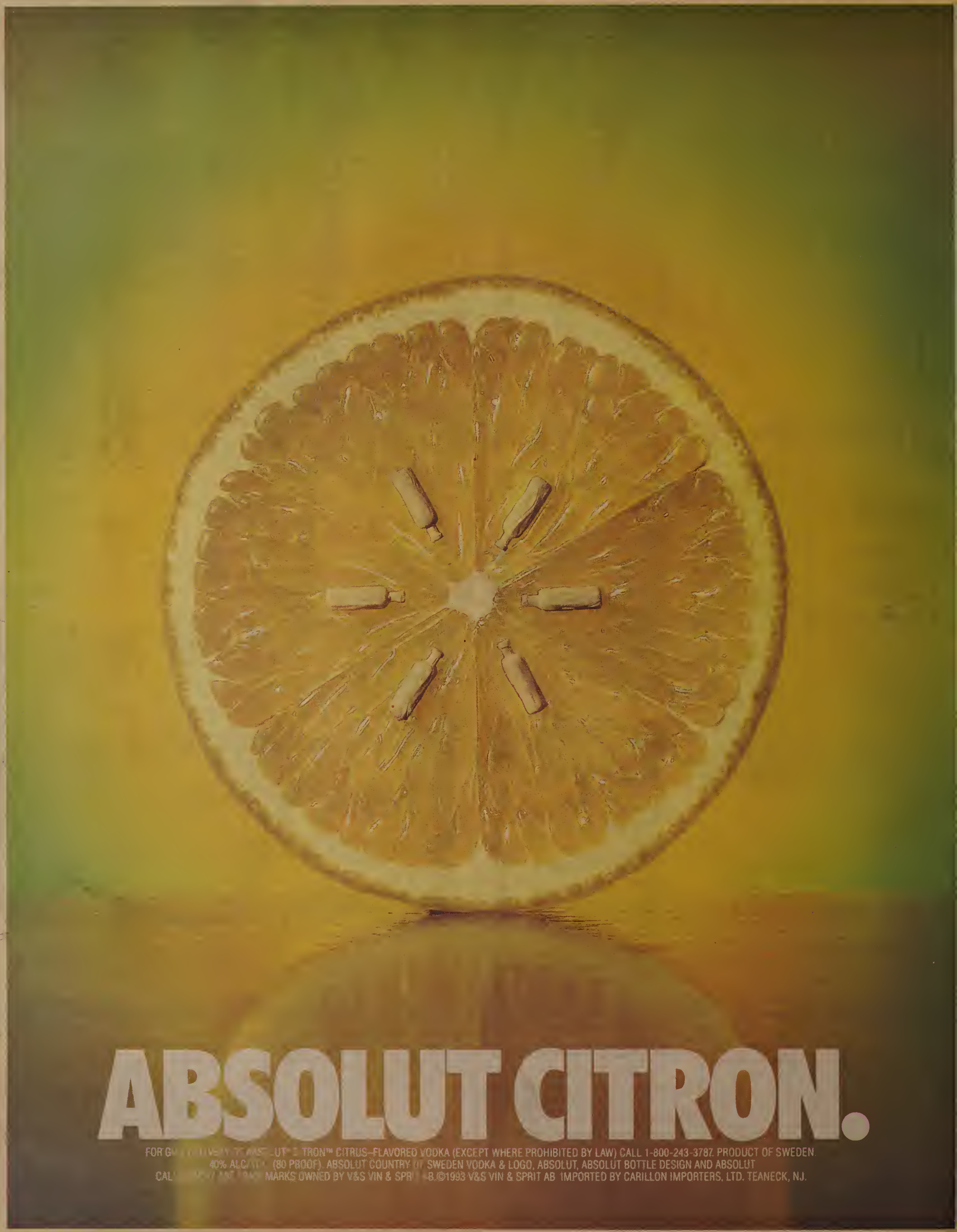
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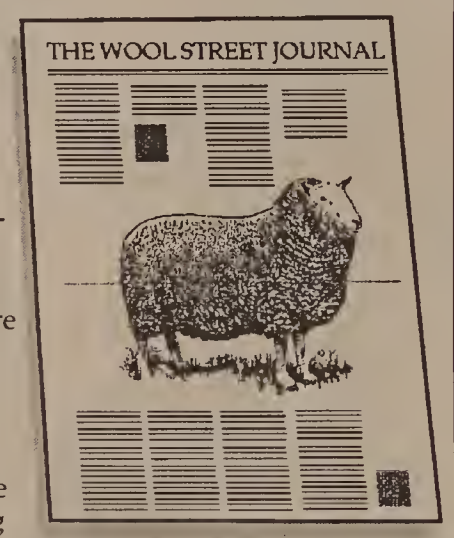
IMPROPER AWARDS: THE BEST & WORST OF EVERYTHING

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Get Out Your Punsils

One of the places that makes Harvard Square an oasis from the malls is Calliope, the 21-year old toy-and-some-clothes store. What you'll find here is an obvious difference, evidenced by greater softness, refinement, and classiness in the stuffed animals, which are definitely not the mass-marketed bedtime advertisements for some movie. Perhaps not surprisingly, more adult Harvard Square habituées than their child counterparts know this store for its marvelously-wrought window displays based on puns and making use of the animals within. Excited "Eureka!"'s coupled with the obligatory groans which are really a pun's trademark form of applause are what one emits when seeing the worried-looking sheep in the window reading the *Wool Street Journal*. The recurring Christmas display of humanized green-felt vegetables wished us "Peas On Earth," while for summer, lambs in chefs' hats grill at a "Baa B. Q." Overly glitzed-up soft-sculpture dolls exuding from red valentine candy boxes bear the labels "Sweet Tarts," and ducks at an ice cream fountain were "Soda Quakers." Calliope's annual contest, searching for window concepts (Punny Bones) is now in swing, but only till July 24. Last year, one winner was a 9 year old girl whose rockstar frog sang "Unforgettable." And campaigning dalmations in patriotic bowlers had a sign reading "See Spot Run." Gratifyingly enough, all winners' entries are displayed in their PunStars window, and the actual winners get their concepts thoroughly produced.



Calliope Punny Bones Contest
33 Brattle Street
Cambridge
876-4149

In the Irony Farm

It helps that the events in *Girl, Interrupted* happened two decades ago and that the voice of the now-narrating woman telling, rather loosely, of her twenty months at McLean Hospital, is so mordantly possessed of itself. On shockingly short notice, Susanna Kaysen is whisked off by taxi, at the behest of a first-time-seen psychiatrist, to the hospital. Was her suicide attempt truly serious, or was Kaysen just twisting with an exacerbated version of adolescent angst, pimples, perhaps promiscuity ("I had a barrelful of boyfriends"), and a kind of aimlessness that was not uncommon in the 60s? Interwoven with her literary accountings of the undeniably crazy patients she lived amongst, and also of some undeniably flat-footed people on the staff, who at times saw things with very little resonance, are pages retrieved from the typed hospital records that proclaim her to be suffering from "Psychoneurotic depressive reaction" and "Borderline personality." Whatever she had or was, however "crazy" she was or wasn't, her view, both the outward, clinical-looking one and the reporting she does on her own sometimes fascinatingly convoluted perceptions, is dipped in some of the same dye that gives J.D. Salinger's Franny such poignant power. There's a knowing irony at work here, and Kaysen uses some of it to hint at the difficult person she could be even when love (she met her future, now-ex, husband during a furlough from McLean) was offered. The minimalist tinge to the book makes the heaviness, the sadness of the subject more tart, easier to bear.



The Author, Susanna Kaysen

"Girl, Interrupted"
by Susanna Kaysen
Random House

Starving, But Chicly and Often In Black

Starving Artist, once in the basement and now on the second floor, is on a trajectory that will probably eventually land them on the street, Newbury Street that is, and at street-level. It's where off-beat, raffish, and, in some cases, newly-hatched designs from a number of young, up-and-coming, or new Boston designers are shown. One such designer, Geoffrey B. Small, is not exactly new – he's the inventor of the clean, clear white "The Ultimate Shirt" – but he's using the forum of Starving Artist to move on to wacky deconstruction stuff; one jacket looks to be in the process of being sewed in the first place, with the canny showing of the darts and artful hanging threads. Nong Tumsutipong shows provocative wool chaps that wrap around shorts revealing what might otherwise be a codpiece. Tunji Dada makes split palazzo pants and Elaine Perlov has twisted old plaid flannel to a fare-thee-well of grunge disrepair to make the equivalent of a sweater tied around the waist, only it's sort of a skirt. Several designers show trim, chic, and typically black belly-baring tops. And in another take on black, there's a tight-tight leather dress that ends in a flamenco-ish spray of red tulle, with elasticized bits of flounce for the arms. Nong also (this being a shop for daring men as well as women) designs a jacket that has bits of industrial grating on the front, as if one were looking inside a club-going robot. Very provocative, sexy, medieval-maiden-like chain mail is shown in elaborate belts and shakey vests by Andrea Masoudi. The shop, catering to "Boston's Finest Unknowns" has a sign that reads "Come In, We Love And Understand You."



Starving Artist
223 Newbury Street
Boston
247-9453

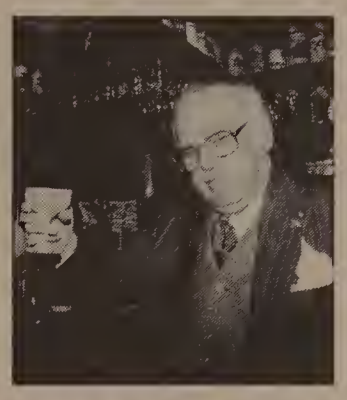
Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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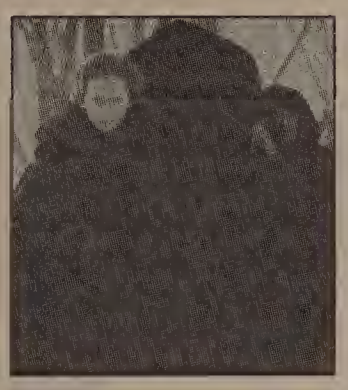
Hot tips for a sweltering city: From dazzling evenings to cats in the goulash, let us be your guide to the city.



19 Independent Films

Gerry Peary follows the time traveling adventures of Orlando and examines the post–revolution Rumanian film, Orlando.

By Gerald Peary



30 Classical Music

Distant mountains, a moonlit evening, and some Mozart – we'll take you on a whirlwind tour of the Tanglewood series.

by M. Tobin Anderson



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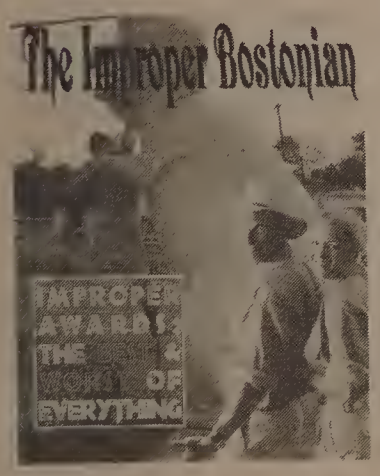
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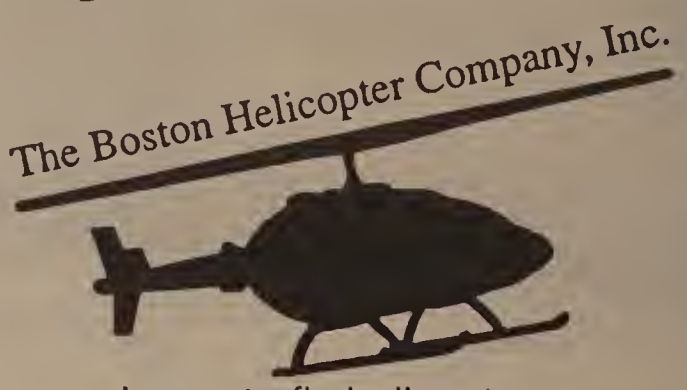
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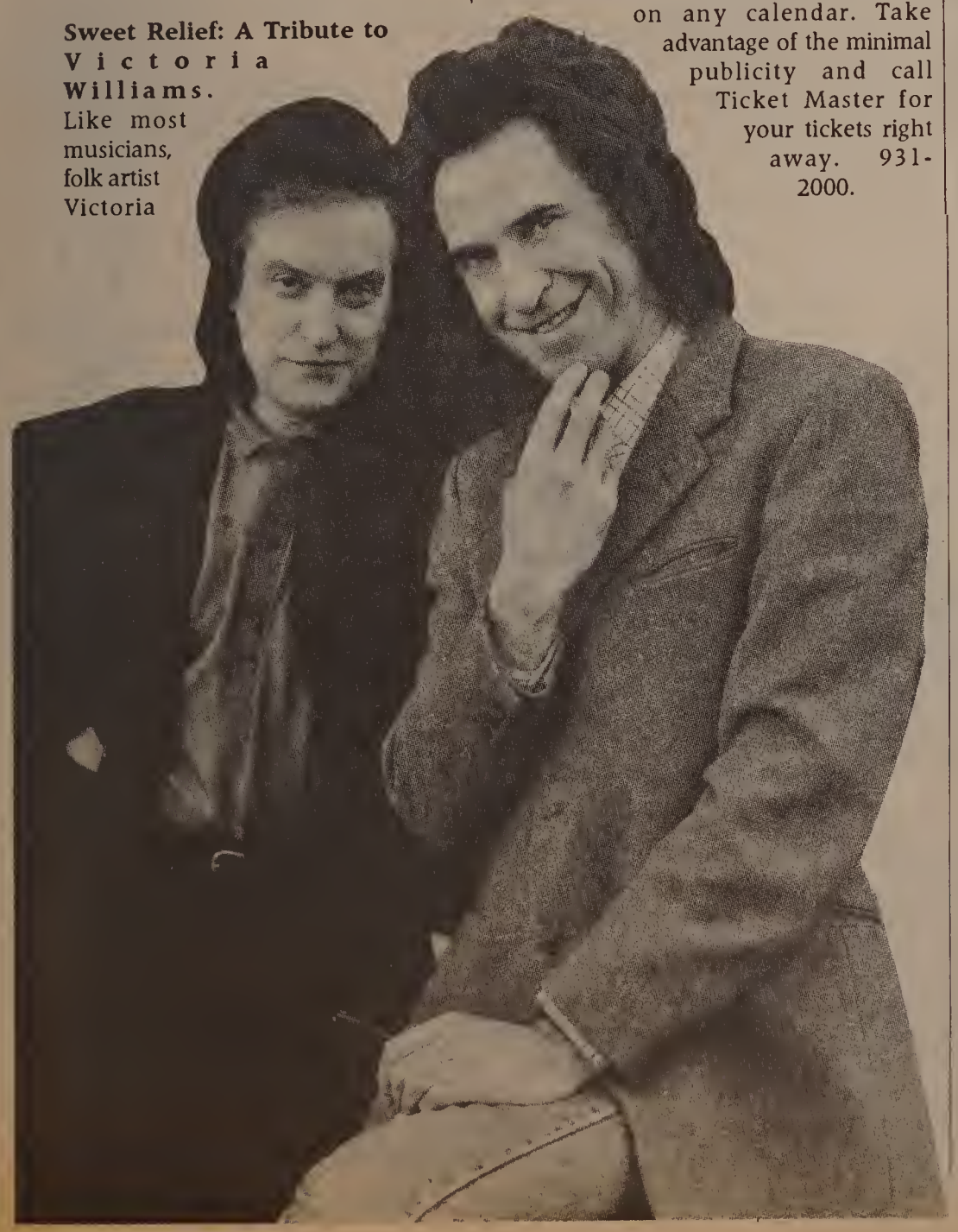
WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW



RECORDINGS

Matthew Sweet, Altered Beast. Just out in stores is Sweet's critically acclaimed follow-up to last summer's "Girlfriend," the cult hit for many twenty-somethings, and a commercial success to boot. In addition to a slightly more complex sound, the tracks on Altered Beast exhibit a somewhat more mature writing style that's sure to appeal to an even greater number of listeners.

Sweet Relief: A Tribute to Victoria Williams. Like most musicians, folk artist Victoria Williams does not have health insurance. But since being diagnosed with MS, music lovers have found that she does have many friends in the industry. Together for a smash benefit CD on her behalf are (among others) Pearl Jam, Evan Dando of the Lemonheads, Lou Reed and Soul Asylum.



OUTERWEAR

Light, comfortable, and affordable, Teva™ sandals are between every one's feet and the pavement this summer. Unlike their cumbersome leather contemporaries, Tevas strap on snug for a night around town, or a day at the beach. Good for the sole.

CONCERTS

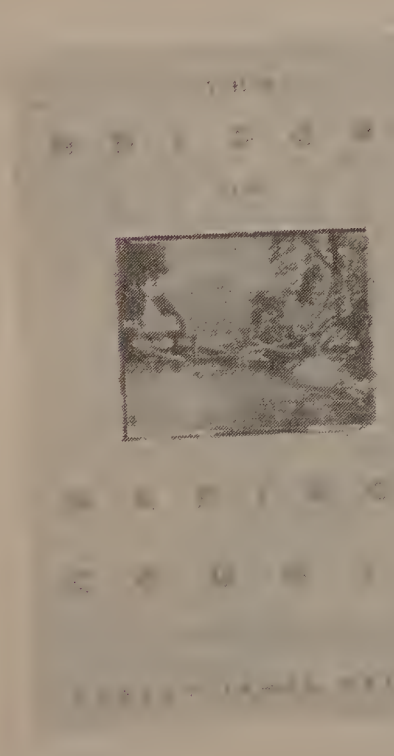
The Kinks. Great Woods. July 27. Two of the greats from the British Invasion, the Davies brothers have put sibling differences aside for a summer tour promoting their 30th release "Phobia." The Kinks have just been added to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as well as the Great Woods roster, so you won't find this show on any calendar. Take advantage of the minimal publicity and call Ticket Master for your tickets right away. 931-2000.

RESTAURANT

Geoffrey's Cafe. 651 Boylston, Boston. Lines have been forming every Sunday on Boylston this summer for the best brunch in town. Choose from a variety of selections from the eclectic menu, or just relax in the shade with the drink of your choice. All downtown and near the heart of it all.

VIDEO

The Crying Game. The "secret" erotic plot surprise is the last of the reasons to see this social political thriller starring newcomer Jaye Davidson. Media hype aside, viewers get intelligent, breakthrough screen writing, as well as stellar performances. Just released for home video, but if it's not on the shelves, try Malcom X or Scent of a Woman.



BOOKS

The Bridges of Madison County. Robert James Waller (Warner Books, 14.95) From a new voice on the literary scene comes a strangely passionate and mystical story of photographer Robert Kincaid, a disenchanted Iowa farm wife, and the fleeting love affair that haunted them forever. A narrative so genuine, this best seller had readers actually calling National Geographic for the fictitious Kincaid's photographs.

REFRESHER

Ice Coffee. With this heat, the last thing people want is their morning pick-me-up served hot. This summer, stop by The Coffee Connection and beat the heat with a cup of Al Fresco, a coffee blend specifically created to be served over ice. And if you're looking for something on the lighter side, try the new and improved Low-Fat Frappuccino, also served ice cold and with only one gram of fat per serving.

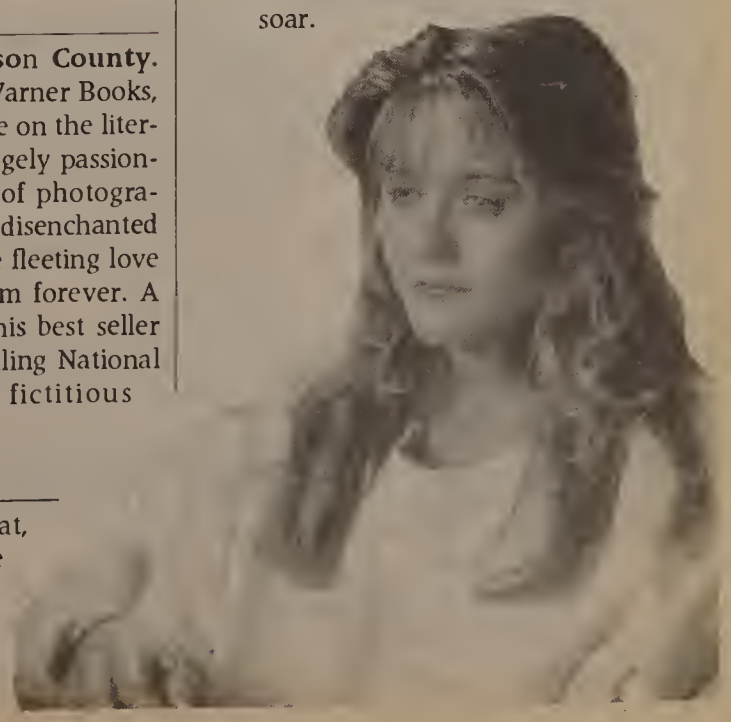


HAPPENINGS

Muscle Cars. Don't miss the Mustangs, Corvettes and GTO's at the Museum of Transportation in Brookline on July 25th. All cars are in mint conditiuon and many have come from all over the country to show you what's under the hood. Admission is only $4 for adults and $2 for seniors and children. Call 522-6547 for more information.

MOVIES

Sleepless in Seattle Directed by Nora Ephron. Call it a yuppie romance or good old fashioned cinema, the soundtrack alone is getting thousands of movie-goers out to the box office this summer to see Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan together as Sam and Annie, the displaced couple that people love to watch find each other. Add a little tyke full of Hollywood sass to the formula and watch the ticket sales soar.



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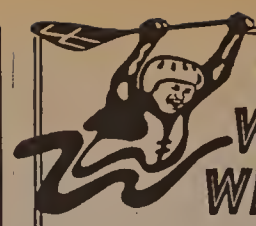
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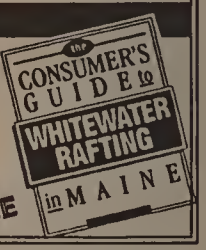
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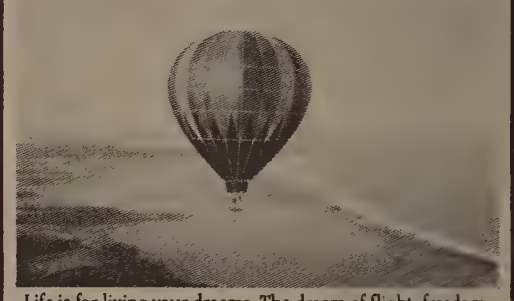
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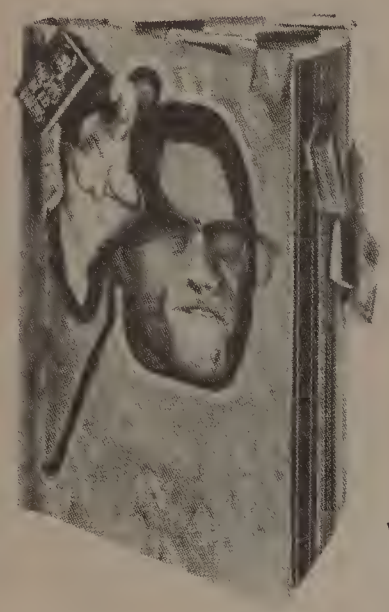
TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

21 **Boston's hottest unsigned bands** compete for recognition at **Soundcheck** tonight at **Axis,** 15 Lansdowne St., outside Kenmore Square. Don't miss your chance to see a rising star! Call Axis at 262-2437 for a program, showtimes and ticket information.

THURSDAY

22 **John Harvard's Brew House** sponsors the **Summer Beer & BBQ Festival** through Saturday, and it features an all-you-can eat buffet for $9.95: spit-roasted BBQ pigs, hickory smoked BBQ ribs, spicy grilled catfish, salads, beans, watermelons, desserts and, of course, special beers. Call 868-3585 for reservations, or just show up at 33 Dunster St., Harvard Square.



FRIDAY

23 The **International Institute of Boston,** which helps newly-arrived immigrants and refugees adjust to life in America, will celebrate its 70th anniversary tonight with a benefit performance of **Miss Saigon** at the Wang Center. Tickets for excellent seats cost $135 and include a gala reception in the Wang lobby at 6 p.m. Call 267-4343.

SATURDAY

24 **Free sailboat rides** along Boston's historic waterfront will highlight a special open house reception for the public today from 12-5 p.m. at the **Boston Sailing Center** on Lewis Wharf in downtown Boston. Call 227-4198 for more details.

SUNDAY

25 Bay State Triathlon - Triathletes will line up to grab one of the 24 coveted spots for the **Hawaii Ironman** which will be awarded during this race. This event is the only New England qualifier for the Ironman and includes a 1 mile swim, a 37.7 mile bike ride, and a 9.6 mile run. Events begin at **Wright's Pond** in Medford. For more information call (617) 932-9393.

MONDAY

26 The seafood restaurant **Skipjack's** begins its annual **Crabfest** today, and runs it through Aug. 1. Branches in Boston, Brookline and Harvard Square will be converted into authentic Maryland crab houses - with brown paper tablecloths, sawdust on the floor, wood mallet, and an endless supply of Chesapeake blue crabs. Served from 3:30 p.m. to close.

TUESDAY

27 Escape the city's heat, loosen your tie and kick off your shoes as you take a **sunset picnic cruise** to the **Boston Harbor Islands**. These oft-neglected gems are true retreats from city streets, and you can go to a different island each Tuesday through August. All trips depart at 6:30 p.m. on Bay State Cruises at Long Wharf, near the Aquarium. Cost is $12; today's trip is to **Grape Island**. Call 740-4290.

WEDNESDAY

28 Bicycle enthusiasts are invited to learn about the **American Lung Association's Autumn Escape Bike Trek** on Cape Cod and enjoy free admission to the comedy show afterwards. Evening starts at 6 pm at the **Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall.** For information call the American Lung Association at 800-522-2911

THURSDAY

29 What's love got to do with it? Go find out tonight or tomorrow night, when **Tina Turner** performs live at Great Woods in Mansfield. Call 931-2000 for tickets and more details.

FRIDAY

30 WBZ-TV's Free Friday Flicks! brings you **Field of Dreams**. This exciting on-going summer event turns the Hatch Shell into an outdoor movie Theater. WBZ and the MDC invite everyone to enjoy these free movies under the stars at the **Hatch Shell** on the Esplanade. All movies begin when the sun goes down (approximately 8:30 pm). Bring a blanket and perhaps a picnic and enjoy! For more information contact the MDC at (617) 787-7081.

X AT THE ICA

The ICA's Malcolm X exhibit opens on August 3



SOMETHING TO TOOT YOUR HORN ABOUT

Artbeat- A celebration of the arts features music, crafts and international foods.July 31.

SATURDAY

31 This is one summer day no one should spend at the beach or barbecue! **ARTBEAT**, the Somerville Arts Council's 7th annual arts festival, will transform Davis Square (on the Red Line) into a cornucopia of the arts - overflowing with music, crafts and international foods. It runs from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. All events will be moved indoors in case of rain.

SUNDAY

1 Treat yourself and a good friend to an **elegant brunch** aboard the **Odyssey Cruise** line, which leaves from Rowes Wharf in Boston. Cruise historic Boston Harbor on this sleek yacht while you choose from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef and a wine list containing some of the world's finest wines. Call 654-9700 for reservations.

MONDAY

2 Rock-reggae superstars **UB40** are sure to dazzle at their outdoor concert tonight at Great Woods in Mansfield. Call 931-2000 for tickets.

TUESDAY

3 The ICA studies **Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon** through contemporary art and popular culture, and **On the Subject: Voices from Massachusetts** examines Malcolm's impact on the youth in our state today. This powerful exhibit runs through Oct. 17.



SAIL AWAY

With a free sailboat ride at the Boston Sailing Center's open house, July 24

PROFILES

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER

Alisson McDermott

A Trip To Absinth

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

Nestled among the many cafes and bakeries that dot the landscape of Boston's historic North End is the Gallery Absinth. It is the latest addition to the growing number of art galleries that have rooted themselves in this animated neighborhood. Absinth is tucked away on the second floor of a modest building at 215 Hanover Street. Alisson McDermott, the driving force and visionary behind this young gallery, wanted to offer the public an alternative to the quiet reserve of the Newbury Street galleries. "With its character and flavor," says the 22-year-old entrepreneur, "The North End was a natural choice."

The Gallery Absinth, like the potent liqueur it derives its name from, is an intoxicating blend of emotion and vision. It is a place where the anxieties, obsessions, and passions of local artists are awhirl.

"Artwork is like a poem," Alisson states, "It's charged with emotion... It is something that makes you feel less alone in this world." Alisson says she especially likes artwork that is politically charged. "It's important to tap into issues and get them out there for people to consider."

A student artist herself, Alisson knows what it is like to struggle with creative energy. "I want my gallery to be a hothouse for talent," she says, "I want the artists to thrive here."

In a city where there are few major forums for contemporary artists to establish themselves, Gallery Absinth hopes to fill the gap. "I want to give emerging artists an early chance to get their foot in the door," Alisson says, "I don't want them to feel that they have to go to New York."

Alisson's commitment to making the arts accessible to everyone stems from her credo that the more familiar people become with art, the less they will feel intimidated by it. "Everybody brings their own set of experiences to artwork," she says, "so you cannot misunderstand a piece of art."

As she tries to prepare for the July 22 reception for painter Matthew Lazure, Alisson focuses on her main goal. "I want my gallery to mature with the artists," she says. "They're all unknown and so am I, so we can grow together." ❑





PAUL SZEP

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

The Dean of Boston Cartoonists

Picture, if you will, Paul Szep's mind. Inside the ink-stained chambers of his imagination, presidents' faces melt like warm wax into birds' beaks, and mayors' chins jut from their liberally-caricatured profiles like crude outcroppings from crater-studded mountainsides. And you should *see* the Leona Helmsley he imagines.

Enter the world of Boston Globe cartoonist Paul Szep, two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Cartoonists. His third Pulitzer was rescinded in 1978 by a Pulitzer oversight committee who felt that Szep, according to one source, had received "too many Pulitzer Prizes too fast." It would have been his third in five years.

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a good cartoon must be worth a ten-pound Webster dictionary. Dean Wallace, publisher of Boston Comic News, calls Szep the "Dean of Boston-based cartoonists," and notes that Beantown is "uniquely blessed" with a "top-flight cartoonist" like Szep.

His frequently-syndicated cartoons, appearing three times weekly in the Globe, have elicited controversy in Boston and across the country for more than two decades. His targets have included American presidents, high-ranking clergy, and questionably upright local leaders, not to mention the often short-sighted and poorly-informed opinions of the general public. Szep even digs his spurs into the horse that he rides on, recently lashing out at the local media's orgiastic farewell coverage of former Mayor Flynn's departure to Rome.

Never one to take his subjects lightly, Szep's daily research entails reading six major newspaper, tuning in to the local talk shows, and whacking a bucket of golf balls in his front yard each morning to help him concentrate.

The sharp sting of his ink-brushed invective has not gone without reprisal. Szep has been blacklisted at four golf clubs, lambasted by angry clergymen and had toilet paper sent to him in the mail. "You see it all the time in this business," he contends.

With rolling brush strokes and short, telling scribbles, this outspoken opinionist from Brookline pokes fun at just about anything that deserves the attention of his prescient pen strokes. International conflicts and urban dramas are played out within the dimensions of his two-by-four inch box, and nothing is held too sacred to satirize. How far will he go to make a point? "I'll be as offensive as they'll let me be," he says, smiling. ❑

THE BEST & WORST OF EVERYTHING

Back when Boston's streets were filled with horse dung and cheap perfume, this city was the center of American culture. We knew what was what, and we gloated about it. We dictated taste to a growing nation.

RESTAURANT DINING

Back then, Beacon Hill battleaxes in black bombazine glared across the Common at offensive plaids. Young Puritan heirs who fumbled with a wine choice were whisked away to country seats where they wouldn't disgrace their ancient lineage. Women fainted at the sight of cheap cheese. It all seemed so simple then.

But now we often don't know what we want, still less where to get it. The price is wrong; and the goods are bad. The great little place you knew has been bulldozed to make way for CVS. There's now a range of tastes our ancestors never thought about.

New Restaurant

B David's, 123 Stuart Street, Boston. Even the tough critics like this place. Try the apple-apricot crostata. By the way, we prefer the Italian spelling.

Spicy Food

B East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge. On *Hotter Than Hell Night*, it's so hot your silverware will sweat.

W Beth Israel Hospital Cafeteria, 330 Brookline Ave. If you have a choice, take the I.V.

Indian Food

B Bombay Bistro, 1353 B Beacon St., Coolidge Corner, Brookline. Voted best second year in a row, and still worthy of an award.

W Anywhere in Central Square, Cambridge. They say Ghandi began his hunger strike here.

Vegetarian

B Cecil's On South Street, 129 South St., Boston. Even though it's not strictly a vegetarian restaurant, the seventeen vegetarian dishes there are outstanding. Artists receive a 20% discount.

W Hilltop Steak House, Rte 1, Saugus. Don't let the plastic cows out front fool you. Even the vegetables moo.

Dim Sum

B China Pearl, 9 Tyler St., Chinatown. The sure sign—there's always a long line of locals.

W Any place near Berklee College. If you still think all dogs go to Heaven, think again.

Chinese

B ($$$) Mr. Leung, 545 Boylston St., Boston. The best Peking Duck in the city. But those black-tied waitstaff can intimidate a wallet.

Wine

B Michael's Waterfront, 85 Atlantic Ave., Boston. An award winning wine list that will



Best Waiter: Adam Pires of Davio's



Rising Star to Watch:
Executive Chef James Rogers of Michael's Waterfront

appease all tastes and budgets, with plenty of books to thumb through.

W M.J. Lynch, Kenmore Square. Fine for cigarettes, a six-pack and Doritos, but we didn't know "Mad Dog" was considered wine.

Birthday Cake

B Steve's Ice Cream, 95 Massachusetts Ave., Boston. Wonderful ice cream birthday cakes covered in whipped cream.

Wings

B Coolidge Corner Clubhouse, 307 Harvard St. Brookline.

W Sweetwater Cafe, 3 Boylston Place, Boston. What do you expect for free?

Sushi

B Kotobukiya in the Eliot Café, 85 Massachusetts Ave., Boston. It's so fresh it's hard to believe it's dead.

W The No Name Restaurant, Boston Fish Pier. We don't think it was intentional.

Pizza

B Sicilia's Pizza, 347 Tremont St., Boston. Their Chicago style and thin crust pizzas keep on winning awards. They're undiscovered and wonderful.

W Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mount Vernon, Dorchester. Brings institutional food service to a new low. If the pizza doesn't kill you, the smell will.

Ice Cream

B Tuesday's, 30 Station St., Brookline Village. The best scoop on a summer afternoon.

Summer Dining

B Spasso, 160 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. Casual and upscale, this Italian bistro is the better part of a summer evening.

W Neptune Seafood, Northern Ave., Boston. Spectacular views of the third harbor tunnel: lots of dirt and giant holes in the ground.

Fresh Wholesale Produce

B Waltham Fruit, 52 New St., Cambridge. Go ahead, squeeze their melons.

W Haymarket. They select your fruit for you. Take what I give ya or I breaka you face.

Meat & Potatoes

B Boodles, 40 Dalton St., Boston. An Irishman's dream. Where else can you find meat and potatoes with fifty kinds of beer?

There's something familiar about an Elsie-burger gas-pain. There's something sweet to savour in the Cafe Algier's sarcastic service- the best place in the Boston area to get snubbed by a Russian would-be poet mixing frappes.

Caesar's Salad

B Papa Razzi, 271 Dartmouth St., Boston. Render unto Caesar crunchy croutons and heavy on the garlic.

W Any restaurant that can't spell Caesar.

Middle East Grocery

B Eastern Lamejun Bakers, 145 Belmont St., Belmont. Extraordinary selection of gourmet Middle Eastern foods: Houmus, Tabouleh and much more. Worth a trip to the suburbs.

W Ming's Market, 1102 Washington Street. Chinatown. So what if ginseng root doesn't go well in pita bread. Their caterpillar fungus is out of this world.

Jurassic Cuisine

B Cafe Budapest, 90 Exeter St., Boston. Their cuisine has bypassed all trends and stayed classic old world.

W Durgin-Park, Faneuil Hall, Boston. Their kitchen will drive you to extinction.

Bagel

B The Ultimate Bagel, 335 Newbury St., Boston. Bagels so good, you'll convert.

Chocolate

B Michael's Chocolate Torte, available at Fresh Louis' Farm Market, 349 Newbury St., Boston. Baked on premises. A Weight Watcher's nightmare and a chocoholic's dream.

W Chocolate Maniac Brownie at Small Planet, 566 Boylston St., Boston. Gastronomically challenging– perhaps this dessert can be used as an alternative fuel source.

Sandwiches

B Parish Café, 361 Boylston St., Boston. Impeccable selection. Chefs Jasper, Lydia, and Todd have their namesake sandwiches here.

W Charlie's Sandwich Shoppe, 429 Columbus, Boston. Most overrated in the area.

Coffee

B Coffee Connection, 360 Newbury, Boston. The best legal buzz north of Columbia. The best of the best is the new Coffee Connection on Upper Newbury.

W McDonalds. Tastes like chicken.

Romantic Restaurant

B Odyssey Cruises, Rowes Wharf, Boston. And if your date doesn't think so, they can swim home.

Italian Dinner Starters

B Massimino's, 207 Endicott Street, North End. Try the giardenera and sautéd eggplant and garlic & olive oil- it will start your evening off with a spark.

Ribs & Ribbers

B The Original Sports Saloon, Copley Square Hotel, 47 Huntington Ave, Boston. Chew 'em down to the bone.

W Laura Raposa and Gayle Fee, *Boston Herald's* "Inside Track". Tasteless, and besides –where's the beef?

Dinner Theatre

B Mystery Cafe Dinner Theatre, 290 Congress Street, Boston. It's always exciting to find out who did it. Or who did whom.

W Medieval Manor, 246 East Berkeley Street, Boston. We thought food fights went out with the village idiot. The Dark Ages were stupid enough the first time around.

Lunch Takeout

B Rebecca's Cafe, 21 Charles Street, Boston. Our favorites are the northern Italian lasagna and the low-fat specials–look for the carrot! Soon to be in the new Prudential.

BOSTON

So it takes more effort than ever to sort out the good from the bad, the best from the worst. But don't feel alone. We've listened to your comments, we've pooled our resources. We've test-driven fads that can only be called life threatening. We've brought together a list of the Best and Worst in Boston— from nauseous political pundits to evenings out that will change your life— a list that will seperate the chaff from the grain, the sheep from the goats.

So take our advice. We're all in this together.

W Caffe Gianni, 500 Boylston Street, Boston. You have to attend an orientation to fix your lunch.

Restaurant on the Move

B Legal Sea Foods, Boston, Peabody, Washington, the World. . . Boston's favorite fish restaurant has headed south to feed hungry pols in the nation's capital.

Chef

B Susan Regis, Biba, 272 Boylston St., Boston. Still the best- a second year in a row! We hope she stops hanging out with those porkers. Rising stars to watch for: James Rodgers, Executive Chef, Michaels Waterfront; Chef Dawn Rose and Chef Paul Boras, Olives Restaurant. Chef Charles Prentiss, Meridien Hotel.

Sushi Chefs

B Gyuhama, 827 Boylston St., Boston. Personality, show, talent. Fresh as their seafood. Sharp as their knives. Raw genius.

Outdoor Patio

B Davio's, in the Royal Sonesta Hotel, Cambridge. The vista is one of the most spectacular views of Boston.



Best Young Musician: Monster Mike.

New Drink

B Absolut Passion at the Marias, 116 Boylston St., Boston. 1oz Absolut Vodka, 1 1/2 oz passion juice, a splash of pineapple juice, champagne, and grenadine.

Guinness Draft

B Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern, 77 Broad Street, Boston. Liquid dinner.

Club Opening

B House of Blues, Harvard Square. Jake and Elwood would like this place.

W Silverado, Tremont House, Tremont St., Boston. Who was that masked man?

Hotel Bar

B Bristol Lounge, Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston Street, Boston. For the casual dresser, the best celebrity-watching bar in town.

W Chasers, Howard Johnson's Hotel, South East Expressway. We're not sure if it's still open. Our reporter never returned.

Piano Bar

B Monday's Lounge, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon Street, Brookline.. The regulars have migrated outisde the city.

W Playland Cafe, 21 Essex Street. The patrons resemble the cast from a bad George Lucas film.

Sports Bar

B Eliot Lounge, 370 Commonwealth Ave, Boston. The old favorite post Marathon watering hole.

Live Rock Club

B The Middle East Cafe, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge.- Downstairs. A clean, top notch club with a real commitment to giving good music a stage.

W Bunratty's. 186 Harvard Ave., Allston. Will this place stay dead?

Comedy Club

B The Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market Place. Top shelf acts. They're nice— you can take your mother.

W Boston City Council Chambers. City Hall, Boston. A lot of clowns, no laughs.

Hangover Brunch

B Gospel Brunch at the House of Blues, 93 Winthrop Street, Cambridge. Will make you feel good on a Sunday morning and will stop those irritating visions

W Any Sunday cruise. Drink like a fish and share your lunch with them.

Bartenders

BJosh Child, West Street Grill, 15 West Street. He melts more hearts than Ice.

BLinda Amidon at Marias, 116 Boylston St., Boston. See the thousand words below.

Waiter

BAdam Pires, Davio's, at the Royal Sonesta, Cambridge. Discovered at 29 Newbury Street as a busboy and whisked away to stardom.



Best Bartender: Linda at Marais

Waitress

BKatie Callahan, Legal Seafoods, Park Plaza Hotel, Boston. With Legal since the '50's, Katie knows the menu.

Sunday Night

BRyles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire Street, Cambridge. Flamenco Night.

WSunday Night Buffet at the Ramrod Room, Boylston Street.

Pickup Bar

BSpasso, Thursday nights, Cactus Club, 939 Boylston Street on the others.

WDaisy Buchanan's. A smoker's haven. Ugh! You can pick-up anything you want here. Thank God the Boston Evening Medical Center is just around the corner.

Local Brew

BBoston Burton Ale at the Commonwealth Brewery, 138 Portland Street, Boston. Now in Bottles.

Alternative Bar Scene

BMan Ray's Dominance and Submission nights. Turns your expectations inside out and upside down.

WPlayland Cafe in the Combat Zone. He/she/they are all scaarrrry.

Place to Take a Date

BThe Hungry I on Beacon Hill, 71 1/2 Charles Street.. One of Boston's most romantic restaurants.

WBuzzy's Fabulous Roast Beef after 2am, or, for that matter, anytime.

Place to engage in a relationship of limited duration

BAny benefit / fundraiser with a $25 or more ticket price.

Place to End it

BParish Cafe. Boylston St., Boston. Its quiet, low key and you can escape by the T.

WDurgin Park, Faneuil Hall, Boston. In your moment of grief, there's nothing like a rude waitress to rub it in.

Nature's Call

BThe Long Wharf Marriot. They never notice.

WThe Boston Public Library. A growing trend in androgynous bathrooms. Do it at your own risk.

Thing to Do on a Rainy Afternoon

BYeah, you guessed it. Second Best: The Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum. Their Courtyard and exhibits are divine. Third Best: Miniature golf at the Golf Club on Lansdowne St.

WBreak down on the Mass. Ave. Bridge during rush hour.

Identity Crisis

BThe Roxy, 279 Tremont Street, Boston. From Benny to Billy Rae and back. You don't know whether to bring your girl or horse.

WThe ICA Come As You Are Ball. Where the boys were girls and the girls were boys.

Morning Drive

BLoren & Wally on WCLB, 105.7. They've got Boston two-stepping around town.

WTunnel radio in the Calahan and Sumner Tunnels during a traffic jam. Another strike against the Third Harbor Tunnel.

TV Anchor

BR.D. Saul, because nobody doesn't like him.

Radio Personality

BMarge Claprood, WRKO. She's never at a loss for words.

WHoward Stern. He presents himself as a bastion of free speech. But it's all bullshit. He just knows that tit-talk gets ratings.

Announcer

BGreg Baldwin, Purity Supreme, 600 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. There's no cover charge for his performances. Stop by and see why he's not only a comedian, he's also the deli manager.

WThe MBTA station announcer. You'll hear her in your dreams: "You can't smoke, the trains are running late, you're screwed."

Radio Daze

BDave Allen Bouchet, Bedtime Magic. He's paid to put you to sleep. He earns his keep.

WRobert J. Lurtsema, WGBH, Morning Pro Musica. With his transfer to weekends, we can all sleep in late on Saturday and Sunday. We'd prefer Hitchcock's birds any morning.

New Trend

BStreaking. Beware of the fourteen cyclists seen buff biking in the back bay.

BARS SPORTS MEDIA

W Men: Shaving their Legs; Women: 70s style bell bottoms and platform shoes. And disco is NOT back..

Newbury Street

B Starving Artist, 224A Newbury Street, Boston. Best creative browsing on Newbury.

W Parade of Shoes. The new location on Newbury doesn't pump us up.

Clothing Value

B Garment District, Cambridge. It's cheap.

W Neiman Marcus. With luck, you may be able to barter your husband for a sweater.

Rookie

B Aaron Sele. Did anyone notice that Roger Clemens was injured?.

Championship Shot

B The Bruins. By process of elimination

W The Patriots. Even Bill Parcels and Drew Bledsoe won't help this team win more than five games.



Best Hangover Brunch: Gospel Brunch at the House of Blues

Hustler

B Scott Fletcher. Every game he's in, he sets the tone. Go Fletch!

Aquisition

B Jeff Russell. The Sox wouldn't be in fifth-place without him.

W The New Patriots logo. If they want fans to buy their shirts– they should try winning a championship.

Coach & Manager

B Parcels of the New England Patriots. Because he hasn't lost yet.

W Lou Gorman. A real tub of love. Well, he's in line to be the next coach. NOT!

Athlete

B Cam Neely. When healthy, the modern day Gordie Howe. On or off the ice, the complete player in his position.

W Marcus Webb. The other side of the country isn't far enough away for this guy.

Jurassic Park

B Ritz Carlton Roof, 15 Arlington Street, Boston. Who would of thought that the dinosaurs would return.

Health Club

B Boston Athletic Club, 653 Summer St., Boston.

W L. St. Bath House, For $20, what do you want?

Young Musician

B Monster Mike. You could say he has musical wisdom beyond his years. How can he play the blues with only 14 years of suffering?

Used Bookstore

B ownstairs at the Harvard Bookstore, 1256 Mass Ave. Cambridge. They have everything, including stools to sit on! Sophocles to Steven King and a strong selection of local authors.

Party of the Year

B The Anthony Spinazola's annual gala at the World Trade Center. Where the grazing was second only to the ambiance.

Party You Weren't Invited to

B The Cheer's Finalè. How many of the cast could remember their names in the morning?

Ad Agency

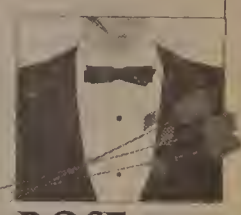
B Doyle Advertising & Design,45 Newbury St. Boston. Winning thirteen gold awards plus Best of Show at last year's Hatch advertising awards, this three year old little shop of honors will not be a little shop for long.

W We love them all. Do you think we're stupid?

ROSE Express Yourself !



Exquisite long-stem roses with breathtaking, large blooms and 2 foot + stems. Only $29.99* a dozen delivered by our tuxedo-clad messengers.



ROSExpress

617/695-2999

*Delivery charges and restrictions may apply

Place to talk your Walk

B Wings' Communications, 620 Washington Street, Boston. Fantastic assortment of cellular phones at talkable prices.

Irish Wool Knits

B Celtic Weavers, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston.

W Bradlees

Cutleries

B Stoddards, 50 Temple Place Boston. Oldest and still the best in the city.

Location for a tryst

B Among the stacks at the Atheneum. But only with a card carrying member.

Travel Agency

B Vacation Outlet, Boston. Need to escape the country - Tomorrow? Outrageously low fares for those who don't like to plan ahead.

W Whichever one Flynn used for his long goodbye.

Aerobics Classes

B Boston Body, 364 Boylston Street, Boston. Lose weight– and not from your wallet.

W Anywhere in Revere where there is more hair than body.

Bookstore

B Waterstone's, 26 Exeter, Back Bay. Four floors of intellectual stimulation, with no narrow aisles, you can read for hours against the stacks without having to move.

Computer Store

B Computer City, Framingham. The mother of all computer stores, a supermarket like environment with everything Mac or P.C. you could ever want or need.



Best Morning Drive: Loren & Wally on WCLB

Place to be in the wee hours

B The Loft, Boston. Its about time Boston got an after hours club.

W Searching for the tow company that got your car.

Place to Live

W Anywhere near the new BC stadium.

Recession Entertainment

B Free Concerts on the Hatch Shell

Adult Movie Selection

B Mike's Movies, 557 Tremont Street. South End.

W Former Rep. McNeil. Serving time.

Retro Botique

B Bertha Cools, 528 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. Unique fashion flashbacks at affordable prices.

W Nieman Marcus. Bury those bell bottoms!

Intellectual Video Store

B Videosmith, 283 Harvard Ave., Brookline. Grandé selection of foreign films.

Comeback

W Ray Flynn. Its just a matter of time.

Local Band

B Mark Morris and the Cat Tunes. The best party band in town.

W Those Kids on the Block. R.I.P. Please.

Shoeshine

B The shoeshine at the Park Plaza Hotel. Try it only if you want to see your face in your boots!

Gay Bar

B Napoleon's. 52 Piedmont Street, Boston. Just avoid the ugly bench and you'll be all set for the night..

W The beer line at any Bruins game.

Place to bump into a pro athlete on the make

B The Harbor Club, 145 Northern Ave., Boston.

Local Access Cable Show

B "Your Mother's on the Roof." Chachi is worth watching.

Dive Bar

B Beacon Hill Pub, Charles Street, Boston. You always return to the basics.

Spin Control

B "We were just asking for directions." – Two Johns arrested in operation squeeze for soliciting prostitutes.

Natural Foods

B Bread and Circus. The food, the whole food and nothing but the food.

Pet Grooming

B Skipton Kennell, Route 9, Brookline. Our dogs don't lie. Honest.

Hotel Doorman

B Norman Pashoian at the Ritz. After nearly 46 years, he knows all, sees all.

Special and the
Most Improper Thanks to:
Tobin Anderson
R. E. Brunson
Steven Brykman
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Cuddy
Sara Edwards
Mellisa Greenwald
Gail Norcross Gurnon
Lanny Johnson
Mopsy Strange Kennedy
Peter McNamara
Traci Strain
&
Very Special Thanks to
Emma, Leo & Nicole

When Mellea Vineyards Needed to Squeeze More Juice Out of Their Ad Dollars, They Turned to the Improper Bostonian.



"At Mellea Vineyards, we track where every single customer heard about us . . . We've been advertising for three issues so far this season and the ad is definitely paying itself off . . .We've received tons of customers from *the Improper Bostonian*... Just this past weekend (Memorial Day Weekend), 30-40% of our business came directly from your newspaper . . . I would definitely recommend *the Improper Bostonian* as a great source for reaching the Boston Market."

— Michael Shaps, General Manager, Mellea Vineyards

PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MARKET IS

The Improper Bostonian

Sharyn Fireman

Cash and Carry

Boston's Best Buys

Here's a great opportunity to purchase restaurant supply equipment such as glasses, china and flatware for only pennies! Michael Solomo, the new owner of Silver Restaurant Supply and Equipment Company, is getting rid of all the old inventory, and he needs you to help him. Mind you, this is a warehouse sale, so wear your dungarees and shop till you drop; everything is cash and carry. The fabulous finds include plates at ten cents, glassware at twenty cents, and flatware at ten to fifteen cents a piece for stainless steel, all restaurant quality. Fraternities and college dining rooms should love discovering odd plates and other dinnerware from restaurants which may have closed ten or fifteen years ago. Everything is priced at 50-70% off suggested manufacturer's retail. Open for the first time to the general public, you'll find glassware from shot glass size to huge brandy snifters, and even real lead crystal. The china is mostly mix-and-match, but some of the antique patterns are great collectibles. Cooks will revel in the stock and lobster pots, casseroles and chef's tools. If you're operating a restaurant or catering company, pick up used refrigerators, pizza ovens, or the piece de resistance, a Vulcan stove with 6 burners, a grill, and two ovens for only $1200 (orig. $3,000). Blowout days are Thur., July 22, Fri., July 23, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sat., July 24, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Help Mickey unload his new inventory and have a blast while doing it!

Silver Restaurant Supply & Equipment Co., Inc. 92-100 Pearl Street (one block from Chelsea Square) Chelsea.

884-8700 or 800-452-4041 Cash only

Fleas A Crowd

If you're not timid and enjoy picking through odds and ends, then Fenway Flea is the place. This nifty "flea" market has sixty people on consignment. This creates a constant turnover of merchandise from week to week, so retracing your steps can be full of surprises. Prices tend to be negotiable. You'll find old records and old paperbacks for fifty cents, along with incense, decanters, and odd lamps. If you're a hanger-on from the sixties, the lava lamp is hot here for about $50, but you can wheel and deal for up to $10 off. Other funky items include a brass bench with faux leopard fabric for $46, and a black wrought-iron plant stand (great for the patio) at $35. For the vintage collector, there are lots of hidden treasures ranging from old typewriters to Coca-Cola, Schrafft Candy, and Coppertone signs from $10-$30. For the ambitious with stuff to sell, they'll rent you a space which consists of either a shelf unit or a table for $60 a month.

The Fenway Flea 1312 Boylston Street Boston 266-7894 (Ask for Glenda Summer)

Tues.-Sat. 12-8 p.m., Sun. 12-6 p.m., closed Mondays Visa, MC, Amex, checks

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Whatever furniture you're searching for, you'll find it here for the right price. For example, a terrific contemporary queen sleep sofa and matching chair, coffee table, two end tables and two lamps costs just $697. For the person with a small studio or small eat-in kitchen, a nifty black faux leather table with two black lacquer and brass chairs is just $129. Bedroom sets include a queen headboard, 6-drawer bureau with a mirror, 5-drawer man's chest, plus full size mattress, box spring, and frame all for $597. Nightstands can be purchased for $119 and upgrades in mattress selections are available. Many and varied entertainment centers are a mere $197. $497 will get you an 80" leather sofa in several different styles. Individual pieces are available from the warehouse, but keep in mind a custom color order can take four weeks. A glass-top dining table and four chairs in a contemporary pattern is $497, with extra chairs running $79 each. Many other pieces are available, including a good selection of bunk beds and junior furniture for the kids.

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The Fenway Flea

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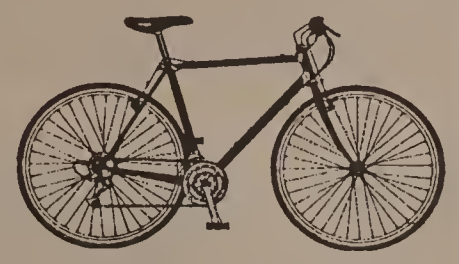
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Something Useful. (Maybe.) / Anthony Tedesco

Extremely Handy Cookbook, Chapter I

The I'm-Already-10-Minutes-Late-For-Work Breakfast Recipes

Breakfast is THE MOST IMPORTANT meal of the day, as you can tell from my strategic use of capital letters. It's so important that I always leave more than enough time in the morning to hit my "Snooze" button again and again (and again), and look at my kitchen door as I sprint past it late for work. But seriously (the last part was a joke), even though I do usually make it into my kitchen in the morning, there's never – and I wouldn't lie about this – a five-course breakfast waiting for me, let alone a breakfast that can be eaten on the T, without a bib, high enough in energy to keep me going until I can skip lunch for showing up late to work.

Fortunately, a few Boston-area nutritionists have been kind enough to provide the following breakfast suggestions because they care that much about the health of busy people and about free advertising.

But before we learn high-energy recipes, we should first learn which foods the body turns into energy, and howl I'll leave this fun-filled task to Kary Lutz, Licensed Guardian of Busy People and Nutritionist So Knowledgeable It Makes Me Dizzy. Her explanation – which was in Swahili and included a cover-to-cover reading of War and Peace – boils down to this: "Oh, you're Foot-Bone's connected to your, Shin-Bo—"

Wait! I remember now: The "How Your Body Converts Food Into Energy" song is actually in the key of F and goes like this: "Oh, you eat Mr. Carbohydrate who metabolizes into pancreatic insulin glucose-oriented antidisestablishmentarianism let alone supercallafragilistickexpialido-hold note-shus. It's that simple. It has to be, for Schoolhouse Rock to continue being so popular with every adult who's had more than two beers.

Now we're ready for the first recipes which – brace yourself – require a little preparation the night before. Breakfast #1 is from nutritionist Corinne Adler, and is called Granola Schpoink for the sole reason that I don't often have the opportunity to work the word "Schpoink" into an article.

Here's your grocery list:

1 Cup each of buckwheat groats, rolled oats, wheat flakes, chopped almonds, and chopped apricots.

1/2 Cup each of corn oil, sesame seeds, hulled sunflower seeds, and wheat germ.

1 Person who knows what the hell "buckwheat groats" are.

Preheat oven to 300 degrees, and remember: Stir every mixture in this recipe constantly – if not more often – so I don't have to keep repeating the word "stir." (I'm tired.) Toast buckwheat groats for 10 minutes, and then add the oats, wheat flakes, and oil and toast for an additional 15 minutes. Add all seed-and-nut-like objects and toast for another 10 minutes. Finally, add the wheat germ and apricots.

Corinne assures me that if you mix Granola Schpoink with yogurt or milk, it not only tastes delectable but also provides you with everything, including complex-carbos, protein, fiber, beta-carotene, and three players to be named later.

Breakfast #2 comes from nutritionist Kary Lutz, and looks an awful lot like leftovers - two slices of pizza and a piece of fruit or a "juice box." - but don't be deceived: carbos from the juice and crust, and protein from the cheese make these high-energy leftovers.

The following breakfasts don't require any preparation; they can be made, consumed, digested and power-vomited in well under a minute.

1. Breakfast bars are so numerous and diverse that they require their own article, if not their own mini-series. The most popular ones are: FinHalsa (Swedish for "expensive gerbil food"), Dietfuel (low-fat gerbil food), and Power Bars (gerbil food with a faint faint FAINT taste of honey).

2. Toast 'N Jammers (similar to "Pop-Tarts," only low in fat) and Eight ounces of skim milk (similar to six ounces of skim milk, only more). You get your complex-carbos from the whole wheat flour, carbos from the fruit, and protein from the milk.

3. Carnation sells instant everything. They make breakfast bars, as well as instant breakfast powders that you mix with milk, and drink in flavors like chocolate, coffee and strawberry. And don't ask me how-what-why but all of the flavors actually taste good, and I'm not even being poked with hot irons to say that.

STOP THE PRESSES!

(Isn't this exciting?) There has just been a major scientific breakthrough in the world of instant breakfast drinks: Carnation has invented an instant breakfast drink that comes pre-mixed with low-fat milk! Now, instead of wasting a full 15 or 20 seconds stirring milk ("Ven I vas a kid vee had to ster our own melk.") you can put that time to far more important things, like writing your own "How Your Body Converts Food Into Energy" song for Schoolhouse Rock and the HUGE cash-prize being offered by The Improper, unless my editor sees this sentence before it goes to print. ❑

Information provided by Kary Lutz of Medical Care Affiliates and Corinne Adler of Boston Nutrition.

FLICKS IN A FLASH

KEY

★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

THE FIRM

★★

Hotshot Harvard Law School grad Mitch McDeere (Tom Cruise) finds he's made a deal with the devil and to extricate himself must go up against his new law firm, the Mafia, and the FBI. Director Sydney Pollack establishes character and motive with decisive sledgehammer blows, but there's little buildup and suspense. The movie aspires to literary heights but only succeeds at seeming pretentious. What lively moments it has are thanks to a motley assortment of quirky low-lives: Gary Busey as a good-natured private eye, Holly Hunter as a good-hearted tootsie; David Strathairn as Mitch's droll jailbird brother Ray, and Ed Harris as a bullying, hot-headed FBI agent.

K.WILSON

HOUSE OF CARDS

★★

When her father dies in a freak accident, a young girl, Sally (Asha Menina), withdraws into her own autistic world. She builds a huge house of cards with a winding stairway in the hopes of reaching the moon where she believes her father lives. Sally's mother, an architect, (Kathleen Turner) tries to get inside her daughter's mind by building another "stairway to the moon" in the backyard. Meanwhile, the Department of Child Welfare wants to take Sally away. Several subplots such as the romance between Ruth and a child psychologist (Tommy Lee Jones) are never fully developed. The many loose ends include unexplained supernatural forces.

M.R.D'ENTREMONT

LAST ACTION HERO

★★★.

Summer movies should be no-brainer fun and this one is. Using a "magic" ticket, Danny (Austin O'Brien) is transported into the movie world of his screen idol, Jack Slater (Arnold Schwarzenegger). The two romp back and forth between Jack's world of make-believe (where getaway cars fly through the air and even the women behind the video store counters look like Hollywood starlets) and Danny's "reality" where the bad guys sometimes win. Those in the audience who insist on remaining adults can amuse themselves by identifying the many stars who appear in cameo roles and the various movie genre site gags and references.

T.MILLER

JURASSIC PARK

★★★.

Forget character development. Forget plot. Even the scary parts — and there are many — don't go over the top. The dinosaurs rule Jurassic Park, and they are amazing. They look real. The only entertaining humans are Dennis (Wayne Knight), a treacherous, whiny computer genius responsible for the dinosaurs running amuck in Jurassic Park and a greedy, cowardly lawyer (Martin Ferraro) who deserves to be turned into dinosaur food. If you wish lawyers were an extinct species, you'll enjoy director Steven Spielberg's visual lawyer joke. The talents of Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum as scientists are utterly wasted.

K.WILSON

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

★★★

The opening of director Kenneth Branagh's latest film is full of fun and promise as both men and women prepare themselves for the battle of the sexes. Beatrice (Emma Thompson) and Benedict (Kenneth Branagh) are worthy adversaries, precursors to all the smart, snappy, sexy, big screen couples we love. Hero (Kate Beckinsale) and Claudio (Robert Sean Leonard) are beautiful young lovers. When the vindictive Don John (Keanu Reeves) tricks Claudio into believing his love is a wanton hussy, the battle turns ugly. Finally, all's well that ends well. The movie slows down as the director relies more and more on close-ups to tell the story.

K.WILSON

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

★★★

Rookie of the Year is a kids' movie that's not just for kids. It's the fast-paced, funny story of 12-year-old Henry Rowengartner (Thomas Ian Nicholas), who finds he can throw baseballs at 100 m.p.h. after his broken arm heals abnormally. He becomes a big hit when his mother's mercenary boyfriend signs him as pitcher with the Chicago Cubs. The film neatly combines childhood fantasy with adult reality. In his baseball dream world Henry contends with immense pressure to perform and jealous team members, such as over-the hill pitcher Chet Steadman (Gary Busey). Still, Henry has a ball, and so do we — even those of us who aren't avid baseball fans.

M.R.D'ENTREMONT

SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE

★★

No trouble sleeping here. A young boy from Seattle, Jonah Baldwin (Ross Malinger), phones a radio talk show and says his widowed dad needs a new wife. A woman in Baltimore, Annie Reed (Meg Ryan), becomes obsessed with the young caller and his father Sam (Tom Hanks) and realizes that she and her fiancè are mismatched. The premise is clever but the plot is rehashed. We get two hours of amusing, but all-too-familiar, "Will they (meet) or won't they?" Annie loses interest in her fiancè because there are no surprises in their relationship. Ditto our reaction to this movie. Still, Hanks and Ryan are great. Maybe next time they could do two scenes together.

M.R.D'ENTREMONT

SOFIE

★★★★

Liv Ullman, star of many Ingmar Bergman films, makes a sterling career switch to screenwriter-director with this rich, passionate, philosophical tale of a young Jewish woman (Karen-Lise Mynster), growing up in Copenhagen at the end of the nineteenth century. Sofie must make a momentous decision: run away with the love of her life, a Christian painter with a burning soul, or please her parents by marrying an Orthodox Jew whom she doesn't love. Ullman lets her tale unfold in a deliberately leisurely, contemplative manner and its power — through several decades of bar mitzvahs, kosher meals, births and deaths — grows and grows until the immensely moving climax.

G. PEARY

WEEKEND AT BERNIE'S II

★

If you thought Weekend at Bernie's was funny, and think the sequel might be even funnier, think again. There are exactly three laughs in this otherwise vacuous "comedy." To get rich quick, boys Andrew McCarthy and Jonathan Silverman steal Bernie's corpse (Terry Kiser) from the morgue and bring it to the Virgin Islands in order to retrieve his safe deposit box full of cash. Everyone wants a piece: crooks, a shifty business mogul and even a voodoo priestess (who gives Bernie a little animation). The film moves too fast and little is substantiated. The characters are dull and idiotic. The most intelligent is Bernie —at least he knows when to sit still and shut up. **M.R.D'ENTREMONT**

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

Macho Nuevo Is Still Macho

The opening scene of *In the Line of Fire* is pure Dirty Harry. But director Wolfgang Peterson and star Clint Eastwood want to confound our expectations that the make-my-day, nerves-of-steel Harry is back. It's the 90s after all, and movie action heroes have changed. Now they are tough but remorseful, they feel pain, physical and emotional, but then get on with it; they know that death and dying is a grim business, although that doesn't stop them from blowing the other guy away and living to regret it. Call it Macho Nuevo.



PROTECTING THE PREZ: *Secret Service agents Lilly Raines (Rene Russo) and Frank Horrigan (Clint Eastwood) run alongside the motorcade in "In the Line of Fire"*

In the Line of Fire is an exciting, coherent, intelligent, often humorous action thriller. Eastwood plays Frank Horrigan, a Secret Service Agent who was assigned to protect JFK on November 22, 1963. Thirty years later he's still an agent, a "borderline burnout with questionable social skills," who has lost his family and is consumed by guilt and shame that it wasn't he who died that day in Dallas.

IF YOU GO

IN THE LINE OF FIRE

★★★

DIRECTED BY
WOLFGANG PETERSON
WRITTEN BY
JEFF MAGUIRE
STARRING
CLINT EASTWOOD
JOHN MALKOVICH

On a routine assignment Frank stumbles on a plot to kill the current President. Would-be assassin Mitch Leary (John Malkovich) is a sociopath as obsessed with tormenting Frank as he is with killing the President, and he catches Frank up in a game of cat-and-mouse in which the roles keep shifting. Leary is Frank's flip side. Frank is laconic, controlled; Leary, talkative, impetuous. Frank's a protector; Leary, a predator. After a while we get used to Leary with his soft, flat voice, even a little bored with him and his incessant theorizing. He becomes quite attached to Frank, and there are hints of homoeroticism that culminate in Leary drawing his lips over Frank's drawn gun. When Frank and Leary confront each other for the last time, they bicker. Frank, ever the alpha male, snarls at Leary, "You have a rendezvous with my ass, motherfucker."

Because the President is at best a nonentity, at worst, a hack, we don't really care whether he lives or dies. We ultimately come to identify with the assassin. We want Leary to get through the checkpoint, to find the bullet that he drops because we don't want to be deprived of the excitement of the assassination attempt and the inevitable showdown. Frank doesn't really care about the President either. He wants redemption, to prove to himself that he "has the guts to take that fatal bullet." Frank and Leary are alienated from the system that created them. They don't believe in anything within or outside themselves.

Frank is old, almost a relic, and his reputation is shaky. He can't run very far without huffing and puffing, and he gets no respect from the young turks in the Agency. He doesn't want to die. He may even cry (we can't tell for sure). But make no mistake, *In the Line of Fire* is still Hollywood and has its share of suspense, screaming, crashing glass and shoot outs. In true Hollywood fashion, the hero gets his second chance.

Secret Service Agent Lilly Raines (well played by Rene Russo) is the Designated Female. She's a strong character who is drawn to Frank in spite of his chauvinist tendencies. Perhaps she believes that Frank is really sensitive because he loves jazz and plays the piano in dark smoky bars. But experience tells us that a man makes ignorant remarks because he's ignorant, even if he gives us a cute cock-eyed grin as if to say, "Hey, I'm just yanking your chain." And nothing will convince us that Frank has any interest in being the one to keep the home fires burning. That's just Hollywood window dressing. Macho Nuevo is still macho. ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

ORLANDO

"Damned if I have any idea of what Orlando learns from it all..."

Innovative gender-bender it might be, but the novel version of *Orlando* greatly disappointed legions of Virginia Woolf fans when it appeared in 1928. The time-traveling adventures of Orlando the man, who awakens transformed into Orlando the woman, seemed too playful, precious, and inconsequential for the intense admirers of Woolf's forays into the subconscious and unconscious in *Jacob's Room* and the magnificent *To the Lighthouse*.

Playful it definitely is. Still, Woolf's *Orlando* is more engaging than its original readers would concede. At least the first half of the book, a fake history of jolly, post-Elizabethan England that begins in the gloomy 19th century with England frozen rock-solid into a veritable Ice Age, and a mysterious black cloud covering all Britain, is as wild and woolly as a Paul Bunyan tall tale. Orlando floats through it all: as an awkward young poet, as a favorite at Queen Elizabeth's court, as England's ambassador to Constantinople. Orlando's adventures commence with him as a male, then continue as a female.



ORLANDO: *Tilde Swinton as the gender-switching, time-traveling Orlando*

Woolf is particularly eloquent observing Orlando observing how differently he/she is treated having achieved "the penalties and privileges" of womanhood. Woolf says, "She was becoming a little more modest, as women are, of her brains, and a little more vain, as women are, of her person...the change of clothes had, some philosophers would say, much to do with it...they change our view of the world and the world's view of us."

Actress Tilda Swinton, though a limited talent, certainly has the look for the lead role in the movie version of *Orlando*. Tall, lithe, long-legged, comfortably androgynous, Swinton makes an appropriate male Orlando, a young man on the move in Elizabethan leggings, then an excruciatingly confined female Orlando, trying to maneuver past 18th century furniture in a massive hoop skirt. Finally, Swinton is a modern-day Orlando, an AC/DC dressed-for-success author plowing around 1990's London in a motorcar.

Sound good? *Orlando* the movie already has heaps of devotees, who, curiously, find Consequence and Importance just at the places where Woolf's readers found all style and no content. Well, I don't know what these film fans are so excited about. For the most part, *Orlando* the movie is EMPTY. Director Sally Potter takes her protagonist through 400 years of time, but damned if I have any idea what Orlando learns from it all, or what we the audience learn. And yet there's this feeling at the end, as Orlando sits under an ancient oak tree and stares, brown-eyed, out at the viewer, and some spacey angel-types sing on the soundtrack, that something very, very significant has happened to all of us.

IF YOU GO

ORLANDO

DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY
SALLY POTTER
PLAYING AT
THE NICKELODEON
& JANUS THEATERS

THE OAK

DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY
LUCIAN PINTILIE
PLAYING AT
THE HARVARD FILM ARCHIVES
JULY 23 - JULY 29

Bogusl Potter's *Orlando* is about nothing, nothing, despite the poetic passages and ethereal cinematography. (And let me add that Kenneth Branagh's *Henry V* and the Gerard Depardieu-starring *Cyrano* seemed to me similarly phony pretenders with philosophic veneers which have fooled far too many people.) Sally Potter can't direct and, worse, for the high humor of Woolf's *Orlando*, she certainly can't direct comedy. The "funny" scenes on screen make me yearn for Moe, Larry and Curly.

On the other hand, Quentin Crisp, pioneering gay activist for *The Naked Civil Servant*, makes a prim and perfectly rouged Queen Elizabeth I.

THE OAK

Directed and written by Lucian Pintilie. At the Harvard Film Archives, July 23-July 29.

Nicolae Ceausescu is dead and gone as Romanian dictator, but the country remains a cultural/ political/ economic mess. When filmmakers try their craft these days, the usual result is fierce, negative, black comedy. No post-Revolution Rumanian film has been so praised as *The Oak*, a bleak farce set in the final days of Ceausescu's beyond-Orwellian rule. This film chronicles the attempt of one valiant woman to stand up to the Byzantine Communist Party apparatus. The arrival of *The Oak* is a coup for the Harvard Film Archives, where the film has its Boston-area premiere.

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching film at B.U.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY

★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Cliffhanger	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★
Dave	★★★	★★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
Dennis the Menace	★	★	★	★	★★	★	-
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Firm	★★	★★	-	★	★★★	-	★★
Last Action Hero	★★★	★★	-	★★	★★	-	★
Made in America	★★	★★	★★	★★	★★★	-	★★
Menace II Society	★★	★★★	★	★★	★★	★	-
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	-	-	-	-
What's Love Got to Do With It	★★★	★★★	-	★★★	★★★	-	★★★

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We can understand, of course, your lack of excitement upon hearing the news of yet another spring water. There are, we know, so many. All of which would have you believe they are the purest thing since the angels.

We do think, however, you will find Akva refreshingly different and worth the modest price of sampling. To do so, we suggest your favorite corner market or deli.

There now, you see? It's just like we've already told you. There really does exist a chance to find a genuinely pure water in this world. Even if it is a bit remote.

Akva spring water. The pure soul of Iceland.™

Comedy / Ross Garmil

Nobody's Perfect

". . .Crasnick takes his childhood memories off the psychiatrist's couch and onto the comedy stage. . ."

Hamlet, the Prince of Denmark, had a problem. His father, the king, died. His uncle, Claudius, then became king and quickly married his mother. He hated his uncle, but his problems soon grew worse. He met his dead father's ghost who told Hamlet that he was murdered by Claudius, and that he wanted Hamlet to take revenge by killing his uncle. Hamlet had what you might call a dysfunctional family.

Ed Crasnick's family did not suffer quite the same family traumas as Hamlet's, but to hear him tell it, he had problems of his own: he grew up as the son of his parents, the nephew of his aunts and uncles, and was the victim of a late 60s childhood surrounded by his Jewish family, his three-decker Dorchester house, his residence on Nantasket Beach, and Ed Sullivan.

Crasnick's new one man show I'm Not Perfect, featured now through August 8 at Catch a Rising Star, gives us a glimpse of his familial oddities.

"I'm 32 years old," Crasnick relates. "I see my family and in an hour I'm regressing at the speed of light....that's all it takes now is an hour...it's like they're running a self-esteem Lens Crafters: a complete loss of identity in about an hour."

IF YOU GO

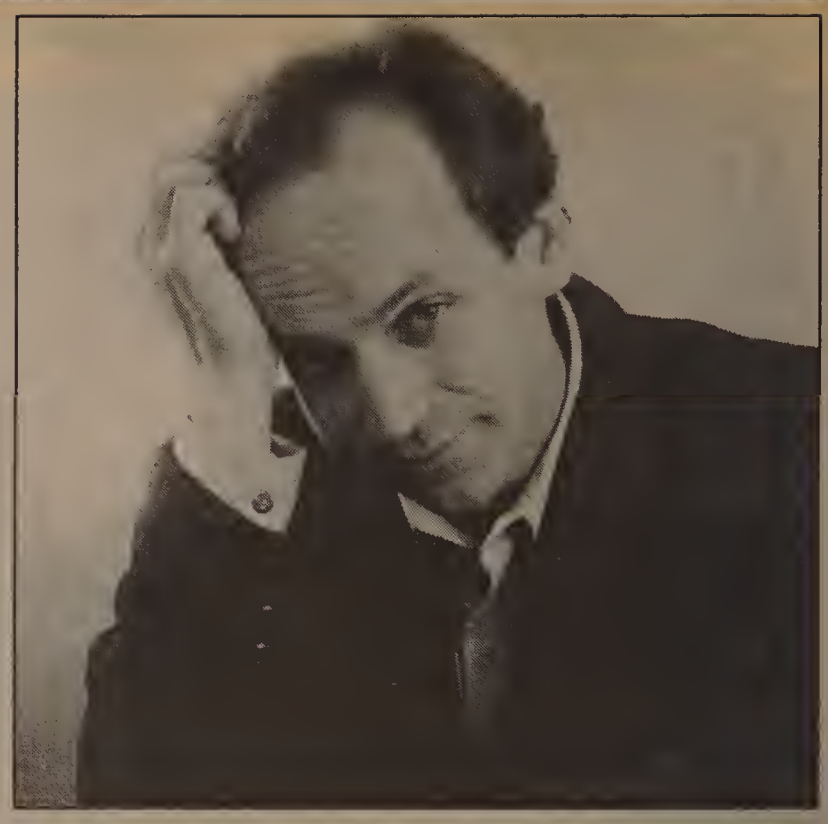
Ed Crasnick

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Call 426-3737 for Reservations

Crasnick tells of how his mother welcomes him home with a combination of food and tragic health news, corned beef with a side of his aunt's stroke. "It's like a psycho sandwich," he explains.

Crasnick also shares how he felt as a child living with his parents. The most touching of his tales revolves around learning to ride his bike. In recalling his feeling of exhilaration when his father first let go of his two wheeler Crasnick enthusiastically remembers thinking "I'm so happy. I'm getting away from my family." Unfortunately for the young comedian, he turned back to make sure his father did not let go of the bike because of a heart attack, whereupon he ran into a tree and broke his arm in two places. The moral of the story? "When you're moving ahead in life and you're starting to feel free and happy and you're getting away from your family, just keep going, man! Don't look back."

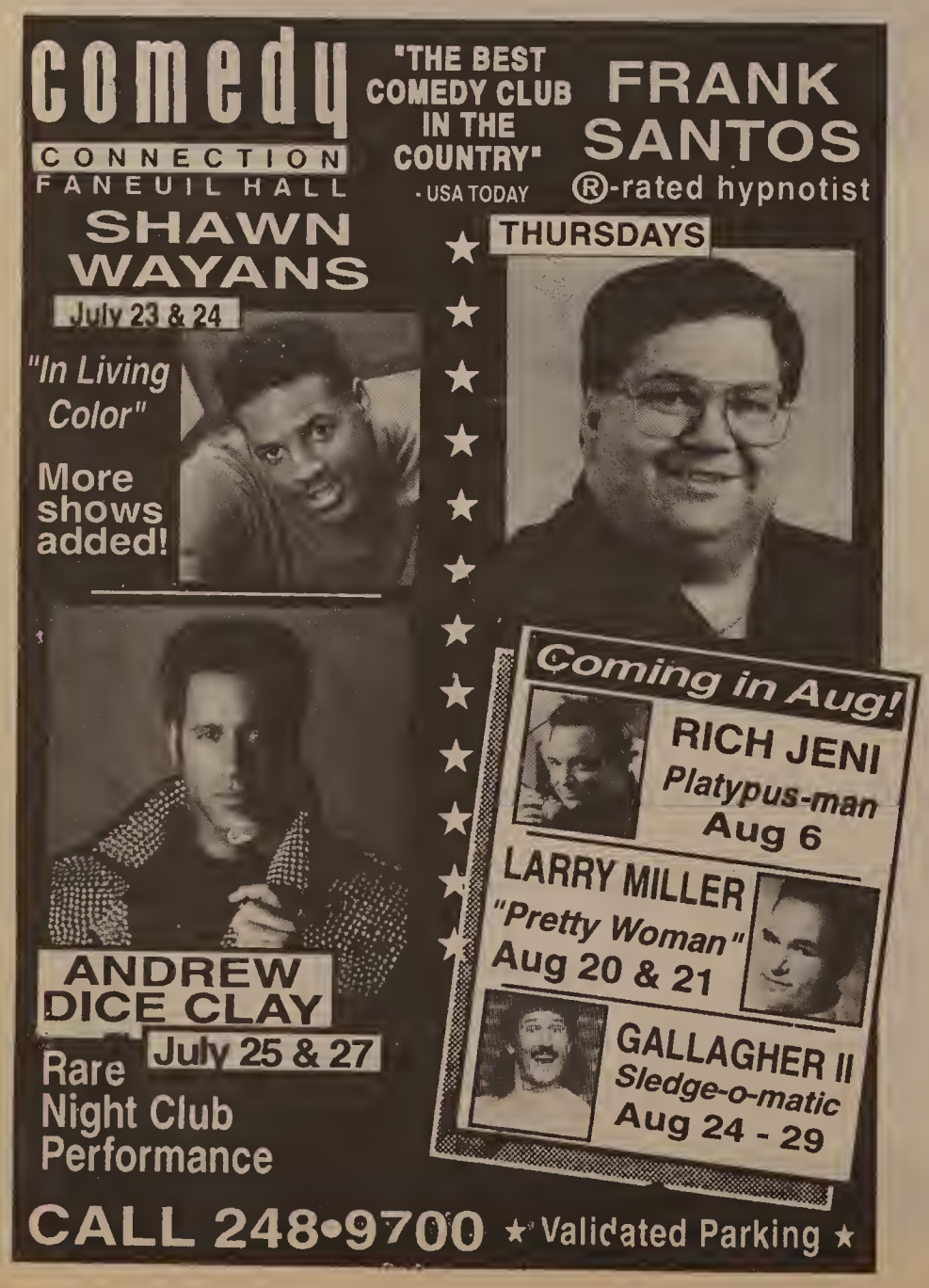
While his standup offers a wide array of his adult family-related neuroses, it lacks one major factor. Crasnick offers his feelings about his family both present and past, but he never explains precisely what happened in his childhood to make him have such feelings. This is the void which I'm Not Perfect fills. Through the plethora of characters portrayed in the show, Crasnick presents slices of his childhood life which provide the audience with insights into his less-than-functional background.



ONE PSYCHO SANDWICH TO GO, PLEASE: *Comedian Ed Crasnick at Catch a Rising Star on July 15*

Crasnick takes his childhood memories off the psychiatrist's couch and onto the comedy stage. He entertains, but he also takes a step which many of would not have the courage to do: he shares his life story with the audience. From his childhood to his career in show business and other personal moments, I'm Not Perfect bares Crasnick's soul for all to see. And he does it five times a week.

The ghost of Hamlet's father asked his son to remember him, and Ed Crasnick's performance will do the same of you.



Clubs and Showtimes

Catch a Rising Star at the Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. This legendary comedy club has a new location, but has not changed in bringing top rate performers to Boston. Located in the Charles Playhouse, Boston's oldest remaining home of standup comedy. Every Mon.: Comedy School. Every Wed.: The Comedy Lab. Every Thu.: Comedy Underground. Every Sun: Boston's Brightest. Showtimes: Thu. & Sun. at 8:30p.m. Admission $8. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30p.m. and 10:30p.m. Admission $12..
Thu. 7/22 thru Sun. 7/25- Ed Crasnick, I'm Not Perfect. Thu. 7/29 thru Sun. 8/1- Ed Crasnick, I'm Not Perfect.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall
248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Every Sun at 9:30: Black Comedy Showcase. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 7/21- Mike McDonald. Thu. 7/22- Frank Santos. Fri. 7/23 & Sat. 7/24- Shaw Wayans. Sun. 7/26- Andrew "Dice" Clay. Mon. 7/26- Kevin Knox. Tue. 7/27- Andrew "Dice" Clay. Wed. 7/28- Mike McDonald. Thu. 7/29- Frank Santos. Fri. 7/30 & Sat. 7/31- Greg Fitzsimmons, Don Gavin. Sun. 8/1 7:30p.m.- Rich Ciesler, Jackie Flynn. Sun. 8/1 9:30p.m.- Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 8/3- Kevin Knox. Tue. 8/3- D.J. Hazard.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $8. Always packed and second hand smoky.
Fri. 7/23 & Sat. 7/24- Greg Fitzsimmons, The Beetles, Joe Carroll, Rick Delia. Fri. 7/30 & Sat. 7/31- Al Duchame, Peter Cummin, John Steiner.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's
124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 9:30p.m. Admission $10.
Fri. 7/23 & Sat. 7/24- Brad Mastrangelo. Fri. 7/30 & Sat. 7/31- "Boston's Best" Comedy Showcase.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.
Wed. 7/21- Kevin Knox, Randy Credico. Thu. 7/22- Paul D'Angelo, Phil Tagliaff, Randy Credico, Eddie Brill. Fri. 7/23 & Sat. 7/24- Paul Gilligan, Eddie Brill, Bobby Slayton. Mon. 7/26- Billy Martin. Tue. 7/27- Kevin Knox. Wed. 7/28- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Nardizzi. Thu. 7/29- Paul D'Angelo, Anna Collins, Jimmy Tingle. Fri. 7/30 & Sat. 7/31- Paul Nardizzi, Frank Santorelli, Jimmy Tingle. Mon. 8/2- Billy Martin. Tue. 8/3- Kevin Knox.

Stitches
835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu.: The Dating Game, Hosted by Billy Martin. Every Sun.: Comedy Riot Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.
Wed. 7/21- Women in Comedy, Lauren Dombrowski host. Thu. 7/22- Boston's Best New Comics, Vinnie Favorito host. Fri. 7/23- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Wayne, Chris Zito, Tom Gilmore, John Kawie. Sat. 7/24- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Wayne, John Kawie, Chris Zito. Sun. 7/25- Boston Comedy Riot, Vinnie Favorito host. Tue. 7/27- boston's Best Showcase. Wed. 7/28- Women in Comedy, Helene Lantry host. Thu. 7/29- Boston's Best Comics, Joe Yanetti host. Fri. 7/30- Jay Charbonneau, Bob Gatreau, Brian Pwers, Joe Yanetti. Sat. 7/31- Jay Charbonneau, Bob Gautreau, Maria Falzone, Brlan Powers. Mon 8/3 thru Fri. 8/6- The 9th Annual Stitches/WBCN/Bud Light Boston Comedy Riot.

Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

"More Brew and Barbeque"

NOT A WELD DINNER

On Thursday, July 29, **Michael's Waterfront** restaurant on Atlantic Avenue will host a summer beer and food fest.. It will feature eleven different kinds of beer and ale along with a four course dinner. Appetizers include lager poached and grilled swordfish fajititas and Jamaican-jerked chicken skewers. Different beers will accompany each course - **Long Trail Red Ale** and **Abita 'Turbo Dog' Ale** just to name two. There will also be the chance to meet local brewers and win prizes such as T-shirts and a home brew kit. The price is $30 per person and includes tax and tip. Attendence is by reservation only, so call 367-6425 now.

COME OUT OF YOUR SHELL

With the summer in full swing, lobster specials are popping up all over town! **Dakota's** on Summer street in Boston is haivng their fourth annual lobster fest.. Every night from 5:30pm the restaurant offers a 1 1/2 lb. lobster, soup or salad along with coffee and dessert for $16.95. Your lobster can be steamed, boiled or even herbed mesquite grilled. Dakota's - 737-1777. From now until July 31, the **Last Hurrah** in the **Omni Parker House** is offering 1 1/4 lb chilled Maine lobsters for $4.99. This special occurs Monday-Friday, 5-7pm. And finally, the twin lobster special has returned to **Joseph's Aquarium** restaurant on Atlantic Avenue. The twin lobster special is $9.99 ($11.99 after 5pm) and includes potatoes and vegetable along with a bib - of course! **Joseph's** - 523-4000.



Michael Schweiger (left) and Jeff Saunders at Mr. Schweiger's retirement party as General Manager of the Lenox Hotel.

SMOKEY THE BREW

John Harvard's Brew House in Harvard Square has a three day barbeque festival starting on Thursday, July 22. The event will feature an all-you-care-to-eat buffet at $9.95 per person along with a roster of complementary beers including "smoked" beer, wheat beer, English shandies and stout slides. The list of barbequed food includes roasted pig, hickory smoked ribs, brisket, spicy grilled catfish and more. Accompaniments include traditional cornbread and biscuits, cole slaw, potato and garden salads along with a dessert buffet.. The event will mark the debut of **John Harvard's** new "alt Bamberger" style smoked beer. According to the brewer Tim Morse, the beer is a tradition of brewers in Bamberg, Germany who gave their beer a smoky flavor by slow drying their malt over beech wood fires. Reservations are advised, call 868-8535.

SAVE THESE DATES

The recently opened **West Street Grill** will be hosting the **A.I.W.F. Supper Club** on July 26 from 7:30-10pm. A wonderful family dinner of Moroccan seafood stew with cous cous will be offered. Wine is included and the price is $20 per person for non members and $15 for members. Personally, we can't wait to see what has been done to Cornucopia's old location. Call the A.I.W.F. at 427-0538. **Westport Rivers** vineyard and winery will be hosting a tasting of over 50 chardonnay wines with their Celebrate Chardonnay event on Sunday, July 31. The price is $25 and the proceeds benefit the **Westport River Bay Scallop Restoration** project.. Resevations are required, call (508) 636-3423. ❑



THE WELCOME WITH AN ITALIAN ACCENT!

If you're looking for that something special in Italian dining, you'll find it at Stromboli's. Prepared with the authenticity of Italy's Northern region, you will feast on such delectables as Veal Parmesan to Shrimp Scampi, Fettuccine Alfredo to brick oven Pizza. Plus home made pastas, breads and deserts made fresh daily. So come and enjoy dining in an atmosphere of relaxed elegance and old world charm, at a leisurely place.

Stromboli's
Brick Oven Pizza & Gourmet Pasta

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GRAND OPENING

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT

1248 Cambridge St. Cambridge 497-6548 All major credit cards accepted.

Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting, 7 days/week, 12:00pm-11:00pm. Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including Thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3pm, feast on all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music (no cover) Thursday through Saturday nights. Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available on premises.

BENNETT ST. CAFÉ

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.

We invite you to visit Bennett St. Cafe to try our brand new exciting and delicious menu. Chef Peter Davis, formerly of The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA has just arrived at The Charles Hotel. He has created a totally new menu, including new Rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit the casual outdoor patio area for drinks and dinner, plus try our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet – known for its raw bar, omelettes made–to–order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and deserts. Dress is very 'Cambridge' – come as you are!

BLUE WAVE

142 Berkeley Street, Bos., 424-6711
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-6

The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. The Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

BOB THE CHEF'S

604 Columbus Ave., Bos., 536-6204, D-6

Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's Restaurant is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy Fall Off the Bone Bar-B-Qued Spareribs, Chicken and Dumplings, or Soul Chitterings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7.00 to $9.00 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies. Winners of the 1993 Zagat Restaurant survey "BestBuy." The Improper Bostonian voted Bob the Chef's "Best Soul Food." Not only do they serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, but also Bob the Chef's Restaurant offers catering. So next time you are planning a party, let Bob the Chef's do the work. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 8am-9pm, friday and Saturday 8am-11pm.

CANESTARO PIZZERIA

16 Peterborough At., Bos., 266-8997, D-4

Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so stop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer thirty different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything—steak, proscuitto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. If you don't feel like going out to dinner, just call Canestaro Pizzeria for free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday 11am-12:30am.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-1

The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY

138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383
A, MC, V, DC $$, B-7

Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live Reggae and Calypso music every Fri. and Sat. nights. Hours are from 11:30a.m. to midnight Sun.-Thurs. and until 1:00a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual Dress.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300
A,D,DC,MC,V $$$, C-7

New American cuisine is served at this classy Art Deco restaurant located on the waterfront. The creative menu changes with the seasons but there's always a duck confit cooked with a fruit sauce. Desserts are always spectacular here-Cornucopia won the coveted IB's Best of Boston Tastiest Dessert award. Open for lunch Mon.-Fri. and dinner Tue.-Sat. Reservations are advised.

THE DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093
441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696
$$, B-7

This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a dear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

CRABFEST

July 26-August 1, 1993

(Dinner Only)

Our messy and marvelous Crabfest is everything it's cracked up to be. Tons of fresh blue crabs, soft-shelled crabs, crabcakes and more, served in an authentic Crab House setting. One week only, *so make plans now.*

SKIPJACK'S
The Seafood Experts.

5 Bennett Street,,Harvard Square 876-9900
199 Clarendon Street, Boston 536-35002
Brookline Place, Brookline 232-8887
Discounted parking available, all locations

DAVIO'S

269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.

Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

GREEN BRIAR RESTAURANT

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100
AMEX, V, MC, DC, C-1

Brighton's best Irish restaurant. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads, burgers, etc. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. Also try our new, exciting brunch every Sunday 10-2:30. All of this enjoyed in our casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Call for details.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
MC, V, DC, $$, B-7

Words that come to mind when you dine at the Harp include variety, affordability, and great taste! Boneless Buffalo Wings, Grilled Chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, Boston's Biggest & Best Burgers, Irish Beef Stew, Fish & Chips, Corned Beef & Cabbage, and gourmet specials that will "knock your socks off"! Summer 2 for 1 dinners served Sat-Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features Traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wed-Sun. Reservation accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line.

HARVARD STREET GRILL

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC, V, DC $$, D-3

Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek in a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: Grilled Salmon with Tomato Saffron Essence and Wilted Spinach, Sweet & Sour Chicken with Beet Curry, or the house specialty: Grilled Rack of Lamb with Hoisin Sauce and Scallions. Top off a meal perfectly with luscious deserts such as Chocolate Ganache Flan with Warm Caramel Sauce, Lemon Buttermilk Tart with Blueberry Coulis, or Homemade Fruit Ice. 1992 Wine Spectator Award of Excellence, 1993 Ivy Award. Tues.-Thurs. 5:30-9:30pm. Fri.-Sat. 5:30-10:30pm. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

IL NIDO LOCANDA ITALIANA

257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272
A, DC $$, B-7

If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional, authentic Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming, warm atmosphere, Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrion to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, an abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner Nightly. Closed Mondays.

LEGAL SEA FOODS

Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444 A,D,MC,V $$, C-6
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700 $$$

Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Seafood's has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

MAMMA MARIA

3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$, B-7
Reservations recommended
Valet parking; no dress code

If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA

207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC ,A $$

You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicap access. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $, D-4

Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

THE ORIGINAL SPORTS SALOON

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, AX, CB, En Route, C-6

This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This saloon roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. Barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. Open 11 a.m. - 2 a.m. all week.

PROVINCE STREET PUB

18 Province St., Bos. 227-2992
A,MC.V

Located near downtown crossing, the newly opened Province Street Pub has a fresh new look and menu. The pub is split into two levels, featuring a fantastic loft dining room on the upper level. Whether you're looking for a quick lunch or a full dinner, if you're downtown this is the place to go. The pub also offers $3 validated parking and live entertainment. Open 11:30 -2a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

TAJ MAHAL AT KENMORE

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. 247-7266 All major credit cards accepted.

Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites like Chicken Tandoori and Thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection of South Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of you're wallet, the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon, served from 12-3pm, is for you at just $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights/week, 3pm-11pm. Take-out and delivery is always available.

THE SABRA RESTAURANT & THE SABRA GRILL

45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641
20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777

Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

SPASSO ITALIA CAFE & BAR

160 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, 536-8656
AX, V, MC, D, Cb, $$, C-6

Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and have brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

STROMBOLI

187 North Street Newton, 630-0002
12 green street, woburn, 935-0070
V, MC, A$$

Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli , simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function!

Dining Review / Ed and Ruth Feldman

CAFE BUDAPEST

"... It Might Just Give a Whole New Meaning To the Term 'Power Lunch' ..."

Entering Cafe Budapest is like taking a step back in time, not merely due to the menu or the luxurious old world decor, but to the complete attention to detail and service. The legendary establishment, under the guidance of Dr. Hedy Rev Kury, has been awarded a five star diamond award for 1992 and 1993, and the newly-established Di Rona award for 92/93. We were, therefore, all the more curious: was this restaurant really worth all of the accolades? What better way to find out than to take advantage of the reasonably priced, all-inclusive lunch menu.

The cafe is in a charmingly rustic room, straight from the Hungarian countryside. Dark wood beams, ceramic plates and pottery, and stucco facades adorned with mirrors and hurricane lamps gave the ambiance of a local eatery in Hungary. A huge wood paneled mantel and hearth completed the experience of warmth and hospitality, while traditional Hungarian music played softly in the background.

IF YOU GO

CAFE BUDAPEST

$$$
90 EXETER STREET
BOSTON
266-1979
734-3388

There were twelve lunch selections at an all inclusive price of $14.95, in addition to à la carte items that ranged from $14.50 to $16.50. The choices included crepes, omelets, chicken and veal paprikas, stuffed cabbage and rice pilaf à la Gypsy Baron, three soups, and several lavish hors d'oeuvres of goose liver with truffles, herring, and several presentations of caviar. You may ask "Who eats this way?" but it might just give a whole new meaning to the term "power lunch."

Soup of the day, Cream of Broccoli, was a creamy (but suspiciously neon green) flavorful puree with chunks of broccoli, topped with some crunchy fried noodles, and proved a pleasant starter to our meal. The house salad was a nice mix of iceberg, watercress, onion, cucumber, a token radicchio leaf and sieved hard boiled egg with the house vinaigrette, which of course included fresh paprika.

The seven *prix-fixe* entrees included beef and veal Gulyas, Stroganoff and even a Cotelette de Boeuf à la Esterhazy. We dined on a special of beef with mushrooms in a paprika sauce accompanied by homemade noodles, and another entrée of stuffed cabbage with potatoes. Both were outstanding and delicately prepared. The beef dish was very tender and aromatic. The stuffed cabbage was my idea of soul food - a hearty preparation of a smoked ham filling accompanied by extra slices of ham – and the paprika sauce was velvety smooth. To accompany our meals we chose a traditional Egri Bikavar red wine, which was full, robust, and a good accompaniment to both meals.

After licking our plates absolutely clean, it was time to think about dessert. The included dessert was fresh strawberries with heavy cream. But who could experience a typical Hungarian meal without sampling the proverbial strudel? Not us! The cherry strudel was wrapped in very delicate layers and refreshingly tart compared to the American version which can often be over-bearingly sweet, and was accompanied by a very flavorful cup of coffee.

In all, our experience at The Cafe Budapest was most pleasurable and we'd highly recommend getting re-acquainted with the establishment whether for lunch or dinner. Though we can't promise such a complete experience as we had with an Eastern Orthodox priest as a fellow diner, we can promise an enjoyable meal while partaking in a little bit of old Budapest in downtown Boston. ❑

The Cactus Club of BACK BAY BOSTON
RESTAURANT AND BAR

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun. 10:30a.m. - 2p.m.

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1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, C-2, 232-4242
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CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$, C-5
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omelette. Reservations suggested.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St. , Brookline, 566-1002
A, D, MC, V $$, D-1
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, C-6, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's Grande Dame of Hotels - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., and is only $19.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelettes and waffles, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, C-6, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-paneled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omelette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, D-4, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SERENDIPITY 3
120 S. Mkt. Bldg., Faneuil Hall, Bos., B-7, 523-2339
It will indeed be serendipitous if you stumble upon this sophisticated brunch spot, but it's worth seeking out. Sample the challah French toast, homemade quiche or whole wheat blueberry and banana pancakes. Live Jazz Sun. 10:30am-2:30pm. Discounted parking with validation of 75 State St. Parking Garage.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bost., C-6, 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE CAFÉ
338 Newbury St., Bos., Ç-5 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip the café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9 p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

ESTATE BOTTLING:

Romance and Reality

At one point during a wine-tasting dinner I conducted last month, I was describing what I felt were the unique virtues of a Sonoma County Chardonnay my company represents. I noted, among other factors, that the grapes which produced the wine originated from several distinct zones within Sonoma, including cooler coastal areas like Carneros and Russian River, and sites further inland within the Alexander Valley and Chalk Hill districts, The complex harmony of flavor sensations we experienced were the result then of blending among these less ripe higher acid Chardonnay lots and those from the warmer vineyards which display richer; texture and fuller fruit flavor.

One of the guests was puzzled. "This tastes wonderful, " he said, "but it's not an estate-bottled wine."

I encouraged him to continue because I did not see the contradiction.

"It's just that you said the Chardonnay tasted good because the grapes came from different areas but we always hear that wines made from one particular vineyard are better."

Of all the romantic myths surrounding wine he had hit upon the most cherished: that quality and character inherently result from an artisan vintner harvesting his ancestral lands and bottling small batches of wine. Truly fine wine, we believe, must reflect the special loving care which Jacques, or Angelo, or Charlie lavishes on his vines, his intimate knowledge of their behavior vintage after vintage, and his ability to coax magic from their capricious grapes.

As with most myths the propagation of this image serves deeper purposes: to enhance the commercial value of certain pieces of real estate. Because there are many buyers and production is necessarily limited, some wines are able to command better prices. In reality, although it confers a powerful marketing advantage, estate bottling has no bearing on quality, It does not, in and of itself, make a wine more "authentic."

Anyone assuming it guarantees superiority will eventually learn some painful and expensive lessons.

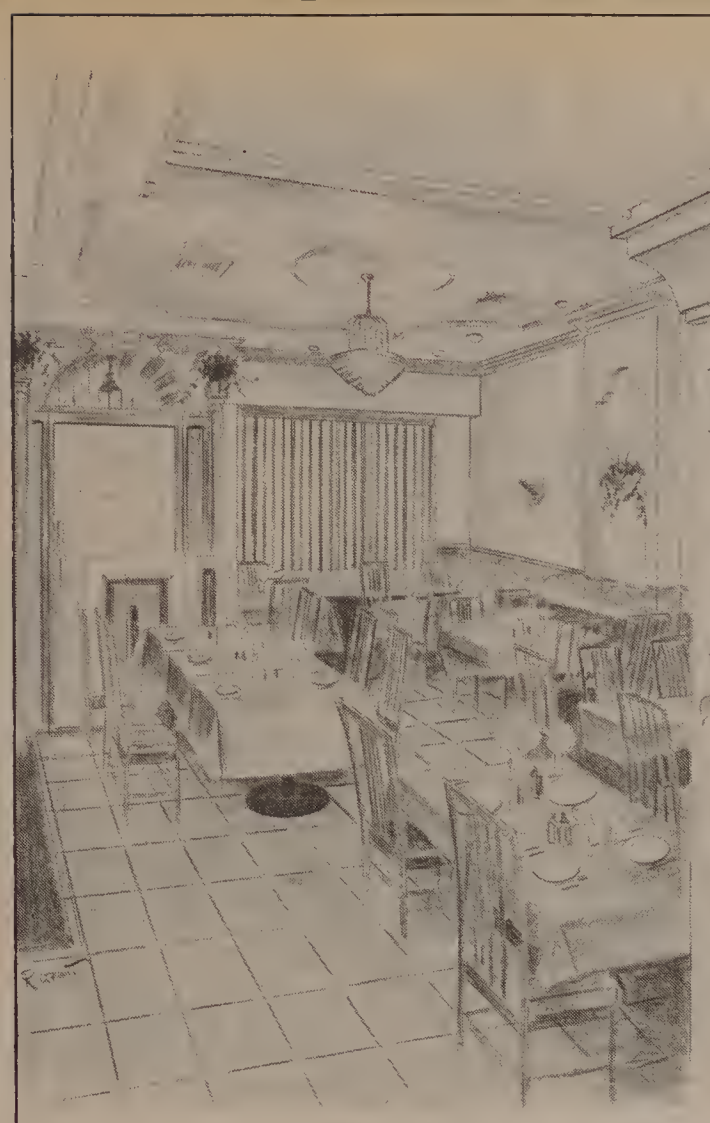
Among the world's finest wines many, of course, reflect the particular growing conditions of a vineyard site. In a real sense they give voice to the land. Writers love to point up the differences between such wines, which express *terroir* (a French term describing all environmental influences on the grapes), and others characterized as the product of impersonal industrial processing. On the one hand we have indelible images of soil, art, individuality; on the other, technological control, manipulation, sameness.

What does the term "estate bottled" mean though? Beyond the expectations encouraged by marketing agents, is there any necessary connection between estate bottling and the notion that wines may show heightened character if they express the particularity of a vineyard?

Absolutely not. "Estate bottled" carries no legal implication whatsoever that the wine is made on the same plot of land where the grapes are grown. The basic requirement is simply that ownership of the production facility as well as the vineyard sources be concentrated in one company's hands. Estate bottled wines may - therefore comprise blends originating from a variety of different vineyards (which may be several miles apart) as long as each of them is owned by the bottler.

Misleading? The French term *"mis en bouteille au chateau"* or "au domaine" on a label signifies that the wine was bottled on the property." Does this mean that "estate bottled" Chambertin is made at the Chambertin vineyard? Never; it means only that an owner of Chambertin vines transported the grapes to another property of his in Burgundy and made them separately into wine there. ❑

Sandy Block was awarded the title Master of Wine in 1992 by the prestigious British Institute of Masters of Wine. Of the 162 people worldwide who hold this title, only five are Americans. Sandy is also the on-premise wine manager at The Branded-New England Company in Norwood.



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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Bull & Finch Pub (Cheers)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

Cactus Club
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

Frogg Lane Bar & Grill
720-0610, 245 Faneuil Hall Mktpl., Bos, B-7. At this large Faneuil Hall patio bar, the crowd is a mix of tourists and locals. Lofted above the crowd in Faneuil Hall, Frogg Lane offers a mixed menu of American and Mexican fare. No cover or dress code. Jukebox for indoor entertainment.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m.. "Street Magic" A cappella every Wednesday at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

Province Street Pub
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

Warren Tavern
241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, B-5. A funky little bar whose clientele includes young professionals & athletes. Also claims to attract Boston's most beautiful women (?!) Local celebs don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

Pop/Jazz/ Blues/Reggae

Cantab Lounge
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

Rathskeller
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Boston, C-5
Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs, and R.E.M. The RAt attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs.

Western Front
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

Dancing

Avalon
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "Hi" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

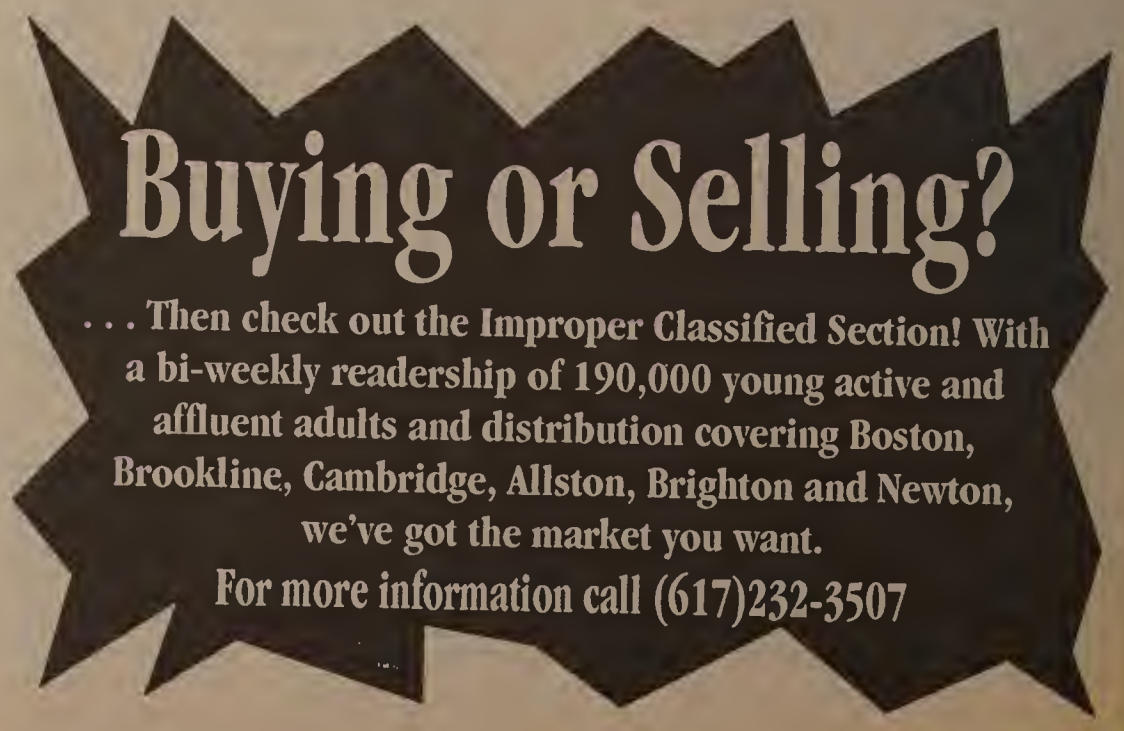
The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400, C-2
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2AM and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.







About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

My Own Personal Best

Lauren Dare's Best Places to be Bad.

Well, just so I wouldn't feel left out of the swing of things, I decided to do a little round-up of my own personal bests and worsts from my forays into the Boston bar scene. Please keep in mind that these are highly personal, subjective, and opinionated reviews, that do not in any way express the views or opinions of *The Improper Bostonian*, the President of the U.S., Charo, or anybody else, for that matter, and I in no way expect you to agree with them. Nor do I care. Are we ready?

Daisy Buchanan's: Best Place To Score With Someone When You're So Drunk You Don't Care Who You Score With. It's late at night, you're three, no, four, sheets to the wind, and the person sitting at the stool at the end of the bar is looking mighty fine, until your friend informs you that the object of your affections is a police dog who is accompanying the cop who just came in to bust up a fight. Whoops.

Armani Express: Best Place To Go and Be Really, Really Pretentious. Bring your cell-phone, your Oliver Peoples sunglasses, and an attitude, sit their sidewalk cafe, and feel ultimately superior to the pedestrians sweating past.

Small Planet Bar and Grill: Best Place To Chill Out And Be P.C.

Joe's American Bar and Grill: Best Place To Start Out Your Night. Right in the center of the Boston universe, Joe's has it all: Newbury Street patio, every (oh, no, I'm going to say it again) thirty-something yuppie type in a twenty mile radius, and a gossip network system to let you know exactly where *the* place to go that night is.

Generation X: Best Time At A Club I've Ever Had Without Hooking Up With Someone. Gen X has definitely filled a gap in Boston nightlife. Going there is like going to a party at someone's house (big house), where you can hang out, drink, mingle, and party with the most eclectic and diverse bunch of people I've seen this side of a Benetton ad.

Zanzibar: Worst Time At A Club I've Ever Had Trying To Avoid Hooking Up With Someone. Good Grief, Charlie Brown. Going to Zanzibar unattached is like swimming with the sharks during feeding time.

Europa: Best Place To Go Pretend You're European. Even if you're not a Euro, you can still have a great time doing the kissy kissy thing, spraying champagne, dancing on the furniture to outrageous international club music, and behaving like you're never going to grow up, and you don't have to go to work tomorrow.

Hardrock Cafe: Best Place To Go For Any Record Release Party Or Private Gig. Isaac Tigrett knows how to throw a bash, and the Hard Rock puts out a generous spread. Worst Place to go any other time. The diner-outfitted waitresses and multitudes of tourists snapping pictures and celebrating birthdays wears thin pretty fast.

Cactus Club: Best Place To Get Sautéed, Jelloed or Bit. Also probably the closest any of us will ever get to a bison, living or dead.

Bills' Bar: Best Place To Go Hang Out On Sunday Nights. The weekend warriors are off the streets, and amateur hour is over. Only the pros go out on Sunday, and they know how to play. Start off at Bill's, then go trip the light fantastic next door at Venus de Milo.

Dad's Beantown Diner: Best Place To Go Pick Up Someone Under Twenty. Probably two-thirds of the clientele can count their age just using their fingers and toes. If you're into that kind of thing.

So there they are. I know, I know. This is by no means a complete list, and I'm sure I left out a lot of other fun categories, and I'm sure there are many more places that are bester or worster out there that you would put in if you had my column, but as I said before, this was *my* Best and Worst. ■

Three Cheers

RESTAURANT & BAR

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July 26 Luck of the Draw
July 27 & August 3 Free Jukebox
July 28 Grinning Lizards
July 29 Dave & the Shades
July 30 Pour Boys
July 31 Dennis Healy Band
August 1 Donegal Corderoys & D.J.Tom
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July 22 Boston Baked Blues
July 23 Swinging Johnsons
July 24 Pocd Loco
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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

Dark Story Lines

The Burden of the Ideal Female Virtue

The "Story lines" might be dark, with songs that address the death of a friend, the burden of ideal female virtue or women's preoccupation with staying slim. But don't expect The Angel in the House, the second album by Boston duo the Story, to sound like a statement of feminism or pessimism. It's not their nature.

"I think it's a little more oblique," songwriter and acoustic guitarist Jonatha Brooke says of the music she concocts with vocal foil Jennifer Kimball. "I don't want to go around shaking my fist."

The oblique angles extend to the duo's sublime harmonies, a fragile, ethereal balance of melody and dissonance that developed when the two singers met at Amherst College in the early 80s.

"That was sort of what drew us together," Brooke says of their approach to harmony. "I was influenced by choral and Broadway music, and I think that's where I got that kind of flavor for counterpoint."

Indeed, the duo has a rare, offbeat vocal chemistry. At times, the Story's stellar 1991 debut "Grace in Gravity" (reissued by Elektra last year) brought to mind Jane Siberry, Suzanne Vega and the Roches, but Brooke and Kimball are their own novel match.

"When we first started out, the Roches were a big inspiration, especially in their whole shtick," Brooke says. "We really loved their stage wackiness and their sense of humor. I think we still really appreciate that irreverence, 'cause a lot of [our] material is very intense. But I think we feel the need to represent the people that we are, at the same time as we're singing these intense songs."

On The Angel in the House, those songs include "So Much Mine" (an ode to streetwise girls from their mothers' perspective), "Missing Person Afternoon" (an impressionistic dialogue with a friend who died) and the title track, named after a Victorian poem about ideal female virtue. Author Virginia Woolf used the phrase to describe the phantom which keeps women from pursuing desired goals.

"I still feel the pull of that phantom," Brooke says. "It goes, 'Clean the house, you don't really need to write a song today, make sure all the laundry's done, and nest!'"

Brooke actually nests with Alain Mallet, her husband and Story keyboardist, whose love of Latin jazz is reflected in the more fleshed out arrangements of the new album. That flavor is evident from the horn-goosed "When Two and Two Are Five" to the cha-cha cushion of novelty number "Fatso," a seeming successor to frisky crowd-pleaser "Dog Dreams."

"It's sort of a tongue-in-cheek, but very serious, poke at that whole mentality that's an obsession with so many women," says Brooke, whose training as a dancer helped her sidestep the fatso syndrome. "It's part of the whole Angel in the House mentality that keeps us from more important things. Instead, we think about food all day, and 'Oh God, I can't have that' and 'I hope I lose ten pounds by Friday!'"

For the Story, those more important things now include nationwide promotion for the new album. But the duo will sing July 27 at the Jackson Homestead in Newton as part of "Arts in the Park," before returning with their full band to play the Somerville Theater Oct. 2.

ELSEWHERE

Slippery, jam-laced arrangements bridging art-rock and bluegrass are on tap when Phish headlines Great Woods July 24. R&B-rock dynamo Terence Trent D'Arby is bound to upstage Duran Duran there July 26, then look for Tina Turner to take Great Woods by storm July 29. It's better than the movies. ❑

Freelance writer/photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe.



STILL FEELING THAT URGE TO NEST: *Jennifer Kimball and Jonatha Brooke of* the Story

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Lazy Afternoons

A Quick Tanglewood Tour

There's little that could be more pleasant than a summer weekend at Tanglewood. You lie on the lawn with a picnic, music playing in "the shed," birds twittering, the mountains pale in the distance. Around you sits the most astonishing range of people, from glissando-glazed New York literati to poker-playing college kids. In the dog days of summer, the Boston Symphony retreats to the country – a nice Edith Wharton touch – and provides us with two delightful concerts a weekend: one at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, and one at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday. Their programs are well-chosen and varied, and the experience as a whole is pretty luxurious.

For those who run their eyes over a Tanglewood schedule and see nothing but a jumble of meaningless names, I'd suggest the Saturday, August 7 concert, which features Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony (No. 4) and violin concerto, the latter played by child prodigy Midori. Mendelssohn's music is emotional, but still quite light and comprehensible. You'll probably recognize some of the tunes from the violin concerto, if only because they play it in the background whenever Bugs Bunny cross-dresses and weeps at musket-point. You might also consider the all-Mozart concert on Sunday, August 22, featuring some of Mozart's most dramatic symphonic music.

For fans of choral and vocal music, I'd suggest the Sunday, August 15 performance of Haydn's oratorio, "The Creation," conducted by Simon Rattle. It's a stunning work which leads the listener from the chaos before created matter to the dawn of man, featuring both barn-storming choruses and immensely moving, delicate moments, like a breathtaking depiction of the first sunrise.

Those who love West Side Story might be interested in Leonard Bernstein's "Age of Anxiety" Symphony (Saturday July 24), a work which proves that Bernstein's genius lay in his musical schizophrenia. The piece slides brilliantly from classical symphony to nightclub solo to glitzy film tune with no seam and no shame. The concert is capped off with one of Gustav Mahler's *shorter* symphonies (the Fourth), which clocks in at just under an hour with his usual vision of heaven and etc.

On week-nights, consider the Muir String Quartet's performance of Dvorak's broad, prairie-scented "American" Quartet and Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" Quartet (Thursday July 22); or two brief 17th century operas by Purcell and Charpentier performed by Baroque divinity William Christie, who will be descending on Wednesday, August 11. Fans of John Williams and the Pops should keep in mind July 20 ("An Evening of Unforgettable Love Songs") and Tuesday, August 13 ("A Night at the Movies") — perfect music for a summer evening, especially a summer evening on the planet Tatoonie

So pack a picnic. Set out for the mountains. Leave the main roads and travel by those rambling, rural lanes, unless you're one of those people who's afraid of getting lost and being eaten by inbred farmers. You'll have a spectacular time. It's part of that halcyon days of our youth thing.

IF YOU GO

TANGLEWOOD

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FOR INFORMATION, AND TICKETS, CALL THE BOX OFFICE AT: 413-637-1940

THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3				

DANCE

CAMBRIDGE CHAMBER BALLET
at the Dance Complex
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The CCB performs a summer concert July 31 at 8 p.m., which will cover a dance spectrum from Afro-Caribbean to free jazz to a neo-classical interpretation of Bizet's *Carmen*. Tickets are $10, $8 for students and seniors. Call 547-9363.

JACOB'S PILLOW
Becket, MA
The annual Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival is here again – 12 weeks of dancing, workshops, conferences and more. Call (413) 243-0745 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
Photographer Beverly Conley has created a pictorial salute to the Cape Verdean community in Boston. It's on display through July.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Take a cheap trip to France when you view "Summer Sojourn," images of France by Michael Berger. On display through July 30. The exhibit is free. Call 266-4351 for more details.

N.E. SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Boston
Black & white, color, experimental color, advertising, corporate, editorial, photojournalism and portraiture are all represented in this student exhibition through Sept. 13. Photographers were students in the two-year professional photography program.



The Golden Gallery

Richard Diebenkorn
Jim Dine
Helen Frankenthaler
David Hockney
Jasper Johns
Alex Katz
Roy Lichtenstein
Robert Motherwell
Claes Oldenburg
Larry Rivers
Jim Rosenquist
Sean Scully
Frank Stella
Wayne Thiebaud

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PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
To usher in the new season, the PRC presents John Weiss' "The Face of Baseball," which features fantastic photographs of the players, the fans, the equipment and the ballparks. It runs through July 30. Call 353-0700.

TOURS

BEN FRANKLIN ALIVE
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston
This summer, you can have Benjamin Franklin give you a walking tour of Boston! It's a three-hour tour that includes a historical performance, tour and lunch at the renowned Maison Robert. Cost is $30, and the tours are given every Monday in July and Tuesdays in August. Call 482-6439 for more information or reservations.

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – all seen while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically-designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early 20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

ODYSSEY CRUISES
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the *Spirit of Boston* ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef. Call 654-9700 for reservations.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past – this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in "Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon." Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.



IMPROPER PICK

Alianza Gallery at 154 Newbury St., Boston, always scores a hit with its annual exhibition of ceramic teapots. It sounds weird, but "Tea and Fantasy" is truly hip - neon teapots, cow teapots, and even teapots made to look like diners!

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most edectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Firestone silver collection, pieces of which are on display until Aug. 8, contains extremely rare 18th century wares made in Paris and other French cities known for silversmiths. An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors are on display until Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." On view through Aug. 1 is John Singleton Copley's "Watson and Shark," the two large versions of his famous shark attack painting. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Part 2" until September. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle — all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Through Sept. 12. Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. ASL interpreters will be on hand July 10. Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. Call 522-6547 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious—and dangerous—sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 - ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has anything to do with New England sports, including lots of interactive exhibits - like one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work. *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

IMPROVBOSTON
at the Back Alley Theatre
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
After a hot day at the beach, this comedy troupe's new production *The Clam Bake Variations* is not to be missed. Show dates are July 22-25 at 7 p.m.; tickets are $15, $12 for students and seniors. Call 576-1253 for reservations.

KENDALL CAFE
233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge
Well, it sounds kinky to us: Steps Theater Company presents *The Throb of Life*, an ongoing, continuing radio drama for adults only. Admission is $7; call 499-9580 for reservations and info.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a

(continued on following page)

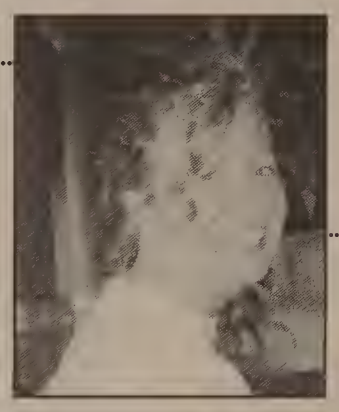
WOMAN ON THE STREET

"Behind My Back My Friends Say. . ."

BY LESLIE



Todd, 35, South End
"I leave the longest messages, I never clean my apartment and I'm late for everything."



Wendy, 25, Newton
"I'm too sensitive and tend to get upset over stupid things."



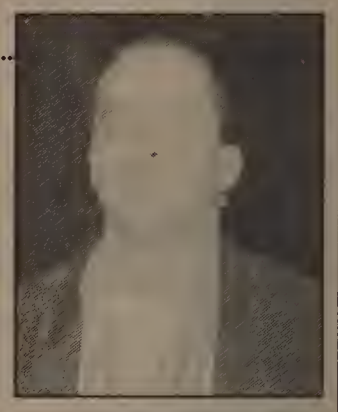
Lee, 23, Boston
"My friends say that I have the worst taste in men."



Ed, 27, Brighton
"I talk too much about things I am really interested in – like snowboarding."



Zoe, 50, Watertown
"They say how obvious it is that I'm not a real blond."



Paul, 28, Cambridge
"I'm glad I'm not him!"

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Modeling

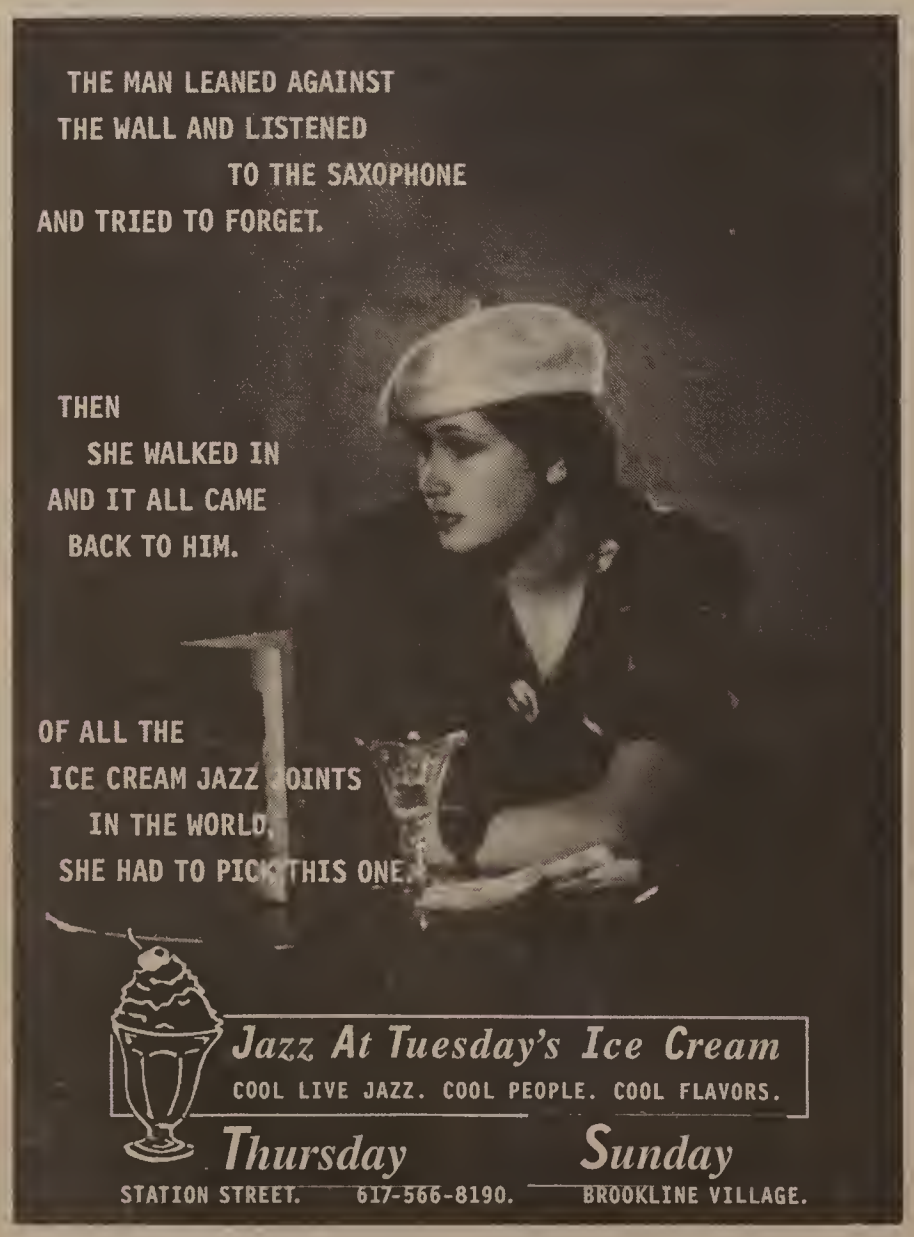
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comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THE OTHER WHITE MEAT
at the Back Alley Theatre
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Tired of the same old comedy chicken? Then try a taste of The Other White Meat, Boston's acclaimed sketch comedy troupe. "The Comedy of Menace" will feature surreal skits, dark comedy, monologues and musical pieces. Runs July 27-Aug. 1 at 8 p.m., with an additional 5 p.m. matinee Aug. 1. Tickets are $12 Tue.-Thur. and $15 Fri.-Sun. Call 576-1119 for more information.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for *Miss Saigon* the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the native woman he left in Vietnam. It's a must-see, but it's only here until Sept. 12. Call 931-2222 for times and ticket prices.

WORKSHOPS

BOSTON CENTER FOR SOCIAL THERAPY
25 Huntington Ave. Ste. 328, Boston
Stop abusive behavior by learning how to deal with abusive situations - verbal, physical, sexual or substance abuse. The July 24 workshop runs from 1-3 p.m. and costs $18, but is well worth it. Call 424-7937 for more information.

LECTURES/READINGS

AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The AAC provides a free, confidential seminar July 21 at 6:30 p.m. to answer the financial, legal, insurance and job-related questions of men and women who have tested HIV-positive. Call 437-6200 x216 for details.

INTERFACE
55 Wheeler St., Cambridge
This July 28 lecture, "Being Together: The Practice of Relationship," is an introductory talk to a 10-week workshop that begins in September. Admission is free; it runs from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Call 661-7890 for more information.

KAJI ASO STUDIO
40 St. Stephen St., Boston
The Kaji Aso hosts a benefit poetry reading for itself July 25 at 2 p.m. Poets featured are Cathy Caley, Richard Cambridge, Ryk McIntyre, Cam Miller and David Schuster. Admission is $2; call 247-1719.

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE
10 Brookline St.
Central Square, Cambridge
T.T.'s presents Stone Soup Poetry every Monday. Call 492-0082. Donation is $3; show begins at 8 p.m.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA GALLERY
154 Newbury St., Boston
This hip gallery presents its annual exhibition of ceramic teapots at its "Tea and Fantasy" show, through Aug. 31. See diner teapots, neon teapots, cow teapots, and more! This show is always a lot of fun.

ARTISTS FOUNDATION
State Transportation Building
8 Park Plaza, Boston
In a stinging indictment of man's intolerance for man, the Artists Foundation has gathered the works of 27 artists under the exhibition heading "Worse than Animals: Meditations on Racist Violence." It runs through July 31.

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
539 Tremont St., Boston
The BCA presents three exhibitions celebrating the portrait: "His People, Her People, Their People," portraits of shared friends and acquaintances by Ralph Hamilton and Elsa Dorfman; "100 Heads (from the South End)," oil portraits of South End residents who live near artist Alan Colby's studio; and "Heroes and heroines," a mural of portraits. The first show runs through Aug. 23 in the Mills Gallery; the latter two run through July 29 in the Cyclorama.

CLARK GALLERY
Lincoln Station, Lincoln
Sculptures, collages, furniture and jewelry (among other things) made from refrigerator doors, rusted metal, bones and beach glass (among other things) are just some of the *objets d'art* that you'll find at "Lost & Found," a group exhibition featuring 19 artists from across the U.S. who primarily use found and recycled materials in their work. The exhibit runs through July 30. Call 259-8303 for more details.

CRYSTAL BLUE BEADING CO.
565 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown
An exhibition of Yoruba African Beadwork will be on view July 24-Aug. 21, with an informal gallery talk on the 24th at 2 p.m. African beadwork is different from that of the Native Americans, and this display includes beaded crowns, a ceremonial sword, jewelry and clothes. Call 923-2337 for more information.

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
This fun and funky shop has a new theme each month. From July 1-31, see "Trade and Mark," an exhibition of vintage advertising featuring famous logos and symbols - from the Smith Brothers to Elsie the Cow.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St., Boston
The oils of French artist Charles Rousselon on display through September, depicting the life and marvelous scenery of Normandy and the Opal Coast.

SPECIAL EVENTS

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
at the Comedy Connection
Faneuil Hall, Boston
Bicycle enthusiasts are invited to this comedy club on July 28 at 6 p.m. to find out about the ALA's autumn bike trek on Cape Cod, and to enjoy free admission to the comedy show that night. Call 1-800-522-2911 for more information.

FETISH FAIR FLEAMARKET
at the Holiday Inn
30 Washington St., Somerville
A mecca for leather, body piercing and erotica, the FFF will be held July 24 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. It's sponsored by the National Leather Association of

(continued on following page)

Feature WRITERS

The Improper Bostonian

Send your resume and clips to:
The Improper Bostonian
Office of the Publisher
17 Station St., Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146-7303
Or FAX it to 232-4305

(continued from previous page)

N.E., a non-profit group dedicated to such topics as safe sex in the leather lifestyle, and privacy issues; money from the fair will go toward the NLA's educational mission. Call 262-5272 for details, or 628-1000 for directions to the hotel.

CLASSICAL

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Wednesday through Aug. 11 at 7:30 p.m., MFA presents "Concerts in the Courtyard." Enjoy jazz and classical music in their elegantly landscaped courtyard; bring a picnic dinner or buy it there. No alcohol, please. Doors open at 6 p.m.; call 267-9300 x300 for a program. Tickets are $12.

S-HIP
at Emmanuel Church
15 Newbury St., Boston
The Society for Historically Informed Performance sponsors an appearance of the baroque ensemble Kammerton July 22 at 8 p.m. Their program is called "Music from Paris," and reflects the culture of 18th-century France and Europe. On July 29 at 8 p.m., the baroque ensemble La Sonnerie plays a concert of French Baroque music, including works by Couperin le Grand, Marais and LeClair. Tickets are $10, $6 for students and seniors.

Tanglewood
Lenox, MA
This beautiful outdoor facility is the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, along with other special guests. The Muir String Quartet performs July 22 and the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra performs July 24; the BSO - conducted by Seiji Ozawa - performs July 23, 25, 29-Aug. 1, and Aug. 3. Call 931-2000 for times and tickets.

FILMS

Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
The BPL presents award-winning documentaries every Thursday at 6 p.m., so come see Something to Do with the Wall on July 22. It takes a look at the Berlin Wall in 1986 and again in 1989. And then there's a Barbra (yes, it's spelled right) Streisand film screened every Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. through Sept. 7 - this is pre-Bill employment, of course. Finally, on Mondays at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., you can see movies on the theme "The Last Golden Age: The '60s Musicals." All films are screened in Rabb Lecture Hall.

Boston University
GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
BU hosts a summer film festival, with a cool movie each week. All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're **free**! Call 353-3635 for a program.

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features; each day has a different theme, and they change each month. For a full program, call 876-6837.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500 for a program.

Hatch Shell
Esplanade, Boston
"Free Friday Flicks," courtesy of WBZ-TV et al, begin on Fridays at sundown (about 8:30 p.m.) at the beautiful Hatch Shell on the Charles River. July 23 see *Honey I Shrunk the Kids*; July 30 it's the baseball fantasy *Field of Dreams*. You may want to bring insect repellent. Call 727-9548.

Laserium
at the Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the *Lollapalaser* show every Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. - a combination of lasers and music from groups like Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other music themes are on other days; call 723-2500 for a program or more details.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
New to the world of Omnimax is *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, which runs through Oct. 14. For the more tropically-oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution -

Linda Ventura / Photos by Nicole Lamy

Im/proper Attire

Fashion Dos and Don'ts

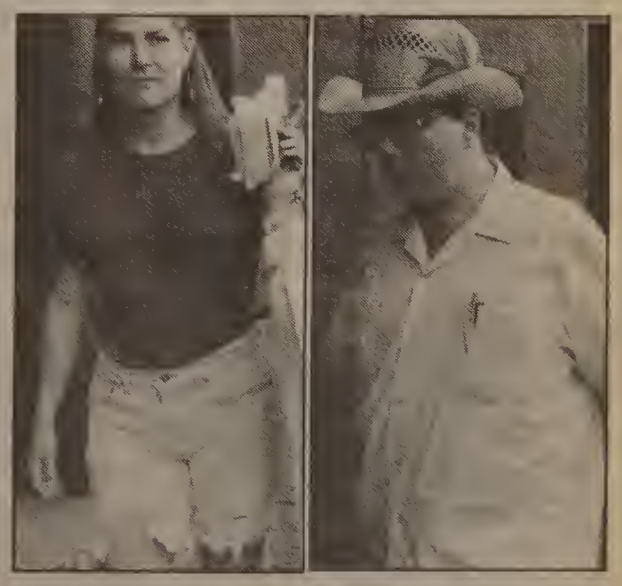
The heat has been unrelenting and so have we in our search to expose what to wear and what not to wear in the scorching summer weeks still ahead. This issue we continue our fashion quest for coolness, composure, and class.



Not only has this Bostonian broken the fashion commandment "Thou shalt not wear sneakers with a suit," he has brought about the clash of the textures! Put that wool checked blazer away and loosen that God-awful, widely-striped, polyester tie. Better yet, burn it! The properly shaded tie-less Bostonian shows that there is only one way to dress for success: with pizzazz and confidence.



Whoops – don't fall out! This Bostonian's long-sleeved, peek-a-boo style is no way to stay airconditioned when it's humid out. Perhaps she should have opted for a little black slip dress; sandled and sexy, this Newburian can move smoothly from an afternoon of shopping to an evening out on the town.



And for a last look at some definite don'ts. Though the grunge look is in, don't wear shorts that look like your German Shepherd used them for a midnight snack. (Let's just hope whatever she's carrying is a new outfit.) And finally, never, never wear those stupid Colombian coffee, multi-pocketed, lounge shirts. This cowboy was unfortunately fooled into purchasing one from the pages of his favorite National Inquirer Magazine. He should have saved his money and invested in a better hat!

Improper Discount Page

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- CV Joints
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MIDAS

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SAFE BABY midas

Purchase a Century car seat at Midas for $42.00. When you no longer need it, return it to us for $42.00 off your next Midas service. We'll donate your car seat to a community loan program.

*COUPON NOT VALID ON OIL CHANGES OR CAR SEATS
EXPIRES JULY 31, 1994

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IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

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Get a classified ad
in the *Improper Bostonian*
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With this coupon.

(and the ad will continue to run - at no extra cost - until it works!)
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PHOTO STOP

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$3 OFF 36 Exposures
$2 OFF 24 Exposures
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Offers may not be combined.

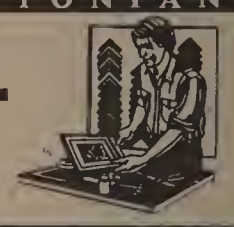
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10-6:30 every day
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$15 OFF *ANY* PURCHASE $75-$99.99
$20 OFF *ANY* PURCHASE $100-$124.99
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Specials Not Included

1001 Commonwealth Avenue, Brighton
(617) 782-4777...WATTS Line 1-800-445-6437
open daily 8-6, Saturday 8-5
one discount per purchase, not valid with other promotions

Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 8/31/93.

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3 Months for $99 and "BECOME THE BEST THAT YOU CAN BE"

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Come by or CALL NOW 617 924-3346

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Fine International Food & Pastries
30 Flavors Gourmet Frozen Yogurt

BUY 1 AND GET THE 2ND AT ½ PRICE
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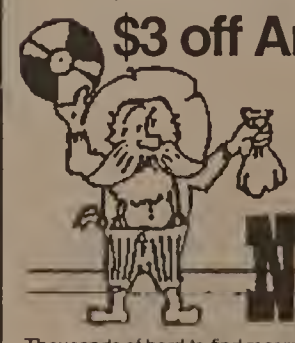
- *Weekend Breakfast*
- *Open til 12:00 am weekdays and weekends*

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472 Commonwealth Ave. 437-0404

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KENMORE SQ, 486 COMM AVE 536-0679
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To Advertise:

Call: 617-232-3507

OR

Fax: 617-232-4305

OR

Mail:
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17 Station St., Suite 7A
Brookline Village, MA 02146

AMERICAN EXPRESS VISA MasterCard

How To Write A Classified Ad That Sells

- Decide on classification of Ad.
- Begin your ad with what you're trying to sell.
- Be descriptive, list all the standard features of your item first.
- State the terms of the sale, the price, whether you're "flexible or negotiable."
- Include phone number and times to call.

INFORMATION AND PRICES

RATES: Line ads, six lines long: one issue - $29, four issues - $87, eight issues - $150, twelve issues - $200. Additional lines - $7 per. Bold heading - $5. Classified display -$20 per column inch. For frequency discounts, call for prices.

REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

AGENCY DISCOUNTS: 15%, Call for more information.

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

BRIGHTON 1 BR in house. Modern kitchen and bathroom, porch, parking, excellent location. $560. 254-4186

BRIGHTON Prof. seeks apartment Clean, quiet, considerate, and stable M/F for beautiful home. Avail. now. $400+ 789-4612.

BROCKTON 2 and 3 bedroom, remodeled, exc. cond., Sept, util DLD no pets no wash mach. (508)583-8485.

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

BROOKLINE Seeking housemates for 5-bedroom Cleveland Circle apt. in gorgeous building. Literally across the street from the C and D train lines, close to Reservoir, restaurants, and stores. Back porch and roof deck. Lots of basement storage. Avail. in July. $330+. Call Laurie at 232-3507 days.

CHARLESTOWN Owner-occupied three family brownstone. Nice res. neigh. w/ on-street prkng. Conven. location. $345.00 for rmte. or $690 full rent. Call 1-800-244-2756 ext. 603 or 617-242-9632.

NATICK CENTER Newly renovated 2 bedroom. Walk to train. Off-street parking. No pets. $765./mo. No fee. Available immediately. Call (508)653-3842 between 5-8p.m.

NORTH END beautiful apartment with two bedrooms. Hardwood floors, washer/dryer, roof deck and jacuzzi tub are just some of the bonuses. $950/mo. Avail. Sept. 1st. Call Nicole 232-3507.

ROSLINDALE 2 bedroom in apt. building with heat and hot water, hardwood floors , laundry facilities on premises, disposal, on bus line. Security Deposit and References Required. $650 Call (617) 364-6585

SOMERVILLE Lg. 6 room-3 bedroom, living room, dining room, eat-in-kitchen, modern bath, laundry. Avail immed. $850+. No fee. 666-4734

SOUTH BOSTON East Side, bright large 6 room, 3-4 bdrms & pantry off kitchen. Natural woodwork throughout. Extra storage in cellar. Spacious 'private' deck. Off-street parking near beach/T. For details call (617)382-4378 leave message.

APT. SHARES

$29 UNTIL IT WORKS!!!

BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

BOSTON Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm near NU. Avail. 7/1 & 8/1. $500/month, including heat and hot water. Great location, cute apartment. 247-7547

BRIGHTON 1M & 1F seek 1M/1F for private bedroom and one half study. Fully furnished, except bdrm. Hdwd floors, antique decor, 2 porches, safe neighborhood. Near Comm. Ave/B-line T. Quiet, clean, non-smoking, no pets. Avail 9/1 $400/mo. 782-6808.

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. in 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd firs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

CAMBRIDGE-SOMERVILLE Seeking roommate to share clean & attractive four-bedroom apartment. Walk to Harvard $300. a month. Call Fred 661-0094.

DORCHESTER F student looking for M/F to share clean, mod, 3 bdrm. apt. in safe area. 5 mins. from Red line, JFK/UMASS. Recently renov. w/ w/d. $350. incl. utils. & st. prkg. Pref. student, will consider prof. Judy 265-4838 lv. mes.

FRAMINGHAM/NATICK Great area! Roommate to share 2 bedroom furnished apartment with GWM. Parking, walk to T, non-smoker. $250/mo. + utils. Jack (508)879-1503. Available 4/1.

LOOKING TO SHARE OR RENT OUT AN APARTMENT OR HOUSE?CALL THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN 232-3507 JUST $29 UNTIL IT WORKS!!!!!!!!!!!!

MALDEN Seeking female nonsmoker for 3bdrm townhouse with 1 1/2 bath. Off street parking, garage, storage, pool, no pets. Walk to T $333 utilities. Avail. now call 321-6996

NEWTON 2M seek 2 M/F to share 4 bedroom. Great yard, garden, w/d. Near Watertown Square & T Avl NOW!!! $350+ Smoking OK 965-7805

NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted. Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old. Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utilities. Steven (508)664-4443

SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END 2 BDRM. APT. near BCH. Seeking non-smoking, prof. to share 1200 sq. ft., htd. w/d, hdwd floors on gentrified street. $550 w/ off street pkg. 236-1917 avail. now.

SUPER LUXURY APT. 2 bdrm, 2 baths, all appliances. Sky-line view of Boston. Complex has pool, health club, game room, & more! Shuttle bus to Boston & T. Call Tom 973-3877.

WEYMOUTH Nonsmoker female for 2 bedroom apt. includes all utilities . With balcony, parking, a/c $275 call 340-2131

ART STUDIO

JAMAICA PLAIN 1500 sq. ft. basement studio for large projects or to share $300. /mo. Not for living. Call 524-1172 or 522-6133.

JAMAICA PLAIN Share an art studio. 750 sq. ft. $100-150. Near Green St. Call 524-1172 or 522-6133.

COMMERCIAL SPACE

CHARLESTOWN Non-live-in studio space available. 1,100 square ft. $500/mo. 242-0080

CONDOS FOR SALE

HYDE PARK 1 bdrm. lux. condo by owner by appt. Sun. 12-2 pm. Near T + shopping. Residential neighborhood. Price $59,900, 5% down & 71/2% financing. Monthly cost $485-Incl. heat, hot water & parking. Laundry on premises. Call 522-4889.

GARAGE FOR RENT

JAMAICA PLAIN 2-car concrete garage for rent. Safe, clean, water and fire proof. Asking $200 Call (508)995-1435 Anytime

HOUSE FOR SALE

N.H. Cottage on Thorndike Pond. Jaffrey Ctr. Fireplace, 3 bdrm., large deck, private beach/dock. (603)924-3321.

PEAKS ISLAND Portland, ME. Island hideaway, quiet, secluded. 1 acre wooded lot. Expandable 2 bdrm. ranch w/ cathedral ceiling lvg. rm. fireplace possible, sun deck. Short walk to ferry + stores. Asking $119,900. Owner (508)376-5387.

HOUSE RENTALS

BROOKLINE-CLEVELAND CIRCLE Old world charm, elegant Victorian. 5 working fireplaces, circular stairs, natural woodwork, hardwood floors, 21/2 baths, w/d, billiard rm., dining room, 4-6 bdrms., 4 car parking. Available anytime. $2800 unhtd. Call 232-0963

HOUSE SHARES

ALLSTON 2 F or couple wanted to join our semi-coop house. 7 BR, 2 bath, yard, piano, prkng, near T and bus. 3 rms avail. June, July, Sept. $270, $360, and $410. We're scientists, students, artists, professionals. 787-2831.

CAPE COD F, housesitter, roommate wanted. 20's, easy-going skier or aerobics person to care for contemporary house, pool w/ male, 36, skier, freq. traveler to CA. (310)649-0250

CHARLESTOWN Seeks 4th F for quiet house. Lrg sunny room wash/dry, library. 2 cats, no more. Be 24+, nonsmoker, student/prof. $325/util & dep. 242-0593

DORCHESTER Share safe, sunny 6 room apt. w/ WM, dog & parrot. You get your own bedroom, living room for $450.+ Deck & yard, quiet neighborhood. Please call or leave message at (617)265-6566.

HAVERHILL M/F to share spacious, sunny four bedroom house. Modern kitchen, baths, and fireplaces. 50 mins. commuter rail. $325+ utils. Call (508)521-2480.

JAMAICA PLAIN Room avail. in 5 bdrm. house w/ porches, w/d. Near T, Arboretum and J.P. Pond. Have 1 cat, no more pets. Non-smoker, quiet house w/ professionals & serious students. $300. + utils. 524-0819.

NEWTON M/F to share 3 bdrm. house. Great yard, w/d, micro/ dw. Walk to T, close to Chestnut Hill. Route 9 & 128. Avail. 6/1. 375+util. (617)244-0988. Gary or leave message.

NORTH SHORE 2 roommates wanted to share a large house on Lynnfield Line near Rt. 1. Off street parking, swimming pool, quiet location, wall to wall carpet, dw/d, w/d. No utilities $110/week 593-2239

SHARE QUIET HOME In Lynn. Prof. GWM seeks housemate, pref. prof. GWM. Must be neat, clean, non-smoker. Off-street parking. Near commuter rail, w/d modern house w/ fireplace. Lots of privacy for renter. 599-1370

WALTHAM Seeking a neat, non-smoking F to share a modern house with 2 M and one F. No pets, washer/dryer, dishwasher/disposal, central heat and AC, off-street parking, near Rt.128 and Pike, porch and yard, $370 + utilities, 1-(800)-444-8804 ext. 3617 or (617) 891-1874.

HOUSE WANTED

RENT W/OPTION TO BUY A single 2 family or large 2 bedroom condo. Must be reasonably priced. Would consider handyman special. Pref. loc. Brookline/Newton or possibly Metro West. Well established couple. Call John 247-2175

PARKING

CAMBRIDGE Central Sq. area, near Red line. Off-street, well-lit parking space available in driveway of private home. Reasonable rent. (617)547-1888.

ROOM FOR RENT

BROOKLINE 4 Prof. clean, quiet, seek female 30+ , veggie, non-smoker. Large house, 2 min. to T, large yard. Rent- $365 includes all util. $395 with parking 731-6959 lv. message

VACATION RENTALS

DENNISPORT Bright modern cottage near beach. Perfect for small family. Sleeps 4-5. Sleeping loft and skylight. $425/week. (508)653-5252, (508)429-7168

FALMOUTH Charming 3 br, 1 1/2 bath, pool, close to beach, very private, nice yard, 5 min. from downtown. $900/wk. Call (508)540-1317 or (508)653-5902.

FALMOUTH Surf Drive Beach. 2 bedroom duplex. Cable, phone, microwave. $700/week July-August, (off season rates available) (508)653-8578.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD outside Edgartown. Charming 2 bdrm. cottage in quiet, wooded neighborhood. Near nature sanctuary pond. During season $675/wk. Off season $400/wk. Ferry tickets avail. (617)332-5659.



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National Telephone, Phila. PA 18+ (Touch Tone Req.)

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LEARN TO FLY HELICOPTERS at the Boston Helicopter Company. Call today at (617)274-1230.

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O'SULLIVAN CARPENTRY Additions, bathrooms, kitchens, doors, windows, roofing, gutters. All carpentry and masonry work. (508)543-7292.

CHILD CARE

WATERTOWN Room, board, and extras in exchange for part-time housekeeping/ childcare for Mom with 3 yr. old, 15-20 hrs. for own floor & bath in modern Watertown townhouse. English speaking, driving female requested. Geri (617)924-4174.

COMPUTERS

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IBM CLONE 386DX40 MHZ* New 80 MB HD, 2 FD, 2MB RAM 64KCA CHE 512K VRAM SVGA Monitor $1050 (617)773-9616 *messages

DATING

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HILLSIDE FARM ON MARTHA'S VINEYARD 20 acres of fresh vegetables in production. Quality cheeses, jams, jellies, baked goods, annuals, perennials, house plants, garden-cut flowers. West Tisbury (508)693-5851.

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FRIGIDAIRE Stackable washer/dryer $350. 2 Gas Stoves $75 each. Rockwell 9 Tabie Saw $400. Ind. Glass Sander $350. 1930's Sax $400 (617)924-5174.

FURNITURE Dining room set, table, 4 chairs & china cabinet. Asking $1000. Call (617)891-3938 after 12 p.m.

HAIR SALON EQPT. New! 30ft. of wall mirror with brush door, 3 sinks w/ cabinets. Must sell! $1,200/bo. Call (617) 277-7039

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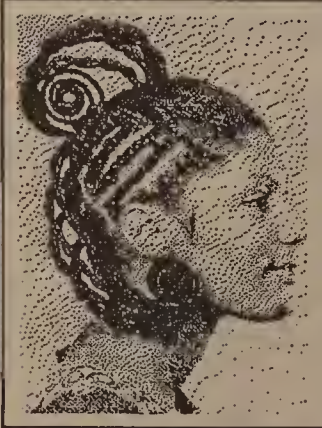
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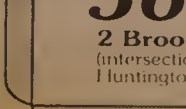
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1 LOVE 1 HEART! Young, sensitive, attractive, athletic, intelligent Jewish female, 26, spiritually & emotionally balanced, seeks mature, open-minded male, under 40, for 1-1 relationship. Interests include travel, sports, dance, comedy, etc... Race unimportant! EXT•6771.

SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 29, 5'5", loves the movies (old & new), music, dancing, dining, walking, bike riding, working out & a great sense of humor. Seeks male, 28-35, with similar interests, for companionship only. Please be drug & smoke free. Social drinker OK. Race unimportant! No games please! EXT•6756.

SLIM BLACK FEMALE, 26, 5'3", 102 lbs, with long legs & long arms, enjoys pumping iron at home & the gym, riding bikes, in-line skating, chilling at home with my two toddlers, and dancing up a storm at a nice club every so often. Seeks an honest male, 25-37, smoke-free, drug-free, social drinker, with a good sense of humor, for companionship only. EXT•6755.

LET'S SHARE SUMMER'S JOYS TOGETHER! Adventurous, attractive, humorous Jewish female, late 30's, seeks compatible male, 38-46. Must be romantic, enjoy wine, fine dining, affection, jazz, long walks, dogs, travel, and ready for a committed relationship. EXT•6763.

PRETTY, divorced white female, 40 (looks much younger), 5'2", short brown hair, green eyes, nice smile, college educated, great sense of humor, fun-loving, will try almost anything once. Seeks sincere man, age & race unimportant, for friendship first, then who knows! EXT•6774.

HAPPY! Attractive white female, 39, 5'4", professional, non-smoker, adventurous, feminine, thoughtful, good friend, slow runner, enjoys beginning tennis, infrequent skiing, the ocean, travel, dining out & movies. Seeks clean-cut white male professional for friendship & dating. EXT•6772.

ATTRACTIVE, CLASSY, Cape Verde black female, 23, 5'3 1/2", well-built, easygoing, loves the movies, skating, travel, dancing, dining, kids, nights on the beach, and quiet nights alone together. Seeks down to earth, fun, energetic, white or Hispanic male with similar qualities & a great sense of humor. Don't be shy, give me a try! EXT•6773.

SHY WHITE FEMALE, 24, with 2yr old, enjoys the ocean, walks & movies, seeks friendship, plus?? EXT•6764.

PASSIONATE WOMAN WHO'S READY, sexy, pretty & blonde, would like to share the summer season, maybe more, with a successful, strong, attractive & loving man, 46-56. Together we can experience life's simple joys! EXT•6732.

SLENDER, SEXY, long-haired, self-established Jewish woman, 31, seeks a special man who is bright, attractive, driven, economically stable, established with career, and not afraid of entering into a commitment with a woman who meets his wildest dreams. He should also be physically fit, athletic, 30-36, kind, considerate, interested in all kinds of music, and exploring life beyond the restaurant, bars & the local singles scene. EXT•6746.

SOLAR-POWERED JEWISH FEMALE, 23, 5'6", fit, lt. brown hair, green eyes, seeks energized Jewish male, 23-33, for fun in the sun. This non-smoking, vegetarian, grad student loves roller-blading, jogging, cycling & much more! EXT•6739.

PEOPLE ARE ASKING ME why I have to do a personal ad, well, Prince Charming is dead! Athletic, green-eyed blonde beauty, 28, 5'7", 122 lbs, enjoys most anything including intelligent conversations, dancing & the outdoors. Seeks a well put together man who's mature, down to earth & and doesn't change into a chameleon, to share life's beauty. Those who can't keep in-touch with friends or life need not respond. EXT•6748.

LIFE'S TOO SHORT! Hi, I'm 45 (but built like an 18yr old), 5'2", 109 lbs, and looking for someone to share life with. I love dancing, walks along the beach, long rides & getaway weekends. Seeks someone to hold, kiss, and be with. EXT•6734.

PRETTY WOMAN, 5'7", slender, brown hair & eyes, professionally employed & mom to a terrific 2yr old. Seeks a balanced, settled, romantic male, 30's, who loves children, quiet times, his life/work, arboretum, BBQ's, and is spiritually inclined. Greater Boston area! EXT•6743.

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST, very attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, 5'3", 100 lbs, 38 (looks & feels younger), active, sensitive, very romantic, passionate. Seeks intelligent, sensitive male, 34-48, slim & fit, for communication & ultimately commitment. EXT•6709.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN BEAUTY! Chaste, outspoken grad student, 20's, interracial background, seeks evangelical caucasian male, 21-25, virgin (yes!), attractive, educated, marriage-ready, humorous, financially responsible, who loves Jesus, wants a family, & enjoys the Red Sox, music, more! EXT•6703.

IF A TALL, SHAPELY, full-figured, intelligent, witty black female, mid-40's, with a great voice, doesn't intimidate you, Read On! You're a non-smoking white male, 35-45, intelligent, thoughtful, romantic, with a sense of humor, who enjoys movies, theatre, jazz, dining out, and much more. If you desire an honest, exciting, monogamous relationship, feel free to call! EXT•6712.

PRETTY, BLUE-EYED BLONDE, female professional, 30's, 5'3", physically fit, seeks male, 35-50, for chemistry, compatibility & commitment. I enjoy long walks along the ocean, swimming, skiing, biking & romantic dinners. Please call soon! EXT•6750.

UPBEAT, multi-cultural, professional businesswoman, sensual, creative, magical & classy. Seeks friendship, partnership & passion with a successful, communicative, wise, witty, evolved male human, 38+, comfortable with evolution of spirit, open heart, & extraordinary liaison with an exotic lady. All races understood! EXT•6705.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 35, 5'4". enjoys golf, hiking, skiing, sporting events, the beach, gardening, cooking, movies, billiards & travel. Wishes to hear from a white professional male, 35-45, with similar interests. EXT•6731.

SINGLE WHITE MOM, 40, 5'7", 130 lbs, loves the outdoors, enjoys playing sports, dining, movies, camping, and all kinds of adventurous fun. Seeks white male, 35-50. EXT•6719.

UNIQUE, FOXY & SEXY, Divorced Italian/Spanish female, 5'7", blonde hair, brown eyes, attractive, full-figured, classy & affectionate. Seeks male mate for long-term friendship, 1-1 relationship & love. No head games or phoneys! Sincere replies only! All races welcome! I'm real, call me! EXT•6713.

I KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE! Seeking my male counterpart: healthy lifestyle, progressive, matur(ing), intelligent, assertive, (com)passionale, dynamic, creative, positive, multi-faceted, grounded, communicative, self-aware, spiritually stretching. Details: attractive female, 23 (age unimportant), 5'5", trim, vegetarian. EXT•6736.

DON'T READ THIS, unless you are an honest, sincere, down to earth, gentleman interested in meeting a 44yr old blue-eyed blonde with a great sense of humor. I enjoy music, movies, good conversation & much more. EXT•6718.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 21, 140 lbs, 5'8", seeks tall & handsome, non-smoking white male, 21-25, who is caring, compassionate & trustworthy. Social drinker Ok! EXT•6683.

PULL OVER OFFICER! This tall, blonde, green-eyed woman has an APB on you: White male, 30-50, 5'10"+, physically fit, cleanshaven, non-smoker, enjoys movies, music, dancing, animals & conversation, among other things. EXT•6684.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar interests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6693.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, sensuous & petite lady, 35, dark hair & eyes, enjoys the beach, music, bodybuilding, cooking, fun/quiet times together. Seeks very good-looking, romantic, physically fit man, with similar interests, for friendship, possibly more. EXT•6619.

THAT SPECIAL GUY! Nice looking Hispanic female, 25, mother of a sweet 4yr old daughter, enjoys movies, dancing & quiet nights at home. Seeks a fun-loving, understanding, caring & sensitive male for friendship & possible relationship. Call me, you'll be surprised! EXT•6653.

DIVORCED WHITE MOM, 40, 5'2", 115 lbs, 13yr old daughter. Seeks white male, 35-45, who enjoys dining, slow dancing, movies, camping, fishing, walks, music (country, rock-n-roll), and all kinds of fun. EXT•6638.

SO WHO ASKED FOR PERFECTION? That's only in fiction. A real-life, absolutely adorable, large-sized woman, 38, with a large-sized heart is looking for a partner, companion, friend, leading to a long term relationship. Enjoys art, music, theatre, long hugs/more, dining in/out, & good times. Seeks compatible, eligible real-man to explore real life. All responses will be answered! EXT•6654.

RUSSIAN FEMALE, 28, 5'2", intelligent, energetic, sensitive, a little bit romantic & very outgoing, enjoys life in general. Seeks educated, down to earth, bright man for a committed relationship. EXT•6689.

VERY ATTRACTIVE FEMALE, just turned 40 (looks 35), long blonde hair, sensual, provocative, compassionate & caring, loves music, sports, the ocean & city life. Looking for a 1-1 relationship. Mr Right, are you out there? EXT•6633.

WHITE FEMALE, 26, 5'10", blonde hair, blue eyes & sexy long legs. Seeks tall, attractive white male, 26-35, who is mature and can fil in any situation, whether it be dinner & dancing or enjoying the outdoors. Looking for friendship and possible relationship. EXT 6547.

WHAT CAN I TELL YOU? The truth is I'm gorgeous, slender, voluptuous & passionate. My academic credentials & creative achievements are impeccable. This 37yr old, divorced white female would like to meet you. Your attributes: intelligence, stability, loyalty & looks. White male professional, 38-48, desired. EXT•6671.

WANTED: LOVER OF LIFE! This outgoing, down to earth, attractive, 29yr old, tall & fit California gal enjoys hiking, travel, exploring, movies, skating & just plain having fun. Seeks attractive, athletic white male, 30-35, 6'+, who is well adjusted and has a serious sense of humor. EXT•6545.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 26, 129 lbs, seeks an "all true" man, who is caring, compassionate, devoted & trustworthy! No games! EXT•6525.

INDEPENDENT WORKING MOM! Black female, 33, loves adventure, to laugh and have fun. Seeks stable, level headed male, 30-45. EXT•6504.

ITALIAN AMERICAN GIRL, 29, pretty, brown hair, green eyes, fun, seeks gorgeous guy to take me for a cappuccino in the North End. You are a handsome, tall white male, 28-33, with a nice body, nice teeth, a hard worker. EXT•6571.

SOPHISTICATED, INTELLECTUAL LADY is also wild, passionate & adventuresome. If your tastes range from Biba to The Blue Diner, The MSA to The ICA, The Roxy to Ed Burke's, this 35yr old, sexy, attractive woman would love to meet you. EXT•6574.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

THIS WHITE MALE is a young 41 with a touch of gray, successful professional, tall, slender, Ok to look at, leads an active life (indoors & out), and enjoys fine dining as well as simple fare, exercise, beaches, humor, old movies, reading, music, you name it! If you're 30-40, single or divorced, female please, just call...that's all! EXT•7284.

HANDSOME AIRLINE PILOT, 28, Italian, based in Boston, seeks adventurous, free spirited woman, age unimportant. I took a dare from my buddies and was on the tv show Studs last January. Now its your turn to be daring! EXT•7277.

THE ONE FOR YOU! Handsome Jewish male, 35, tall, slim, intelligent business professional with heart, soul, sensitivity, wit, playfulness, a great sense of humor & many interests. Seeks a classy & pretty Jewish female, 23-34, not overweight, who has style, intelligence, and is ready for a committed relationship. EXT•7258.

DARE TO USE YOUR MIND! Bring on the fabulous 50's! Separated Italian/Lithuanian male, 50, 5'11", 175 lbs, brown hair, light complexion, dances Doo-Woop, Funk, Hip Hop & more. This understanding, supportive & very mindful man seeks a lady to compliment him! EXT•7278.

AMY FISHER- now I have your attention! Professional white male, 38, 5'8", 160 lbs, physically fit, passionate about romance, movies, laughter, theatre, exercise (jogging, weights, biking, golf). Seeks white female, 25-38, who is athletic, honest, loves the ocean & just enjoys life. EXT•7262.

NERVOUS ABOUT THE PERSONALS, but tired of the bar scene! This white male, 29, 190 lb, Cambridge professional, enjoys biking, photography, ethnic foods, movies & the Plough & Stars. If you have similar interests, why not call? EXT•7256.

NEW GUY IN TOWN! Attractive, funny, confident, outgoing white male, 28, 5'9", enjoys working out, mountain biking, movies, sunshine, family & friends. Seeks a cute, fit woman, 24+, to help explore this unfamiliar territory! EXT•7259.

TALL WHITE MALE, 55, loves to laugh, work out, movies, restaurants, jazz clubs, rock concerts, travel & endless days at the beach. Seeks attractive, reserved, physically fit woman who is kind of shy like me. EXT•7285.

READY TO SETTLE DOWN! Tall, dark & handsome white male, 39, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair & eyes, honest, sincere, great sense of humor. Seeks the girl next door, for love, marriage & family. So, what are you waiting for? Serious replies only! EXT•7274.

FORMER LIFEGUARD, 34, 5'9", 165 lbs, seeks warm, intelligent, attractive female beachcomber, 29-39, to share good times. I'm attractive, intelligent, sensitive, have a good sense of humor, and enjoy sports, dancing, reading & cooking. EXT•7272.

WHITE MALE, 34, 5'11", 170 lbs, self employed, homeowner, non-smoker, non-drinker, seeks slim, outdoorsy while female for sincere relationship. I enjoy bicycling, hiking, camping, beaches, travel, concerts, movies, dining & quiet times. EXT•7264.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times & fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate & genuine? This thirtysomething firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been daling. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! EXT•7219.

PHYSICALLY FIT, financially secure, stable white male, 30, seeks petite white female for serious relationship. EXT•7250.

MAKE ME A BELIEVER! I've heard Boston has the most beautiful women in the world. Tall, dark & handsome, athletic professional, 24, would like to meet you for fun in the sun, and under the stars. I'm new to the area, so show me what your town has to offer, and we'll go there together. Health is important. Race is not. EXT•7235.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7279.

SLEEPLESS IN SUBURBIA! Long days & long nights give a man a lot of time to think. This 30yr old divorced Jewish father is seeking romance, tenderness & companionship in a female, 22-36. EXT•7251.

INTELLIGENT, SHY, sensitive, down to earth, honest, easygoing, passionale, Gemini male, 31, with a sense of humor. Seeks a compassionate, patient, open-minded woman with similar qualities. EXT•7254.

LETS SHARE SOME QUALITY TIME! Divorced white male, 49, 5'9", 172 lbs, Scorpio, considered good-looking, seeks attractive female, age unimportant, for a lasting relationship. Intimacy & communication are very important. EXT•7244.

WIDOWED JEWISH TEACHER, 53, 5'10", 165 lbs, nice guy, unpretentious, communicative, quiet life style, enjoys dining out, movies, sports, family & friends. Seeks attractive, trim, feminine, non-smoker, 39-51, for meaningful relationship. EXT•7228.

ACTIVE 62YR OLD divorced white male with a heart problem, seeks best friend & companion who may also have a handicap or disability but is not giving up living a full life. EXT•7234.

ATTENTION FEMALE SHOPPERS! For Sale: Handsome white male professional, 33, with blond hair & blue eyes. Your Cost: Be a mature, attractive, intelligent female. This sale is for a limited time only, so act fast! EXT•7232.

HANDSOME WHITE MALE, 35, 6'1", brown hair, blue eyes, honest, intelligent, great sense of humor, hard-worker, easygoing, romantic, enjoys good conversation, outdoors, travel & more. Seeks attractive white female, 25-30, who is tall, shapely, intelligent, caring, friendly, and likes to have fun. EXT•7216.

DOUBLE DATE! Two handsome while males, 31 & 35, with great senses of humor, both fit, sensitive, honest, well-mannered, easygoing & romantic, enjoy sports, dancing, dining & more. Seeking two fit & attractive, non-smoking while females, 25-35. So grab a girlfriend & join us for some fun, adventure & possible romance. EXT•7213.

IRISH MALE, 32, 5'11", 155 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, enjoys casual dining, day trips out on the boat, cooking outdoors by the pool & just enjoying life. Looking for Ms. Right to start what could become a very meaningful & long term relationship. Please be 26-34, honest, attractive & single. Call and lets see where this leads! EXT•7218.

TALL, FIT & HANDSOME! Jewish male, 35, have traveled extensively, enjoys theatre & music, and leads an active lifestyle. Seeks tall, attractive, fun Jewish woman, 26-34, who enjoys both cultural events & the outdoors. Non-smoker please! EXT•7230.

ALWAYS A BEST MAN, NEVER A GROOM! A godfather, never a father! Know the feeling? Great looking, Dbl-X white male, just turned 38, seeks great looking, old-fashioned white female. Summers here, lets enjoy it together. All calls will be answered! EXT•7215.

TRIM, ATHLETIC & PROFESSIONAL! White male, 47, 5'7", 155 lbs, brown hair, green eyes, enjoys downhill skiing, running, swimming, dancing & romantic dinners. Seeks attractive, fun-loving, female partner with similar interests & a good sense of humor. EXT•7205.

TOM CRUISE! Now that I have your attention, I'm 25, 5'8", 165 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, very athletic, handsome & tired of the single life. I'm seeking an attractive, athletic woman who enjoys having fun! EXT•7203.

FRENCH, DIVORCED BLACK MALE from Bermuda, 43, 6', 150 lbs, resident manager, honest, ambitious, romantic, spontaneous, easygoing, happy with life. Seeks slender-slim, smoke & drug free lady for a faithful committed relationship. Age, race & nationality unimportant! EXT•7200.

JUST SAY, "KEEP ME LAUGHING"! This active, outgoing while male can do it. Me: 38, 5'11", 170 lbs, professional, entrepreneur, golfer, dancer, skier, & more. You: white female, 26-36, outgoing, active, fit, looking to be friends & more. EXT•7201.

2 GOOD LOOKING, professional, ambitious & dependable 27yr old white males, are seeking 2 sincere, attractive & adventurous females to share either a day at the beach, or a night on the town. EXT•7189.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

©1993

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

JULY 21-AUGUST 3, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too.): Inhale.

Leo begins Thursday, the 22nd at 9:51 a.m., but the big day is Sunday the 25th; the time, 10:50 a.m.; the event, a Mercury station, a shift in motion from retrograde to direct; the result, who knows for sure? Even after Mercury lurches forward, you can't expect progress or enlightenment to descend as quickly as you'd like. First you'll have to retrace the (faltering) steps you took, learn more about what you thought were the facts, and then, after Mercury opposing Neptune and Uranus for the third time on the 30th shows you another angle altogether, figure out your next move. Simple stuff for some, difficult for those who can't forgive; we all forget. However, if perfection is your goal, you'll have a grand time going for it. Ballsy Mars trines the Neptune-Uranus conjunction in Capricorn shortly after Mercury shifts gears on Sunday. It's been a long time (two years) since Mars was last in Virgo, the sign that actually enjoys cleaning up. Perhaps Mars can help heal the health-care system, the food processing industry and the macho madness of the armed services. But trines, like rewards and remedies, have to be acknowledged and appreciated to be effective; otherwise the moment is missed, its benefits taken for granted. But hey, it's summer, we've vacated. Full moon August 2 at 3:10 a.m. on Leo-Aquarius axis. Exhale.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

Major career move with positive results as your Mars ruler favors Uranus and Neptune in your midheaven, planets responsible for turning you into a revolutionary, e visionary in your field. Your strategy seems to be working, apply gentle pressure to the establishment, your boss or parents and they'll buy in too. Keep in mind that right now you're performing a service to those who in turn serve you: your healing community, a co-worker, the cleaning lady, the checker at the market, whoever. Passion it ain't.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

If you're still riled up, going hot and heavily at the source of yesterday's fury: chill. Much more important than a win or loss of a lover's quarrel is the support you'll get (particularly if you're born close to May 11) from artists and entertainers here and abroad, from children and childlike playmates. As energetic Mars in Virgo trines the Capricorn planets, all earth signs – Taurus too – are blessed by a spurt of creativity. Besides, around the 1st, you'll come to appreciate the steady support of an old pro et the game, one who's currently holding a winning hand.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Let's hope that the boon coming your way is a lot more fun than just en improvement on the house, the family or your current domestic scene. As Mars leads you into an easy relationship with other people's money, financial aid appears when and where you least expect it. And while it may be more complex than a simple summer pleasure weekend at the shore, whatever happens will capture (and keep) your attention for e while. Confusion and frustration ends as August begins.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Here comes the cavalry! Retrograde Mercury's turnaround in Cancer is unnerving, so any support you get from determined relatives, neighbors and friends can be a great relief. Those more health-conscious, more organized than you come up with facts you can't put your finger on until Mercury concludes its little "two steps forward, one step back, twirl-around, twirl-around" dance through your sign. The Leo-Aquarius full moon changes a financial equation, perhaps your most significant relationship too.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

An intuitive hit about what to buy, how to best use your resources on Friday night. Pay attention because it sets the tone – certifiably harmonious – for the rest of the week. Now isn't that a dainty dish to set before the King? Mars in your counting-house finally solves the dilemma put forth by the planets that have been toying with erratic working conditions, obligations or your interest in assorted healing practices. What have you been ingesting? The Leo full moon August 2 brings all this to light.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

Decisive Mars in Virgo lets you cut through a mass of crap as it rewards your creative impulse, your idea of fun. Taking a risk is easy during a trine aspect because there's no tension. It's obvious what has to be done and your actions flow from that realization. All this while your Mercury ruler is changing direction! The shift from retro to direct usually throws you off balance, but in matters other than romance, you'll function like an intelligent human being this weekend. Not so next weekend.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22)

If only you were in therapy! Excellent aspects from probing Mars in your house of the unconscious to your Capricornian house of childhood memories can slice years off the process. But if you're trying to deal with genetics, family roots and your psychological foundation by yourself, then the insights that come through dreaming will be a big help. Confusion about work, the direction your career is taking, etc. – due to Mercury's change of direction – continues for the next 10 days. Why worry? Be happy.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Mercury's flip opens your mail, sends manuscripts and messages from abroad, picks up where your curiosity dumped you when Mercury turned retrograde. Vacation's over, but this is a good time to travel, do research, all the stuff that seemed important four short weeks ago. To help you along, your Mars co-ruler provides easy access to publicity, publications, plastic and electronic art forms, film (Neptune) and tape (Uranus). It's been two years since a friend made such enticing rewards so available. Remember?

SAGITARIUS (NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21)

Mers is in your midheaven, all's right with the world. And if it isn't, by the time courageous Mars takes on the mystifying planets in your money house, it will be. Getting to the heart of financial matters that have been confused and delayed by Mercury's retrogression could take longer than expected, but Martian aggressiveness helps you cut through red tape, family traditions and whatever else has been holding you in thrall. Career matters become clearer as you become better organized, more ambitious too.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

The paperwork starts flowing after Mercury turns direct on Sunday. You can probably sign the ones already on your desk, but just to be sure no questions remain, wait until next Friday's info comes in. Sometimes you don't have to protect yourself, – the planets in Capricorn create situations, attract people that'll do it for you, – and sometimes you do. Meanwhile ballsy Mars gives you courage to change your personal appearance – nip here, tuck there, stylize everywhere – so that you're ready for a romantic August.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

Finally, a truly appreciative, warm and supportive audience. The joys of Leo companionship become more evident – sunny smiles, star-filled nights, an innate understanding of your occasional quirks. Added to this unbeatable combo is a horny Mars in your house of sexual exploration this weekend trining (rewarding) your progressive, freedom-loving Uranus ruler. Sounds like a perfect set-up for an experiment in self-expression, similar to what (should have?) happened two summers ago. Next weekend: full moon in Aquarius, Venus beckons

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

Look two ways. Mercury turning direct in your house of creative play, romance and risk opens the floodgates; your eau de vie should crest on the 30th when Mercury opposes your Neptune ruler for the third and final time this cycle. Meanwhile libidinous Mars in your house of partners adds a strong dose of sexuality to a casual friendship or professional peer-group relationship when it trines Neptune this weekend. You get a chance to get it on, clean up your act, and make beautiful music together.

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10 GAMES

RED SOX FEVER!

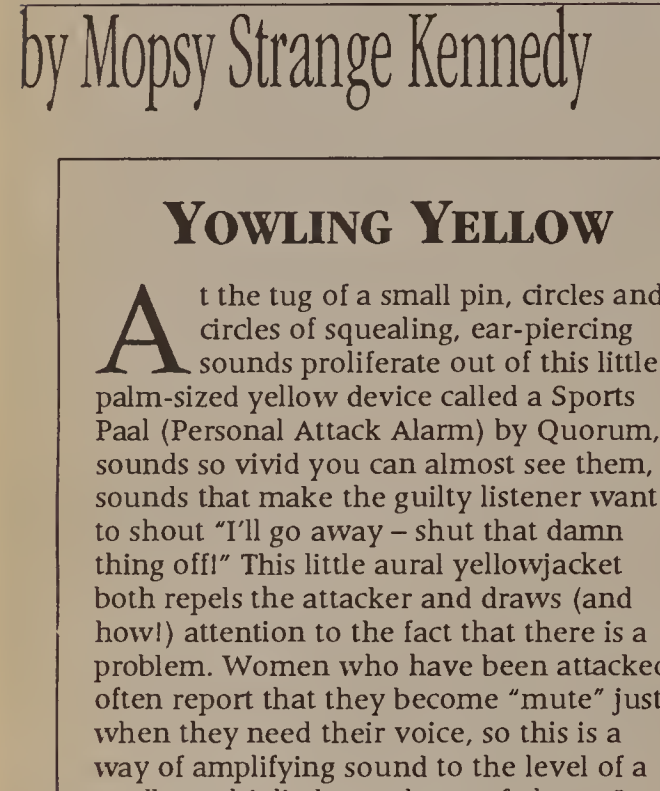
THAT SHOOK THE HUB

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Yowling Yellow

At the tug of a small pin, circles and circles of squealing, ear-piercing sounds proliferate out of this little palm-sized yellow device called a Sports Paal (Personal Attack Alarm) by Quorum, sounds so vivid you can almost see them, sounds that make the guilty listener want to shout "I'll go away – shut that damn thing off!" This little aural yellowjacket both repels the attacker and draws (and how!) attention to the fact that there is a problem. Women who have been attacked often report that they become "mute" just when they need their voice, so this is a way of amplifying sound to the level of a madly multiplied symphony of alarm. It also happens to be pitched above the familiar car-opening squealers in the urban chorus, and could never be mistaken for anything less than a request for help. Like a beeper, it hooks on to a belt, and can be used while running.



Furthermore, should you have a purse you want to protect, you can arrange it so any tugging action at your purse will activate the alarm, and your assailant will be left holding a crying baby of a pocketbook. It's weatherproofed for outside action, but can also be used with its spring clip fastened to a door or window, the opening of which will provide the robber with a very loud surprise. Costs $34.

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Roll, Roll, Roll Yourself, Gently Down The Street

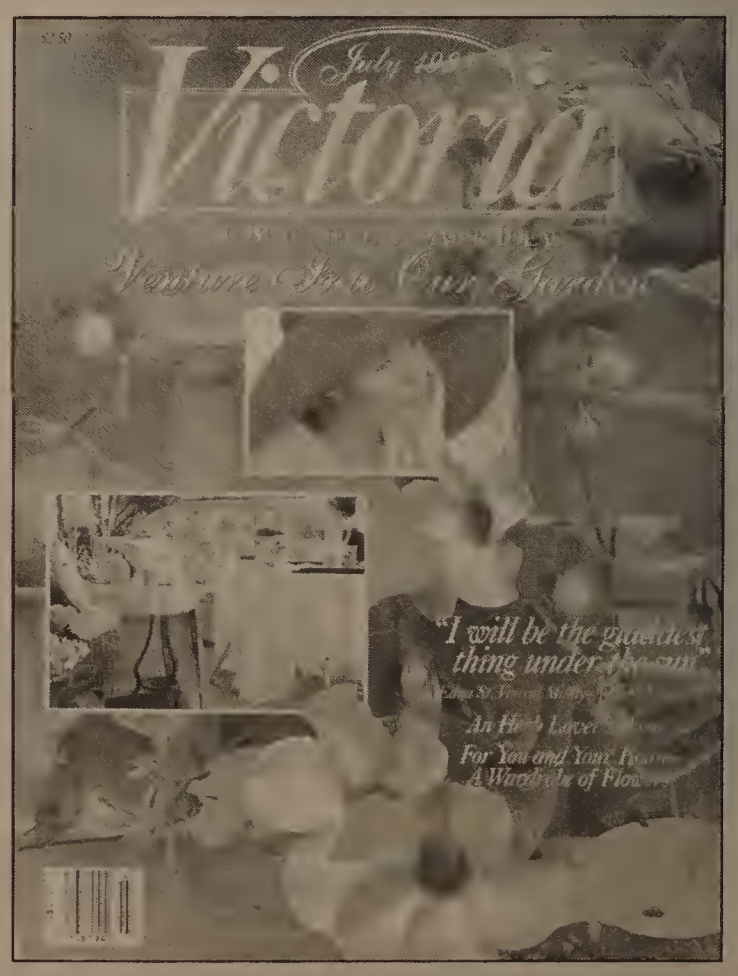


For people who have taken the joys of running past the point of joy and into knee and back pains, or people who can't wait for winter to skate, then don't step – glide. Rollerblading, or In-Line Skating as it's officially called, is the low-impact and high-gorgeousness way to move along. Certified Instructor and competitive In-Line-r Linda Spencer has the bright-eyed optimism, confidence, encouragingness, and also the grace, that make a student dare to start trying out these urban zoomers. Once you are up on them, and padded to the gills, she demonstrates the breathing and the looseness required. Spencer also helps you practice the surprisingly splatty way of falling correctly, letting the padded arms and elbows and knees take the shock. Then there's "V-Walking," which clunkily pre-figures real skating, and "scissoring," which leads the way to the crucial, tricky act of stopping. Ribboning along in front of you, she demonstrates the effortless-looking, loooong plunging and rising motions that constitute the three basic components of blading: bend/stroke/together. Later, there are turns that recall figure skating, only looser. The sport can lead the talented to the racing circuit, roller hockey, street skate festivals or aesthetic commuting. Spencer teaches through St. Moritz in Boston and also privately for individuals, or small groups, and some deals involve skate rentals. What she calls "my own private skating rink," a park next to Neiman Marcus, is her Boston spot, and in Cambridge she uses the hills and dales of Fresh Pond. Group lessons cost $20 and private ones cost $35.

Linda Spencer/Rollerblade Lessons
876-2085

A Trip To The Moon On Gossamer Wing

Though Victoria magazine may purport to recall the Victorian era, its ethos is really more Victoria's Secret. Nothing floats and wafts through its exceedingly pleasant pages unless it's pretty. A little girl in a be-ribboned boater stands on a lawn looking at pink petit-fours on a white wicker table. In a dreamy pictorial about a grand old mansion in New Orleans, the text describes "mosquito netting that cascades over the bed like a bridal veil." On its fashion pages, the predominant tones are bisque and cream and beige and white, and whenever possible, there is lace. The soft and flowery arts are celebrated in features on painters or shopkeepers, and even the food runs to soft-focus lemon recipes or very photogenic and pale pasta ("stuffed nasturtium leaves" is as aggressively bitey as it gets). Though an indeterminate swathe of the past is what's celebrated here, things that are literally Victorian get top billing, and the camera's eye rests its soft-focus gaze on anything soporifically velvety, or pink. But always, the world created is one that's as free of strife as it is romantic. Writers who have the right poetic touch – Edna St. Vincent Millay, Virginia Woolf, – are included, even if they weren't Victorians. In an ad for a Victorian baby book, Winston Churchill is quoted as saying "There is no finer investment for any community than putting milk into babies." The one potentially jarring ad, for a decidedly non-Victorian fridge, recaptures the elegant spirit of the past by having a picture shot at twilight in which a woman is gazing wistfully out the many-paned window with ad copy that reads "The new Frigidaire. Built to age beautifully." Twelve issues cost $12.



Victoria Magazine'
PO. Box 7148
Red Oak IA 51591-2148

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *the Atlantic, NY Times Book Review and Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washi ngton Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. *Please send all correspondence to: The Improper Bostonian, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146*

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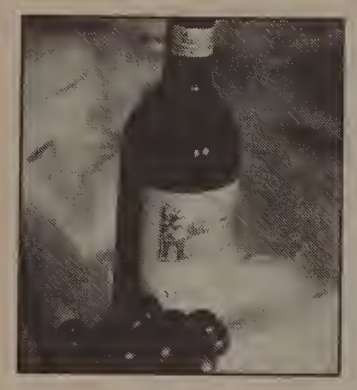
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Red Sox fever reached peak levels last month. Columnist Chris Francescani delivers play by play commentary on the ten days that shook the hub.

BY CHRISTOPHER FRANCESCANI

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Master of Wine Sandy Block holds to the light the dreaded debating, sneering, browbeating wine bore.

BY SANDY BLOCK M.W.

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M. T. Anderson composes a short piece on German Baroque Masters and the Boston Scene.

BY M. T. ANDERSON



On The Cover

Photographed by: Paul Pilcher
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Special Thanks: Anne Pilcher

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Corrections: Our 7/21 issue incorrectly reported the address for Rebecca's Restaurant, the correct address is 18 Tremont St., Boston.
Styling for our 7/7/93 issue credit goes to Tina Iannone.
Extra Special photo credits to Ursula Argyropoulos for our 7/21/93 Best and Worst Issue.

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PROFILES

PHOTO BY PAUL PILCHER



Michelle Halsell

A Different Genre

Amidst the colorful canvases hanging in the gallery of the Boston Center for the Arts, up and coming film maker Michelle Halsell explains the characteristics of a different genre of urban film, one that works to break the stereotypes perpetuated by current Hollywood trends. "People have strong conceptions about what an urban film will be like, especially one that involves African - Americans. It's not always going to revolve around guns or gangs, or that kind of suffering. Everyone suffers for different reasons, and my characters suffer because of their art."

After months of fundraising and grueling production schedules, Michelle Halsell, producer, writer, director, is now putting the finishing touches on her first feature film, "Do You Deliver?", produced by Pilate Productions. With her vision almost realized, Halsell speaks of her supporters with genuine admiration. "I got my start at Blackside Productions as a volunteer, they're a minority owned organization that really goes out of their way to train their interns."

Before that, Halsell received a degree in Finance, and worked in Switzerland for the United Nations Counsel for Human Rights. "I was going to change the world then," she nods shyly, "But I just didn't have a stomach for politics. I know now that a key to my filmmaking involves getting my message across and entertaining at the same time. Just wait until you hear the sound track."

As for the film, Halsell has expertly constructed a commentary on an artist's relationship with their subject matter. Maxine, the main character, is a successful black artist famous for her urban landscapes that mainstream critics deem "universal of the black experience." What the galleries and papers don't know is that Maxine suffers from Agoraphobia, and as a result of her disease, Maxine, the voice of her people, cannot leave her apartment. "I wanted to deal with the artist's relationship with success, " Halsell explains, "Every artist wants to deal in what's around them. But once you're on Newbury Street or in Manhattan, how do you remain in touch with what you represent?"

It stands to reason that Halsell has definite opinions of her own on these issues, but points out that viewers will have to make their own conclusions. "As long as people leave feeling something," she urges," The ending has made some people angry, some sad. Both of those are fine with me, as long as nobody leaves feeling complacent."

Ultimately, it 's a different type of urban film, with a different kind of producer. On the subjectof her subject matter, Halsell reminds us all, "We're a diverse group of people, we have to try to tell all the stories." ❑

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WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW



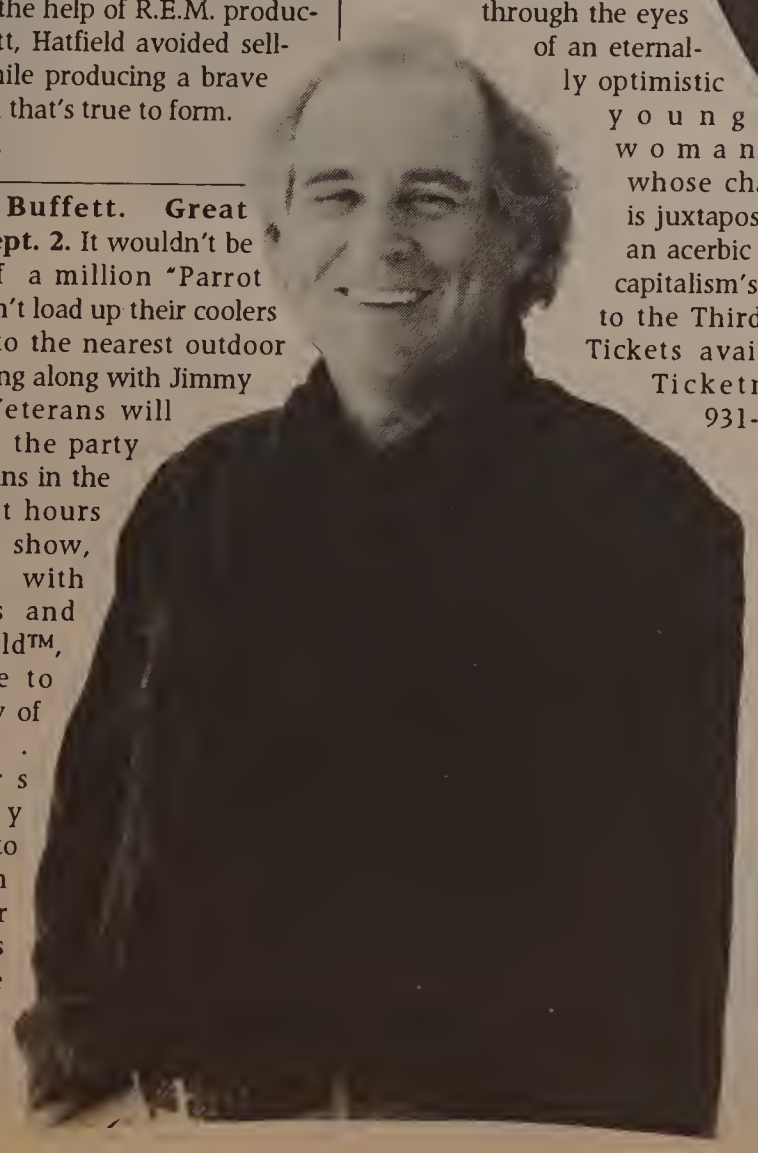
RECORDINGS

Smashing Pumpkins, *Siamese Dream*. Since their independent debut release *Gish*, this Chicago based quartet has been giving grunge a soul and hard rock depth, while never jeopardizing an ounce of artistic integrity. Now on a major label, more people than ever will finally experience material from four of the musicians that pioneered post-modern rock. Like its powerful predecessor, this album should be sold with a helmet. Available at Tower Records.

Juliana Hatfield, *Become What You Are*. Her first solo effort drew the attention of Atlantic records and resulted in a major label deal, but Hatfield's latest CD exudes none of the sanitized shine of mainstream pop. With the help of R.E.M. producer Scott Litt, Hatfield avoided selling out while producing a brave new album that's true to form.

CONCERT

Jimmy Buffett. Great Woods. Sept. 2. It wouldn't be summer if a million "Parrot Heads" didn't load up their coolers and flock to the nearest outdoor venue to sing along with Jimmy Buffett. Veterans will attest that the party always begins in the parking lot hours before the show, complete with cook outs and Cuervo Gold™, so be sure to pack plenty of limes. Rumors already abound as to the addition of one or more shows to the scheduled dates. Call Ticketmaster at 931-2000 or Great Woods for information on available tickets.



HAPPENINGS

Newport Jazz Festival. August 13-15, Newport, R.I. This legendary jazz festival began in 1954 but today features the likes of Ray Charles, Spyro Gyra, and Tito Puente. Located at historic Fort Adams State Park, folks can picnic on the grounds or shop among the dozens of craft displays. Call Ticketmaster for tickets at 931-2000, or the Jazz Festival Hotline at (401) 847-3700 for general information or directions.

THEATER

Miss Saigon. Wang Center for the Performing Arts. 7/14-9/12. From producer Cameron Mackintosh, the mind behind *Les Miserables* and *Phantom of the Opera*, comes another love story set against the ideological cynicism of the last American days in Vietnam. Finally in Boston, this narrative is told through the eyes of an eternally optimistic young woman, whose charm is juxtaposed with an acerbic satire on capitalism's relation to the Third World. Tickets available at Ticketmaster: 931-2000.



LINGERIE

Exotique. 186 South Street, Boston. Most will wonder why nobody thought of this sooner when they experience the "personalized assistance" of the sales women at this lingerie and swimwear boutique. Yes, these beauties will model clothing for patrons and put up with your dinner invitations with only one catch, you have to make a purchase. Worth it.

DAY CRUISE

Bay State Cruises, St. George's Island. Want to get away for the day but can't float the bill? For only $6.00 you and your special pal can book passage to scenic St. George's Island for a day of hiking and solitude away from summer crowds. Once ashore you're on your own to explore Fort Warren or wander to adjacent Harbor Islands via free Water Taxi. Recession entertainment almost at its best. For information, call 723-7800.

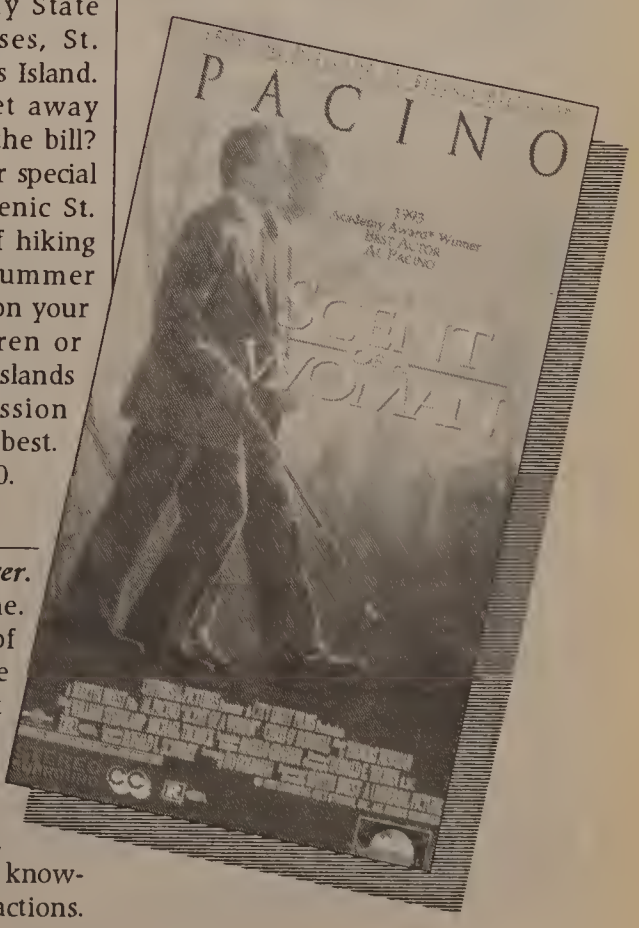
MOVIES

So I Married an Axe Murderer. Directed by Thomas Schlamme. Mike Myers had his share of bad luck with women, until he met Nancy Travis, the smart and sexy owner of her own butcher shop. Myers conquers his fears of commitment and takes the vow, "Until death do us part," not knowing the consequences of his actions. Commitment equals marriage and marriage equals death in this Tri-Star comedy featuring cameos by Steven Wright, Charles Grodin and SNL's Phil Hartman.



VIDEO

Scent of a Woman. Directed by Martin Brest. Chris O'Donnell is the timid prep-school student on the horns of a moral dilemma and stuck with a blind and bitter retired soldier for the weekend. Al Pacino took home an Academy Award for his portrayal of the suicidal aficionado who resolves his own emotional anguish and saves the day for O'Donnell as well.



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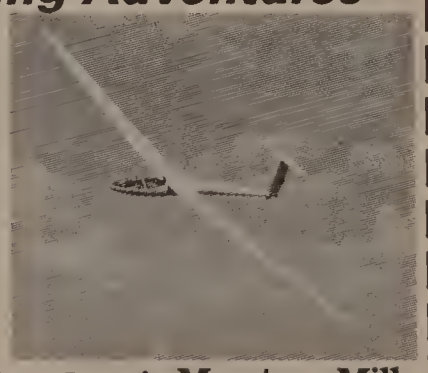
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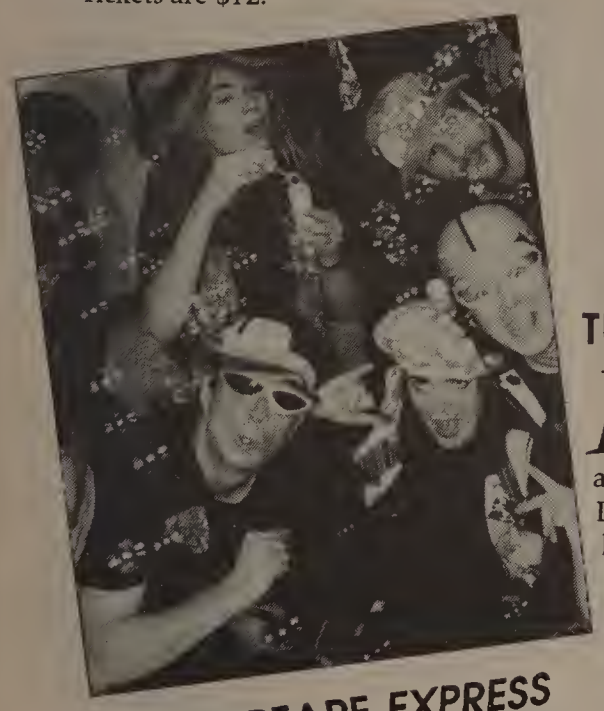
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WEDNESDAY

4 Enjoy the cajun/zydeco rhythms of **The Boogaloo Swamis** at the Museum of Fine Art's "Concerts in the Courtyard" series Aug. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in MFA's elegantly landscaped courtyard. Bring a picnic dinner or buy it there. No alcohol, please. Doors open at 6 p.m.; call 267-9300 x300 for a program. Tickets are $12.



SHAKESPEARE EXPRESS
The Shenandoah Shakespeare Express performing at the BCA August 10.

THURSDAY

5 Industrial/alternative rockers **New Order** will have everyone dancin' up a storm at Great Woods tonight; they're touting their new CD Republic, but they're sure to play classics like "Perfect Kiss" and "Blue Monday."Call 931-2000 for tickets.

FRIDAY

6 Ben & Jerry's **Newport Folk Festival** begins today and runs through Aug. 8. Major headliners Aug. 6: **Peter, Paul & Mary;** Aug. 7: **The Band, John Prine, Mary Chapin-Carpenter;** Aug. 8: The **Indigo Girls, Nanci Griffith.** So take a road trip to Fort Adams State Park - and go see the mansions along Bellevue Avenue/Cliff Walk while you're there! Call 931-2000.

SATURDAY

7 Wipe that drool from your mouth! **A Taste of the South Shore**, to benefit **Horizons for Youth**, is being held on Hancock Street in downtown Quincy today and tomorrow from noon to 6 p.m. It features food from 30 leading area restaurants; tickets are $1 per "bite" of food, or 11 for $10. Call 828-7550.

SUNDAY

8 Comedian **Howie Mandel** performs at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the **North Shore Music Theatre** in Beverly. Tickets are $29.50; call 1-508-922-8500 for reservations and directions.

MONDAY

9 Approximately 125 of **MFA's finest watercolors** are on display only until Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." They're truly amazing and epitomize the beauty of summer. Once the museum puts them away, you probably won't see them again for a long, long time.

TUESDAY

10 The Shenandoah Shakespeare Express presents Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra, Romeo and Juliet, and A Midsummer Night's Dream in repertory. This young and lively company performs Shakespeare in an "all–stops–out, beautifully timed, and ultra physical" performance as described by the Washington Post. They'll be at the Boston Center for the Arts, located on Tremont St., Boston (between Berkeley and Claredon) from August 10 - 22.

WEDNESDAY

11 Stars of the American Ballet, featuring principals of **American Ballet Theatre** and the **NYC Ballet**, will perform an evening of unforgettable ballet classics at Great Woods tonight at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $10-$30; call 931-2000 for tickets.

THURSDAY

12 Well, admittedly this was written at the height of the Sox' 10-game winning streak, so who knows what the pennant race is like now. But it's always a good game when the **BoSox** are matched up with the **Bronx Bombers** (it hurts to say "Yankees"). Game time is 7:35 p.m.; it's the last time the pinstripers will be here this year. Call 267-8661.

FRIDAY

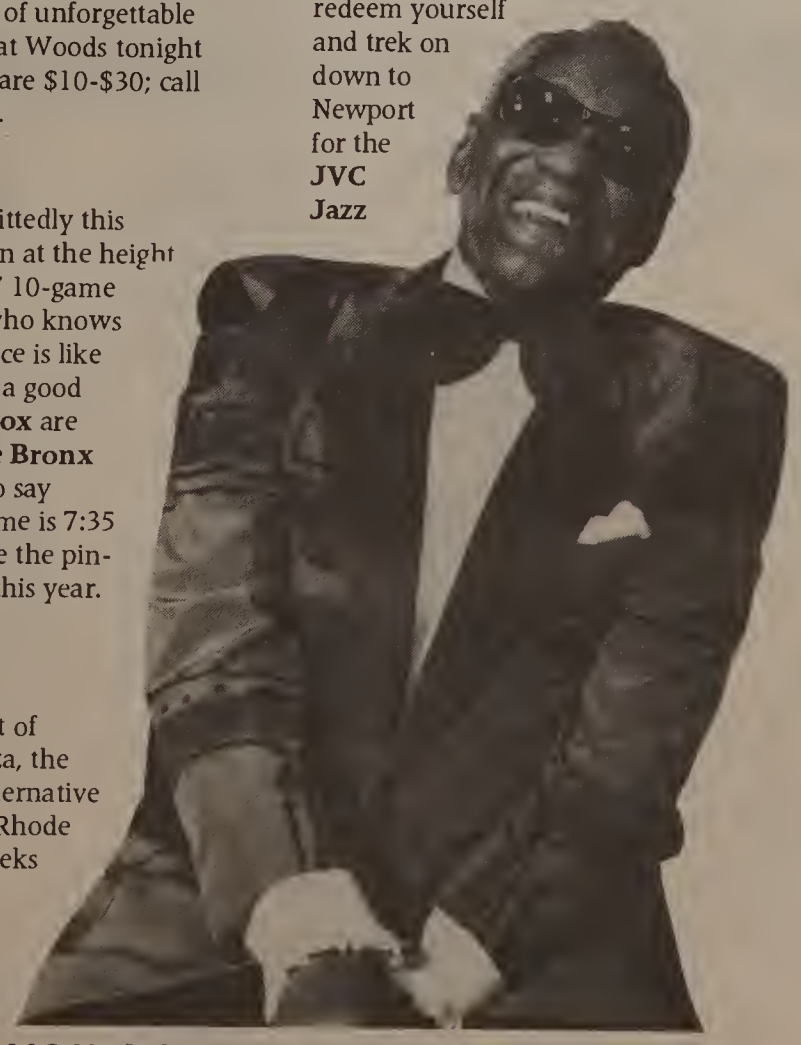
13 In the spirit of Lollapalooza, the national alternative rock festival that hit Rhode Island a couple of weeks ago, the Museum of Science presents **Lollapalaser** every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. It's a laser show set to the music of Pearl Jam, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Fishbone, and many more.



FESTIVAL FOLKS
Peter Paul and Mary will appear at Ben & Jerry's Newport Folk Festival August 6 thru 8

SATURDAY

14 If you didn't make it down to the folk festival last weekend, redeem yourself and trek on down to Newport for the **JVC Jazz Festival,** Aug. 13-15. Headliners Aug. 13: The Count Basie Orchestra; Aug. 14: Ray Charles; Aug. 15: Tito Puente. call 931-200 for times and ticket prices.



YOU GOT THE RIGHT ONE!
Ray Charles, Appearing August 15 at the JVC Jazz Festival in Newport, R.I.

SUNDAY

15 One of America's favorite storytellers, **Garrison Keillor** (Lake Wobegon Days, Prairie Home Companion), performs Aug. 14 at 8 p.m. and today at 3 p.m. at Mechanics Hall, 321 Main St., Worcester. Also features the **Hopeful Gospel Quartet.** Call 641-1010 or 1-800-828-7080 for tickets.

MONDAY

16 Take a day off from the busy pace of the city and take a leisurely stroll around **Walden Pond** - it is Monday, for Pete's sake. You'd be surprised at what half an hour in the woods can do for your peace of mind (especially now that Don Henley's gone). It's off Route 2 in Concord.

TUESDAY

17 To whet your appetite for the Cirque du Soleil - coming in September, come see **Le Cirque Invisible** (that's "The Invisible Circus" for the completely language-deficient) from Aug. 17-Sept. 6 at 64 Brattle St. in Harvard Square. It's a mix of comedy, acrobatics, animal acts, magic and sheer theatricality. Call 547-8300 for times and tickets. Yes, we promise, you'll be able to see it.

10 GAMES THAT SHOOK THE HUB

RED SOX FEVER!

By Christopher Francescani

"Red Sox fans have been living and dying with their favorites for three-quarters of a century. Big-league baseball may fluctuate sharply elsewhere, but not in Boston. Give a losing Red Sox team a three-game winning streak, and... Fenway Park will be mobbed for a week following. Give a Red Sox team a shot at the pennant, and Fenway Park, the most picturesque and one of the oldest and smallest baseball plants in either major league, will be mobbed for a year following."

——Al Hirschberg

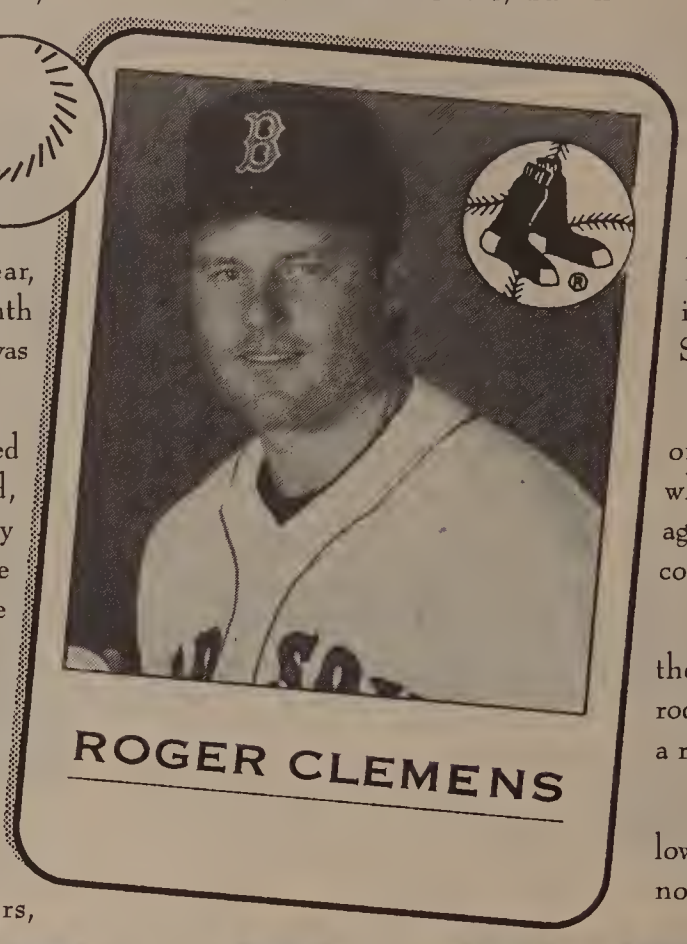
In a recent Boston Globe opinion piece titled, "Put the field of dreams to pasture; hoops rules", columnist Tony Snow contends that baseball has worn out it's welcome on the playing field of national pastimes.

He believes that, "A great sport should require more than the ability to spit," and that baseball, "gobbles up nearly three hours per contest, most of which consists of pauses between pitches and innings, tobacco expectorations, crotch tugs and other adventures."

The article was published June 25, less than a week after Michael Jordan's Bulls, breaking records like twigs, captured their third straight NBA title. There is, admittedly, some truth to Snow's assertions. Basketball is fast supplanting baseball as the real national pastime, catapulted to national celebrity by Madison Avenue and Media-Hype, a two-pronged slingshot of image-making that could turn Pee Wee Herman into a poster boy for the Jesuits. Da Bulls, in conjunction with Gatorade, Nike, Reebok, Pepsi, Converse, McDonald's and Wheaties, to name a few, had for weeks commandeered the boob tube, turning everything from leather sneakers to leathery Whoppers into plugs for the National Basketball Association.

Snow further notes that baseball, "developed the tradition of the seventh inning stretch to arouse patrons from boredom-induced comas." In truth, the tradition developed after then-president Taft, at opening day in Washington one year, stood up to stretch during the seventh inning, and the crowd, thinking he was leaving, followed suit.

As the roar from Chicago faded and the hype eventually slackened, Beantown's gaze drifted inevitably towards baseball's Fenway Park, where time is tucked away somewhere beyond that confines of a nine-inning contest. The late-in-the-game urgency with which we conduct our daily lives, an urgency so reflective in pro baseball, is pleasantly absent at the ballpark.



ROGER CLEMENS

The view from the bleachers, however, was by no means a pretty one. The sign on the ticket window on Landsdowne Street could have read Field of Broken Dreams.

The Red Sox, on June 25th, were ten games out of first place, had lost six of their last ten contests, and were buffered from The Basement by the blessed ill fortunes of a stumbling Midwestern ballclub or two. Most of us had watched the baseball season unfold with the same rapt anticipation that we normally reserve for watching grass grow.

That was then, this is now.

The summer heat has moved in to grip the sweltering city in its fist, and we no longer thrive on pituitary types lurching down a ball court bathed in sweat. It's hot. And it's sticky.

Not only do we slow down during the summer months, but in turn we expect our pastimes to slow down with us. No more downtown-rebound-jumpshot-posthound circuit overloads in this heat. We prefer the in-my-own-sweet-time pitchers' poses and the long pop-fly shots that outfielders jog languidly towards and retrieve with no more effort than it takes to toss a Frisbee. In an age of global competition and MTV-style attention spans, the baseball season still seems a most welcome mental downshift.

Throughout the increasingly optimistic days of early July we rose and fell with the Olde Town Team's fortunes, applauding their victories, ever wary of the midsummer night's slump. Public displays of optimism in July are perennially considered naive in this city, and the prevailing opinion among veteran Red Sox watchers has been that the Sox could use a little starch.

Then thunder struck.

And Rockets went off.

In his first major league start in four weeks, Roger Clemens struck out six, walked two, and allowed only one earned run in six innings as the Red Sox, gaining momentum following a successful road trip, defeated the Seattle Mariners 5-3.

What was to follow was ten days of unbridled Red Sox frenzy, during which the BoSox reminded us once again of the power of the pitch and its cooling effect on a simmering city.

The media, with little else to keep them busy in the heat of the summer, rode the moment like hapless children on a roller coaster.

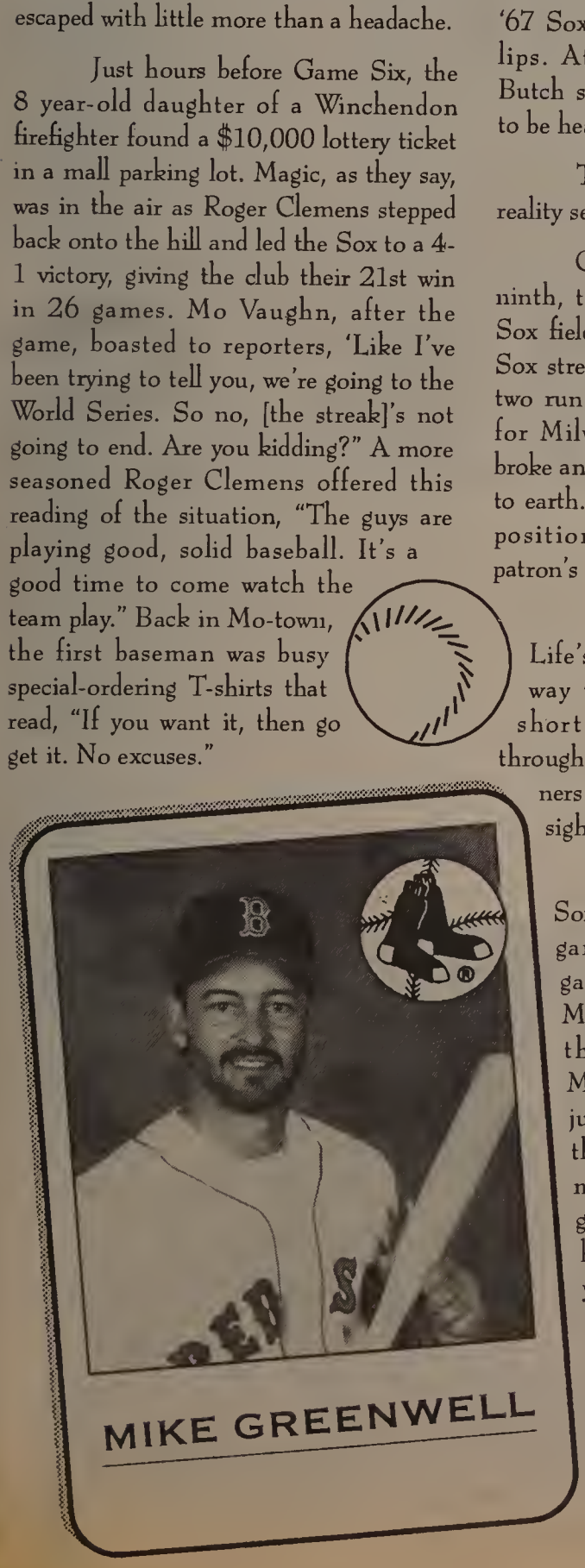
Globe staple Mike Barnicle, following the Red Sox' ninth straight win, noted that, "There is no way to overestimate what good baseball means to this town and our region. When the club is competitive, striving, hustling, and unyielding in the face of defeat, people feel better about themselves and the life around them."

After Game Seven, the Herald's David Cataneo had this to say, "A month ago, the Red Sox played like pigs and the only good thing about summer was watching moths sizzle in the bug light. Now the days are sunny and dry and the nights are pleasant. You don't holler so much in traffic and you're even starting to use the directional signal now and then... The trees are green, all the women

on the trolley look like Angie Dickenson circa 1965, a nice cigar hits the spot and you're sure Billy Martin wasn't such a bad guy after all."

The Streak in July, as it has come to be known, was as momentous and dramatic as last call at Cheers. Cliff and Norm would have swiveled on their stools as, in the first inning of Game Three, Mike Greenwell was tagged in the head by a 94 mph fastball thrown by Seattle pitcher Randy Johnson, who one sportswriter called "the most frightening pitcher in the game even when he's not pitching." For a moment the park grew silent, recalling in horror August 18, 1967, when Sox slugger Tony Conigliaro was struck down by a fastball to the head that caused internal bleeding and derailed his career. Saved by an earflap, Greenwell escaped with little more than a headache.

Just hours before Game Six, the 8 year-old daughter of a Winchendon firefighter found a $10,000 lottery ticket in a mall parking lot. Magic, as they say, was in the air as Roger Clemens stepped back onto the hill and led the Sox to a 4-1 victory, giving the club their 21st win in 26 games. Mo Vaughn, after the game, boasted to reporters, 'Like I've been trying to tell you, we're going to the World Series. So no, [the streak]'s not going to end. Are you kidding?" A more seasoned Roger Clemens offered this reading of the situation, "The guys are playing good, solid baseball. It's a good time to come watch the team play." Back in Mo-town, the first baseman was busy special-ordering T-shirts that read, "If you want it, then go get it. No excuses."



Late in Game Eight, the Sox, down 5-2 and probably a thousand faithless fans who had left the stands, Mike Greenwell smacked the potato into the right field bleachers to tie a game that the Sox went on to win in the 10th with a Zupcic-Green Monster-Hatcher combo that could only have been pulled off at Fenway Park.

By the time the planes at Logan were loaded with triumphant teammates en route to Milwaukee, Red Sox Fever had reached what would have been considered unchartable heights back in the typically-skeptical days of early summer, and cheerful comparisons to the '67 Sox were on every bartender's lips. At Allston Sports Depot, Butch supplanted beer as the word to be heard.

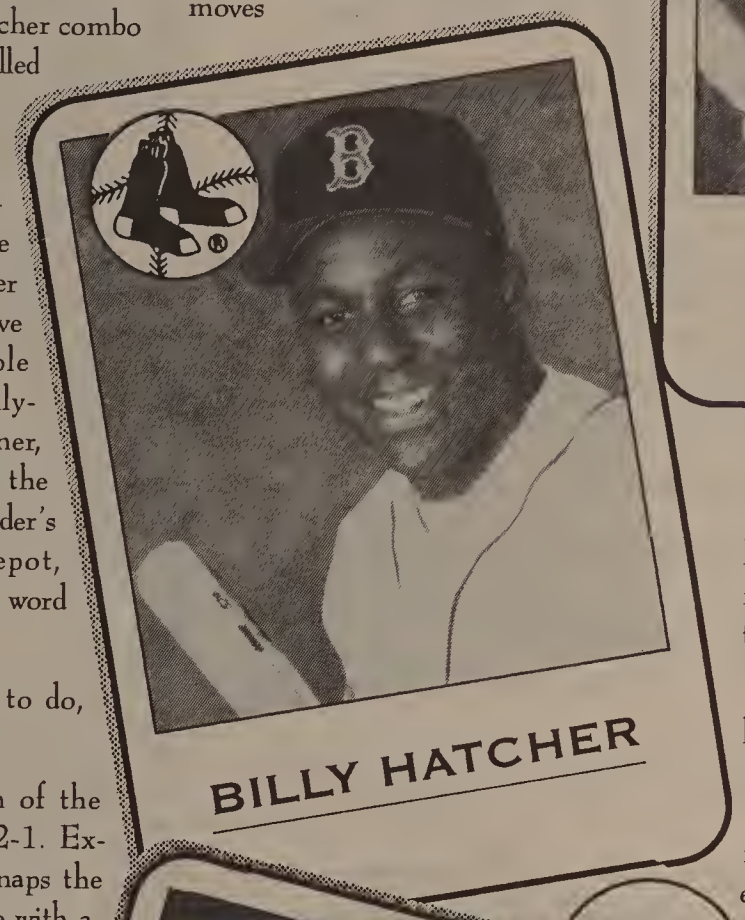
Then, as it has wont to do, reality set in.

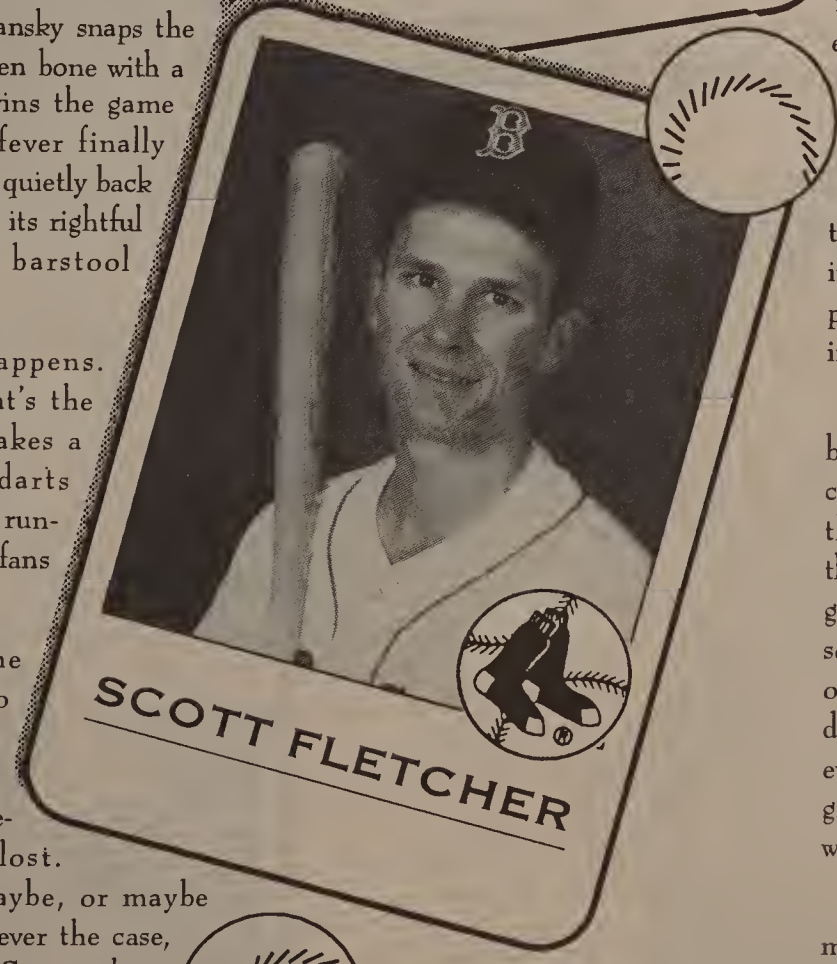
Game eleven: bottom of the ninth, two outs, Sox ahead 2-1. Ex-Sox fielder Tom Brunansky snaps the Sox streak like a chicken bone with a two run homer that wins the game for Milwaukee. The fever finally broke and we all drifted quietly back to earth. Beer assumed its rightful position on every barstool patron's tongue.

Hey, it happens. Life's a bitch. That's the way the ball.....takes a short hop and darts through the infield as runners score and the fans sigh helplessly.

While the Sox recovered two games of a four game series with Milwaukee, something was lost. Momentum maybe, or maybe just luck. Whatever the case, the Boston Red Sox, in their mad dash for immortality, gave this town one of the best July's it had seen in years.

As fans, we've been forced back into the one-day-at-a-time mentality of watching, waiting, and crossing the ever-hopeful fingers.

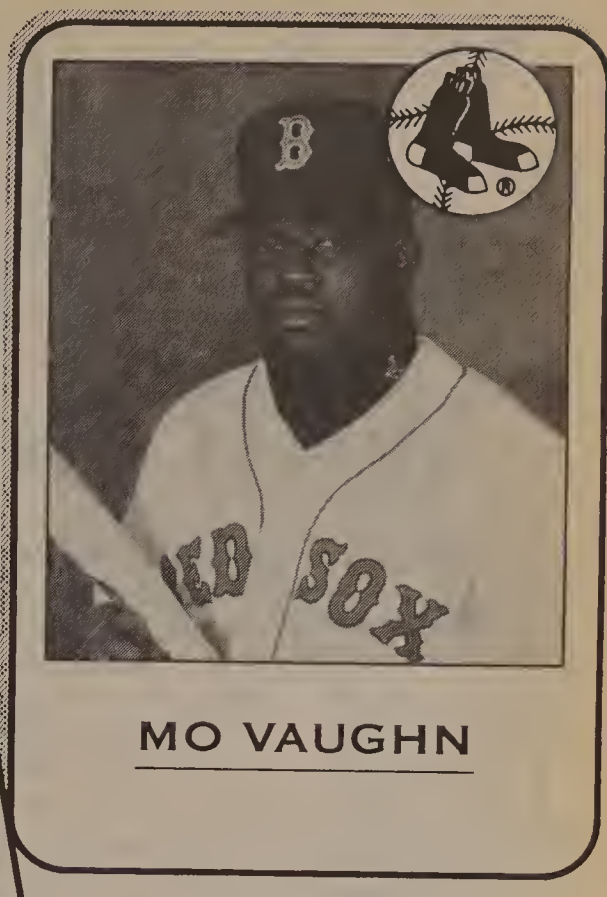




It's part of the game.

Like the economy, baseball moves at a slow, plodding pace and it's outcome is never certain. It can be tedious and often disappointing. But there is something dependable, inviolate about the sport. Baseball moves methodically through its motions: never very different, yet never the same. Through depressions and prosperity, war and peace, tragedy and triumph, baseball has remained constant.

The ten weeks that remain in the season stretch out endlessly before us, and the fate of the Olde Town Team is as mutable as a New England weather pattern. There is time to rise and fall endlessly with our team during the coming months, and that is the defining characteristic of the game: time.



Within the sheltering walls of the ballpark, time is captured, held still while the pitcher finds his stance or the batter seizes on just the right grip. Time never runs out on a ninth-inning rally, only energy deteriorates. The afternoon is measured in innings and outs, and the deceitful shadow of the sun, not a clock on the wall, is the player's constant nemesis. Despite the Astroturf, the enclosed stadiums and the skyrocketing salaries, the game exudes a purity, a pace, and a playability that you will find in no other game at any price.

Even if, in the time to come, baseball moves indoors and all the franchises are bought by Japanese investors, there will remain a constant rhythm to the game, a rhythm that our fathers and grandfathers felt, and a rhythm that our sons will someday feel. It is the rhythm of The Game, and no fastbreak, slam-dunk or sneaker ad in the world could ever be as energizing as game-winning grand slam in the bottom of the ninth with two outs and a loaded count.

So sit back and relax. It's summertime. Grab yourself a beer, expectorate some tobacco, and give a tug on that crotch. We have all the time in the world. This game isn't gonna go away.

Contributions to this article were made by Tim Motz and Brendan O'Connor.

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Theater Review / Nancy Leonard

Not to Miss

"... They Updated [Madame Butterfly] to the neon-lighted sleaze and opportunism of the Vietnam Era..."

Like the hurricane that could, in this season, bring welcome relief to our parched lawns, the mega-musical *Miss Saigon* has swept into the Wang Center to ease our theatrical drought. There's been plenty of publicity about the size of the production and the high-tech effects, but they all add up to a first-class endeavor, properly scaling a very personal love story set amidst the tumultuous exit of the American troops from Saigon.

IF YOU GO

Miss Saigon

At the Wang Center for the Performing Arts
270 Tremont St.
Boston
July 14 through September 12.
Tickets available at the Wang Center Box Office or through Ticketmaster at 931-2222

The love story is an old one, adapted from *Madame Butterfly* by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schonberg – the creators of *Les Misérables* – with the assistance of Richard Maltby, Jr. They updated the tale to the neon-lighted sleaze and opportunism of the Vietnam era, and transformed it into a pop opera with an assertive, sung-through score. Though the narrative could unfold more expeditiously, and the evening is less riveting than their earlier creation, you forgive the comparative lags because of the keen theatrical sensibility driving the production. Drama and atmosphere – both aural and visual – are deftly combined into a grand and moving entertainment.

The story centers on Kim, a 17 year old Vietnamese orphan, who flees her war-ravaged village and despised fiancé to try her lot as a bar girl in Saigon. She meets Chris, an American soldier guarding the Embassy, and they quickly fall in love, only to be separated by the unexpected fall of the city in April 1975. When Chris returns three years later to Bangkok, where Kim and her pimp (known as The Engineer) have landed, he finds the dream of America still very much alive. Kim's protector/despoiler imagines a land of unlimited riches, deliciously captured in his show-stopping "The American Dream." Kim's agenda is more modest. She wants Chris to take their son to America. When she learns he is married, and that she cannot go along, she gives her life for this American dream.

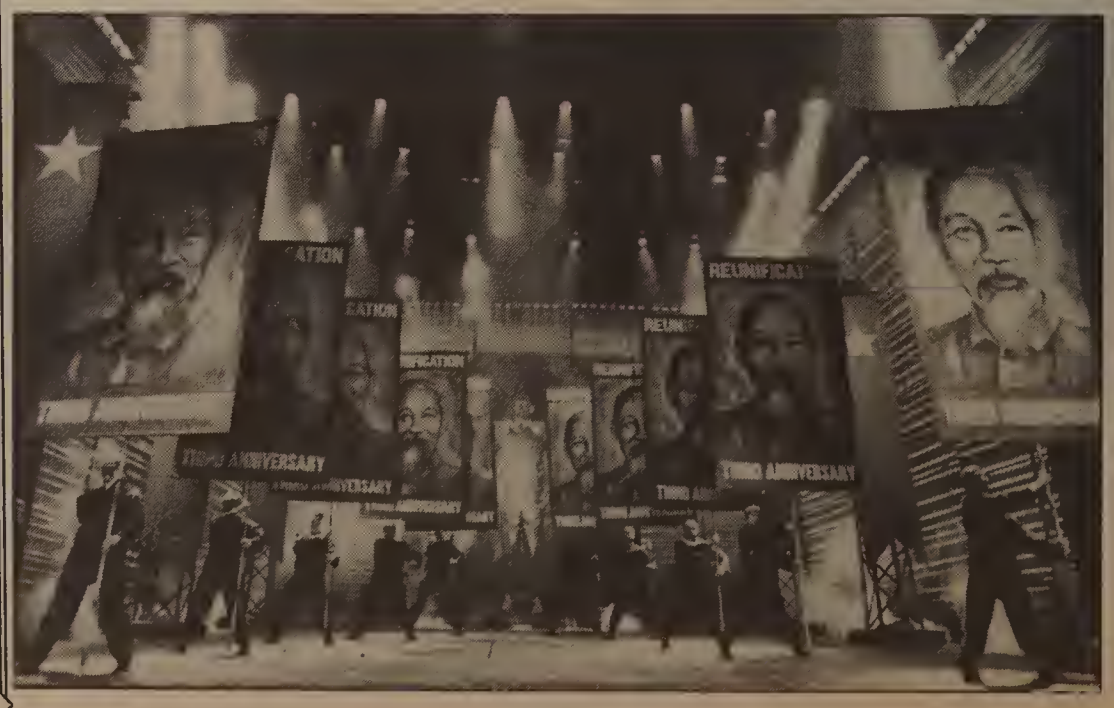
Under Nicholas Hytner's focused, energetic direction, the large-scale effects, including a floating Cadillac and a whirring helicopter, are perfectly stitched into the theatrical tapestry. They're not stand-out dazzlers, so much as integral parts of a glossy whole.

Although some of the sounds are reminiscent of *Les Misérables*, the score is a splendid original, superbly enhancing the passion, danger, and conflict swirling around the foreign land. The voices are strong, and pleasingly handle the variety.

Most impressively, the personalities are not lost in the staging. Jennifer C. Paz brings a tender innocence and uncommon strength to Kim, while Jarrod Emick is a convincingly smitten Chris, and a convincingly torn husband whose dilemma is achingly real. Both love with quivering intensity.

Raul Aranas gleams with smarmy greed as The Engineer, and adds comic zest with his obsession ("I speak Uncle Ho, but I think Uncle Sam."). Keith Byron Kirk adds considerable moral presence as Chris' buddy John, whose stirring "Bui-Doi" movingly summons the Amer-Asian children left behind. Christiane Noll brings an appealing presence and strong voice to Chris' wife Ellen, and Allen Hong is surprisingly sympathetic as Thuy, the young man Kim's parents picked in peaceful times to be her husband.

Miss Saigon, endowed with sure-footed theatricality and a moving presence through all its high-tech splendor, is a most welcome storm in our midst.



HO HO HO: *Cameron Mackintosh's Production of Miss Saigon.*

Arts Review / Ruth C. Morss

Treasures of African and Oceanic Sculpture

"...The African objects dominate the exhibit by sheer force of numbers and also by their remarkable expressiveness..."

With the exception of the Getty Museum in California, most American museums grow by gift and not by purchase. Certainly the MFA owes its great collections (i.e. Nubia) primarily to donation or excavation. The Museum's new exhibition African and Oceanic Sculpture: Treasures from a Private Collection is thus doubly exciting because all 69 objects (42 African 27 Oceanic) will eventually become part of the permanent collection. Until now, holdings in the traditional arts of these cultures have consisted of exactly two African masks and four Polynesian objects. Judith Downes, Museum Designer, provides a magnificent setting for the show.



Yam Cult Head (Yina)

This individual collection stands out because it contains examples of private and public art from two unrelated cultures that nonetheless had similar artistic goals. Many miles separate Africa from Oceania, the umbrella term for thousands of islands in the Pacific, but almost every piece was intended to join the human and supernatural worlds. Using local materials and pigments, artists worked to make objects that would ensure the good will of powerful but temperamental spirits that affected their lives.

Oceania's lush environment is hardly benign, given tropical storms, volcanic eruptions, and tribal warfare. In fact, many of the smallest or most decorative objects are powerful reminders of Oceania's dark side. A lintel from Papua, New Guinea, depicts an illustrious ancestor flanked by four decapitated victims of his head-hunting raids. An ornate 14-foot pole, also from Papua, New Guinea, seems peaceful enough, but it actually commemorates tribal members killed by rival head-hunters. Even the Yam Cult Head , which represents the agricultural deity thought to control the yam harvest, is a 6-foot tall multi-colored mask.

The African objects dominate the exhibit by sheer force of numbers and also by their remarkable expressiveness. One striking example, a Power Figure, represents a tribesman, studded with nails and covered with white paint, whose stomach has become a receptacle for objects which attract favorable divine intervention. After each request, the petitioner drove a nail into the figure's shoulders. Other sculptures represent long-dead faithful royal retainers, their hands near their mouths to cloak their speech in the royal presence.

The African masks demonstrate the immense creativity possible within the confines of limited materials and a single artistic form. Priests or initiated members of elite groups donned the masks in order to assume the guise of a spirit whose aid they needed, and each artist approached his task in a completely different way. One mask, meant to represent a nature spirit, is actually a headdress in the shape of a large bird, while another depicts a nature spirit as a purely abstract form. Ancestor spirits were honored with masks adorned with elaborate "hairstyles" and shell decoration as in the Mask (Deangle) from the Ivory Coast. Were a community member an "evildoer," he might be greeted at night by an "enforcer" carrying a wooden club and wearing a mask with hideousl facial features.

Many of the African and Oceanic peoples valued the object more than the artist. With the exception of more modern pieces in the show, artists did not sign and date their work, nor did a written record survive. In fact, the art of some Oceanic cultures was never intended to last at all. In addition to destructive natural forces (i.e. wood-boring insects) outside influences have disrupted much traditional artistic activity and the belief system that supported it. Fortunately, this stellar exhibit provides the visitor a rare chance to see and admire the legacy of African and Oceanic cultures. ❑

IF YOU GO

African and Oceanic Sculpture

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Wed. Thurs. Fri until 9:30
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FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

ANOTHER STAKEOUT
★★

The government wants her to testify. A notorious Chicago crime family wants her dead. Or is it the other way around? With a film this forgettable it hardly matters. When assistant D.A. Rosie O'Donnell sets up house with cops Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez in a stakeout to find the missing woman, the result is a lot of amusing bickering all-in-the-family style. Double agents, double takes, and double-entendres make up the plot of this muddled but ambitious gun-in-cheek crime story. With few real action/suspense scenes, the film relies heavily on the antics and banter of the mismatched trio, which are good but in the end, not enough.

M.R.D'Entremont

CONEHEADS
★★★

Producer Lorne Michaels recruits almost the entire cast of Saturday Night Live for this extended comedy sketch. As with the NBC show, the scenes range from riotous to bland. After a crash landing, the Coneheads, Beldar (Dan Aykroyd) and Prymaat (Jane Curtin), make the best of suburbia among the "bluntskulls" in Paramus, NJ. Life is surprisingly human: they run the family business, face marital problems, and help their teenage daughter through school and dating. On Saturdays they relax and "consume mass quantities" at the backyard barbecue. Curiously, no one seems to mind their cone heads: the community accepts them as the ideal family. If only people in real life could be so open-minded.

M.R.D'Entremont

THE FIRM
★★

Hotshot Harvard Law School grad Mitch McDeere (Tom Cruise) makes a deal with the devil and to extricate himself goes up against his new law firm, the Mafia, and the FBI. Director Sydney Pollack establishes character and motive with decisive sledgehammer blows, but there's little buildup and suspense. The movie aspires to literary heights but only succeeds at seeming pretentious. What lively moments it has are thanks to a motley assortment of quirky low-lives: Gary Busey as a good-natured private eye, Holly Hunter as a good-hearted tootsie; David Strathairn as Mitch's droll jailbird brother Ray, and Ed Harris as a bullying, hot-headed FBI agent.

K.Wilson

IN THE LINE OF FIRE
★★★★

Wolfgang Peterson directs this exciting, coherent , and often humorous action thriller starring Clint Eastwood as Secret Service Agent Frank Horrigan, a "borderline burnout with questionable social skills" who still feels guilty that he didn't protect JFK that day in Dallas. Frank gets a second chance compliments of rogue CIA operative and would-be-Presidential-assassin Mitch Leary (John Malkovich) who engages Frank in a game of cat and mouse. Renee Russo is good as career Secret Service Agent Lilly Raines and Frank's love interest. Almost over-the-hill Frank is less believable as Lily's love interest even if he does adore jazz, play the piano and grin disarmingly after making chauvinist remarks.

K.Wilson

JURASSIC PARK
★★★

Forget character development. Forget plot. Even the scary parts – and there are many – don't go over the top. The dinosaurs rule Jurassic Park, and they are amazing. They look real. The only entertaining humans are Dennis (Wayne Knight), a treacherous, whiny computer genius responsible for the dinosaurs running amuck in Jurassic Park and a greedy, cowardly lawyer (Martin Ferraro) who deserves to be turned into dinosaur food. If you wish lawyers were an extinct species, you'll enjoy director Steven Spielberg's visual lawyer joke. The talents of Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum as scientists are utterly wasted.

K.Wilson

ORLANDO
★

Virginia Woolf's Orlando, about the time-traveling adventures of a man who awakens transformed into a woman, is more engaging than its original readers would concede. Orlando the movie is empty, empty, despite the poetic passages and ethereal cinematography and the heaps of devotees who find Consequence and Importance just at the places where Woolf's readers found all style and no content. Potter can't direct and, worse for the high humor of Woolf's Orlando, she certainly can't direct comedy. On the other hand, Quentin Crisp, pioneering gay activist for The Naked Civil Servant, makes a prim and perfectly rouged Queen Elizabeth

I. G. Peary

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
★★★

Rookie of the Year is a kids' movie that's not just for kids. It's the fast-paced, funny story of 12 year old Henry Rowengartner (Thomas Ian Nicholas), who finds he can throw baseballs at 100 m.p.h. after his broken arm heals abnormally. He becomes a big hit when his mother's mercenary boyfriend signs him as pitcher with the Chicago Cubs. The film neatly combines childhood fantasy with adult reality. In his baseball dream world Henry contends with immense pressure to perform and jealous team members, such as over-the hill pitcher Chet Steadman (Gary Busey). Still, Henry has a ball, and so do we, even those of us who aren't avid baseball fans.

M.R.D'Entremont

SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE
★★

No trouble sleeping here. A young boy from Seattle, Jonah Baldwin (Ross Malinger), phones a radio talk show and says his widowed dad needs a new wife. A woman in Baltimore, Annie Reed (Meg Ryan), becomes obsessed with the young caller and his father Sam (Tom Hanks), and realizes that she and her fiance are mismatched. The premise is clever but the plot is rehashed. We get two hours of amusing, but all-too-familiar, "Will they (meet) or won't they?" Annie loses interest in her fiance because there are no surprises in their relationship. Ditto our reaction to this movie. Still, Hanks and Ryan are great. Maybe next time they could do two scenes together.

M.R.D'Entremont

WEEKEND AT BERNIE'S II
★

If you thought Weekend at Bernie's was funny, and think the sequel might be even funnier, think again. There are exactly three laughs in this otherwise vacuous "comedy." To get rich quick, Andrew McCarthy and Jonathan Silverman steal Bernie's corpse (Terry Kiser) from the morgue and bring it to the Virgin Islands in order to retrieve his safe deposit box full of cash. Everyone wants a piece: crooks, a shifty business mogul and even a voodoo priestess (who gives Bernie a little animation). The film moves too fast and little is substantiated. The characters are dull and idiotic. The most intelligent is Bernie – at least he knows when to sit still and shut up.

M.R.D'Entremont

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

POETIC JUSTICE

The Girls in the Hood

At last. African-American movie heroines – smart city girls with dreams – are making names for themselves. There's Leola from *Love Your Mama*, Zora from *Made in America* ,and the wonderful Chantel from *Just Another Girl on the I.R.T.* Now meet Justice, heroine of *Poetic Justice*. Justice may be working-class, but she has all the advantages: she comes backed by a big studio, by hot young writer/director John Singleton, and by superstar Janet Jackson.



South Central L.A. to Oakland: *Janet Jackson as Justice finds a world she never imagined.*

Justice is a hairdresser in South-Central LA whose boyfriend is murdered in front of her. She copes with his death and earlier losses (she's an orphan) by withdrawing and writing poetry. Reluctantly, she sets off on a day-trip with her girlfriend Iesha (Regina King), Iesha's postal-worker boyfriend Chicago (Joe Torry), and his co-worker Lucky (Tupac Shakur). As they cruise up and back down the Pacific Coast in a U.S. Mail truck, Justice and Lucky fight, fight some more, and finally fall in love.

The film, which is a mishmash of coming-of-age in the 'hood movie, mini-road picture, and romance, has its share of fun, relaxed moments: bitch sessions at the beauty salon, Iesha and Chicago drinking and fooling around on top of the mail in the back of the truck, the four kids crashing and enjoying a friendly family picnic. But inevitably, the fun is marred by violence. At the picnic, Lucky observes that he has "never been around so many black folks where there wasn't a fight." Soon a fight breaks out.

IF YOU GO

In the Line of Fire

★★★

Directed by
Wolfgang Peterson
Written by
Jeff Maguire
Starring
Clint Eastwood
John Malkovich

Like Singleton's *Boyz N the Hood*, *Poetic Justice* is didactic. The director's moral convictions give his movies depth and complexity. Here Singleton is especially concerned with how urban African-American men and women interact. They fight. Constantly. Drugs fuel the fire, and as often as not, the violence escalates. Lucky gets into a brawl with his daughter's free-basing mother and her two boyfriends. Iesha, who's a nasty drunk, carries on about what a lousy lover Chicago is until finally he hits her. Singleton doesn't make excuses for his men, but his women are often instigators. Both must learn how to communicate and treat each other with respect.

We need not have worried about Janet Jackson. She is surprisingly relaxed and sympathetic. We root for her in a way we never do for Madonna because we fantasize that her choosing to play the unaffected, working-class Justice means that she's really not so different from the rest of us in spite of her $32 million record contract and her last name. (We enjoy Madonna's failures because she makes it clear that she wouldn't be caught dead being one of us.)

Any problems with her performance are problems with the movie. Starting with the title, *Poetic Justice* is often heavy-handed. Justice's big, emotional, revelatory scenes are dreadful; they come out of nowhere and evaporate. Justice is not a particularly well-developed or compelling heroine, which is a shame because she has our attention. Now if only she had more to say.

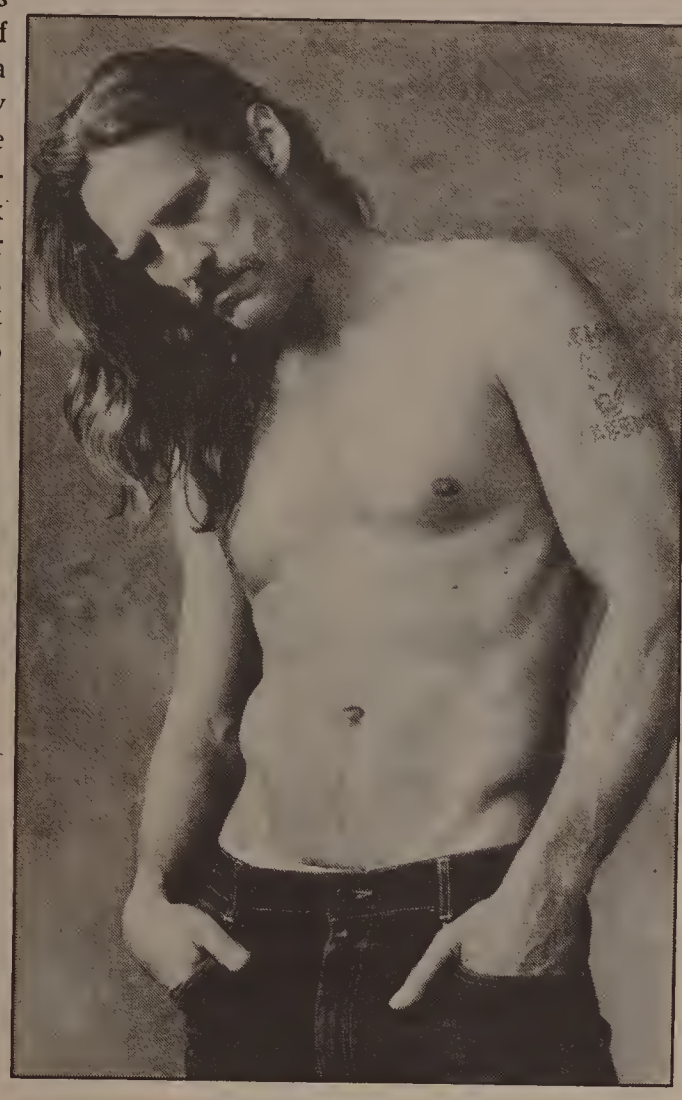
In a recent *Boston Globe Magazine* interview, Chris Rock said that when he does stand up comedy for a white audience he has to "do a sort of voice-over narration. You have to spell it out. A black audience, I just go for it." With *Justice*, Singleton apparently decided to go for it. In a *Premiere* interview he says he thinks some scenes might be foreign to white people. This white reviewer had trouble understanding the dialogue in a few of the early scenes. But here's hoping that Singleton continues to go for it and that next time, he gets there.

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

AMERICAN HEARTS

Also, Rock Hudson's Home Movies

With Singles and Sleepless in Seattle, the state of Washington's Nirvana capital went unabashedly Hollywood, and the picturesque Northwest city became synonymous with relationship-struck young yuppies crying into their Starbuck's cappuccino. American Heart, a low-budget independent feature, restores to cinema the Seattle of yore, as an off-beat, gritty setting, a disquieting place of rampant drugs, crime, prostitution, and screwed-up runaways spinning their wheels by the icy blue Pacific.



AMERICAN HEARTS:
Jeff Bridges, stringy-haired and tattooed.

Into this askew city comes Jack Kelson (Jeff Bridges), stringy-haired and tattooed, an ex-con looking for decent wages. If he can stay straight, save a few bucks, placate his grumpy parole officer, Jack hopes to ferry to Alaska by the summer. "There, nobody looks over your shoulder," he says, dreaming of the American Dream taking hold in snowed-in Fairbanks.

Meanwhile, Seattle sucks. The only job he secures is as a lowly window-washer. His ex-partner in crime, a cur named Rainey (Don Harvey), keeps slithering around, trying to pull Jack off track. Also, Jack is burdened with a round-the-clock conscience: his 15 year old son, Nick (Edward Furlong), has moved in with him and demands that the drifter/ex-jailbird shape up into real fatherhood.

Jeff Bridges is fine on screen, low-key, sincere, and unassuming, easy to root for as he tries to walk the straight line in Seattle. And there's something eternally potent in the motherless story of a wise-before-his-time boy attempting to domesticate his erratic, irresponsible dad. In movies, this kind of poignant tale goes back to Charlie Chaplin and Jackie Coogan in The Kid (1920) and Wallace Beery and Jackie Cooper in The Champ (1931).

Disappointingly, American Hearts does so little with its set-up. For a long time, there's almost no plot, as if the way to be non-Hollywood is to choke off the narrative. So, the characters wait around. Then suddenly, there's too much plot, and a stupid one at that, as young Nick goes bad, rejects his father, and gets into crime himself. This turn-about then conveniently sets up the self-consciously anti-Hollywood Unhappy Ending. Also dumb.

Director Martin Bell has filmed in Seattle before, as co-maker of Streetwise, the popular 1983 feature documentary about teenage runaways. Its detractors accused the filmmakers of exploiting their vulnerable protagonists, whose seedy lives were dramatized in a raw, tabloid manner.

Though suspect, Streetwise maneuvered a fragile line between social consciousness and flagrant voyeurism. American Heart can be read only one way: as an unfortunate freak-show utilization of Seattle's unhappy street life. The runaways, addicts, homeless, and transvestites are rounded up and herded about as weirdo back-drop for the actors and drama. It's sheer exploitation, even if, as extras, the freaks were paid off.

IF YOU GO

AMERICAN HEARTS
DIRECTED BY MARTIN BELL
WRITTEN BY PETER SILVERMAN
STARRING JEFF BRIDGES
AT THE COOLIDGE CORNER CINEMA
STARTING AUGUST 6TH

ROCK HUDSON'S MOVIES
DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY
MARK RAPPAPORT
PLAYING AT
THE HARVARD FILM ARCHIVES
AUGUST 6TH - AUGUST 12TH

Rock Hudson's Home Movies.

I recall a 1980 press conference in New York for the Agatha Christie thriller movie The Mirror Crack'd. A reporter showed off his hardboiled credentials by asking, embarrassingly, of Rock Hudson, "Isn't it true that you used to live with Jim Nabors?" Hudson gulped and turned white, and said "That's not true!" As always, he firmly denied his homosexuality. And he remained deep in the closet through his tragic AIDS-related illness and death.

Or at least, so we thought. But New York filmmaker Mark Rappaport shows in his sly and amusing Rock Hudson's Home Movies that the actor left clues all over the place about his gayness, for those who know how and where to look. Rappaport knowingly isolates moments from Hudson's much-underrated Hollywood movies and shows a pattern of gay double-entendres in the dialogue, oblique references to male lovers, moments of cross-dressing, and, most amazing of all, scene after scene of Hudson cruising his male co-stars. At one hilarious moment, Rock even puts the eye moves on John "the Duke" Wayne!

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching film at B.U.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Dennis the Menace	★	★	★	★	★★	★	-
The Firm	★★	★★	★	★	★★★	★	★★
In the Line of Fire	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
Rookie of the Year	★★★	★★★	★-	★	★	★★-	★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★-	★★★-	★-	★-
Snow White	★★★	★★★			★★★	★★★	
Son-in-Law	★	★	★	★	★		
Weekend at Bernie's II	★	★	★	★★	★		
What's Love Got to Do With It	★★★	★★★	★★-	★★★	★★★	★★-	★★★

Comedy / Ross Garmil

Everyone's a Comedian

"Open Mic Nights & Throwing Yourself to the Comedic Lions at the Stitches Comedy Riot."

The Roman gladiators were trained professionals. They were well paid; they kept up on the latest spear tactics; they were provided with the best armor available, and they had a great dental plan. But how did these gladiators train to become professionals? Well, some were soldiers who did something special like ripping out a Carthaginian's arm from its socket without ruining a good manicure (on either the soldier or the severed arm). But others had to work their way up to gladiator status by surviving amateur nights at the coliseum. Unfortunately for many would-be gladiators, the amateur competition usually involved a large, outdoor stadium and many lions.



OPEN MIC NIGHT:
If you think you're funny...

And just like the gladiators of old, today's comedians have to hone their skills in the modern version of being thrown to the lions: open mic competitions. The premise of open mic is simple: if you think that you're funny and you can be funny in front of other people, then write your name down on a list and five minutes of stage time are yours.

In the heyday of stand-up comedy, would-be comedians could find a stage on which to perform every night of the week. However, in this recession less time is available to amateurs, but it is still out there. Both Stitches and Nick's Comedy Stop regularly feature large open mic competitions.

The idea of competition may scare off some first timers, but it shouldn't. And just to prove that point, this reporter, in his own magnanimous manner, threw himself to the proverbial lions and recently stepped onto his first open mic stage, in the preliminary competition of 9th Annual Stitches Comedy Riot.

While no awards were awarded and no network executives sought out my name and address to offer me my own late night talk show, I considered the performance a success. I walked onto stage and told some jokes. People laughed at the jokes. Not all of the jokes, but enough of them. I impersonated the T and gave tokens to the audience. They applauded. I left.

And now that I have some experience in the subject, I offer you, the would-be open miker, a short list of suggestions:

First of all, try not to ad-lib. While successful improvisation usually works very well, you will probably be too nervous to think quickly enough on your feet. Nothing looks worse than wasting your five minutes trying to think of something to say.

Meticulous preparation is key. Good material is necessary, but practice makes timing, and timing is everything. Practice wherever and whenever you can: in the shower, driving to work, shaving your dog, anywhere. If possible, tape yourself so you can time your act.

Write out a list of the routines you plan to perform, so that you can refer to it if you begin to forget what comes next. True it doesn't look very professional to look at your list on stage, but it is better than silence or uttering a cornucopia of "Er"'s, "Uh"'s, and "Where was I"'s. Besides, you shouldn't worry about not looking professional; after all, you're not.

One last tip, if you seem to have sweaty palms, be careful around the microphone wire. After all, who wants to end up like a would-be gladiator? ❑

IF YOU GO

Stitches Comedy Riot

835 Beacon Street, Boston
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Finals: Aug. 6th, $12
Show Time 9p.m.
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The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall
248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Every Sun at 9:30: Black Comedy Showcase. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 8/4- Mike McDonald, Al Ducharme. Thu. 8/5- Frank Santos. Sat. 8/7 & Sun. 8/8- Richard Jeni, Al Ducharme, Tom Gilmore. Sun. 8/8 7p.m.- Rich Ciesler. Mon. 8/9- Kevin Knox, Greg Carey. Tue. 8/10- D.J. Hazard, Greg Carey. Wed. 8/11- Mike McDonald. Thu. 8/12- Frank Santos. Fri. 8/13- Jim David. Sat. 8/14- Don Gavin, JimDavid. Sun 8/15 7p.m.- Rich Ciesler. Mon. 8/16- Kevin Knox, Steve Hurley. Tue. 8/17- D.J. Hazard, Steve Hurley.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku
124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 9:30p.m. Admission $10.
Fri. 8/6 & Sat. 8/7- Bob Gautreau, Dane Cook, Chuck Roy. Fri. 8/13 & Sat. 8/14- Jim Dunn, Bob Sheehy.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's
124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 9:30p.m. Admission $10.
Fri. 8/6 & Sat. 8/7- John David. Fri. 8/13 & Sat. 8/14- Friar Al & the Monekeys.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.
Wed. 8/4- Vinnie Favorito. Thu. 8/5- Paul D'Angelo, Sean Corvelle, Peter Bates, Janette Barber. Fri. 8/6 & Sat. 8/7- Jonathan Datz, Chris McGuire, Steve Sweeney. Sun. 8/9- Billy Martin. Mon. 8/10- Kevin Knox. Tue. 8/11- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Nardizzi, Kenny Rogerson. Wed. 8/12- Paul Gilligan, James Wesley Jackson, Kenny Rogerson. Fri. 8/13 & Sat. 8/14- George MacDonald, Bob Marley, Kenny Rogerson.

Stitches
835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995. You'll be in stitches at this hot and hilarious comedy club located near Kenmore Square. Stitches is dedicated to hosting the best of Boston's comedy. Every Tue. at 8:30p.m. & Fri. at 10:30p.m.: "R"-Rated hypnotist Frank Santos. Every Thu.: The Dating Game, Hosted by Billy Martin. Every Sun.: Comedy Riot Open Mike Night. Prices vary from $6-$10.
Mon. 8/2 thru Thu. 8/5- 9th Annual Comedy Riot Semi-Finals. Fri. 8/6- 9th Annual Comedy Riot Finals. Sat. 8/7- Comedy Riot Wrap-Up. Tue. 8/10 9:30p.m.- Boston's Best Showcase. Wed. 8/11- Women in Comedy, Maryellen Dipetrillo host. Thu. 8/12- Boston's Best Showcase, Bob Seibel host. Fri. 8/13 & Sat. 8/14- Frank Santorelli, Robbie Printz. Tue. 8/17 9:30p.m.- Boston's Best Showcase.

Something Useful. (Maybe.) / Anthony Tedesco

That Big Apartment Look

Interior design tricks to make your place seem spacious

Ah, your very own apartment. You've gotta love it. Well, most of it anyway. You could do without the clumps of green mohair growing on your bathroom ceiling, the tan-corduroy wallpaper, the leaking fridge, musty carpet, broken plaster, flickering light bulbs, tap water that runs green-brown-green (on good days), cabinet doors that just won't open, a bathroom door that just won't close, and a rusted old heater that screeches almost as loudly as your 300-pound next-door neighbor snores. Almost.

But what really bothers you about your apartment is its size: it's so darn small. Not cute. Not cozy. Small. Borderline claustrophobic. And without "Megabucks" or a long-lost, rich Uncle Louie, you'll probably be stuck in it for awhile anyway.

Well, although I can't promise you Instant Palatial Suite (if I could I certainly wouldn't be working on a newspaper column at 4:00 in the morning), I will say that the following interior design tricks might just forge you the extra space and spaciousness you need to get by. (Though I wouldn't stop leaving messages for Uncle Louie.)

MIRRORS. In Mary Gilliatt's 58th-or-so design book, *Shortcuts to Great Decorating* (Little, Brown, and Co., 1991), she insists that "Of all the illusory devices used to open up small spaces, the most dramatic and versatile is [the] mirror." She recommends placing mirror panels in between windows to achieve the effect of an entire wall of windows, or even running a mirror the entire length of the wall – floor to ceiling – which gives the impression of doubling your actual space. If you're on a tight budget, you can substitute standard, mirrored tiles for the sometimes-pricey mirror paneling. If you're on an even tighter budget, you can move back in with your parents.

COOL, LIGHT COLORS. In the world of interior decorating, colors have lives of their own, often more interesting than the lives of the columnists who write about them. Cool, light colors, for example, have the power to create space, according to Pamela Glossman-Smith, owner of *Design Creations, Inc.* in Boston. (In case you were busy eating paste while Mrs. Libby went over the Big Color Chart Poster in second grade, "cool colors" are blues, greens, violets, grays, and neutrals: light-beige, off-white.)

ESSENTIAL FURNITURE ONLY. Keep only what you need, not what you can get your hands on. This seems obvious, but you'd be surprised at how many people dwarf their apartment because Aunt Edna has finally croaked and left you her treasured antique hutch. "Less is more," says Pamela.

Seemingly Obvious Furniture Tip #2: if your apartment's ceiling is eight feet high, don't buy a kitchen table that's seven feet high because (1) you won't be able to see your food, and (2) oversized furniture makes the rest of your apartment look like the tiny little linen closet that it is.

TABLES. Barbara Bradford, whose syndicated column "Designing Women" won four awards for excellence in design reporting, prefers glass-and-steel tables because their see-through quality creates even more "optical space" (defined as "space that is optical") (further defined as "space that you can't store anything in because it is only apparent to the eye, which is currently using all of the available optical space for storage).

WINDOW TREATMENTS. "Treat your window well, and it will treat you well," said nobody because "Window Treatments" is decoratorese for the "Stuff Around Your Windows." Your goal as a budding decorator (you're a budding decorator) is to let this "Stuff" blend harmoniously with your walls, according to Pamela. Or, better yet, have no curtains at all. Pamela suggests using sheer blinds (the ones you can see out of but people can't see into).

LIGHTING. Illumination on back walls and hallways carries the vision of someone entering the apartment through the depth of your apartment. The illusion of depth can be achieved through track or recessed lighting, wall washers, or even, says Pamela, through the use of an inexpensive spotlight set on the floor and directed onto corner plants or artwork.

Follow these helpful hints to create the illusion of more space in that closet you call an apartment. Or not. Remember, this column is *pressure-free*.

(Thanks for information provided by Pamela Glossman-Smith of *Design Creations, Inc.* in Boston. Thanks also to Ken Gallo on Waterstone bookstore's late-shift for bailing me out with last-minute quotes.)

Need an Apartment?
. . . Then check out the Improper Classified Section!
For more information call (617)232-3507

Sharyn Fireman

Boston's Best Buys

Of Travelbugs, Boomerangs and Crocodiles

If you've always had a hankering to visit Australia and New Zealand, this is a "best buy" you'll want to consider. Departing on October 31, 1993, for a song – and a check of $4,999 – you'll have a guaranteed great adventure with Carol Nashe, international traveler, and strategist for the National Association of Radio Talkshow Hosts. The moments I've shared with Carol have always been hilarious, touching, fattening, and contagious (you can't stop traveling with her!). Photo buffs prepare to snap Ayers Rock, Great Barrier Reef, Sydney Opera House, Waitomo Glow worm Grotto, Mount Cook and Milford Sound. The trip from LA. to Cairns via Quantas means you only lose a day, and Australia is a photographer's dream. New Zealand brings us to Christchurch and Queenstown with an optional ski-plane flight landing you on a glacier. After all, it is spring! We'll visit Kiwi farms, sheep shearings and view Lake Wakatipu from a coal-burning steamer and feast on an Aussie Bush Smoko. If 18 days aren't enough or you need some unwinding, add an optional trip to Fiji for three days; you can watch the firewalkers, fish, swim and boat to your heart's content. G'Day Mates!

Contact Carol Nashe
247-3627

Hair With a Heart

Avanti, a trendy Newbury Street salon, is offering one free haircut to anyone who is a healthcare provider for AIDS patients. Mandatory identification is required for this service. Considered a "Best Bet" by Glamour magazine (January '93) for its innovation in "contract" haircuts, Avanti Salon has a futuristic marketing approach to simplifying your salon needs. Owner Sally Drinkwater suggests that you contract with your stylist or color specialist for an agreed-upon period of time. You pay for the service up front, allowing you a 15% discount. Appointments are booked as usual. Another innovation from this forward-thinking salon is the extraordinary added value in the form of free consultations. As "image makers," the specialists at Avanti will consult on your personal image and then make recommendations accordingly. Sally suggests that this team of specialists is a terrific asset in developing your own personal style. As "color doctors," Avanti specializes in colors, perms, conditioning, and stress relief head massage. Cuts range from $28-$75, Color, $40 and up for one process and foils starting at $100. Perms and straightenings are $70, and conditioning treatments are $20. Salon hours are Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Avanti Salon
11 Newbury Street, Boston
267-4027
VISA, MC, AMEX

Sittin' or Snoozin'

For great prices on bedding and futons, SLEEP-A-RAMA is the place to go, especially for the month of August. Their styles of futons are diverse and attractive, and include oak, mahogany and metal, from American arts and crafts to very contemporary. There is also a selection of mechanisms. The tri-fold has a portion of the mattress which will hang over the back of the futon in the sofa position, and the bi-fold has a regular double mattress that retains the futon/sofa look until it's positioned as a bed. From chairs that serve as twin beds to sofas folding out as big as queensize, these items ranging from $99 to $499 include free futon covers of your choice (about 25 colors and patterns) for two weeks in August. At over 20 available locations, call Cathy or Marc in Boston for the locale nearest you. Free lay-a-way. Phone orders accepted.

Sleep-A-Rama
97 Mass. Ave., Boston
266-8863
Visa, M.C., checks with I.D.

The Sportin' Life

For terrific selections for the sports buff, Adolph's has great bargains on everything in the store from shoes and clothes to tennis racquets. Owned and operated by Adolph Thomas, a tennis pro, the store has a well-priced and wide variety of sportswear, accessories and tennis merchandise. Swimwear names like Speedo and Adidas, $38-$44 elsewhere, sell here for $19. Sportsocks, at other stores for $10 are here $2-$4. Great selection of tennis wear for men and women. Men's tennis brands Le Coq, Tacchini, and Tail have shorts for $29 and shirts all $15. Tail tennis sets for women regularly at $93 are now $50-$60. Women's Ellesse tops were $74, now $48, same price for Ellesse bottoms. Women's warm-ups at $280, now $140. Other brands in luscious lilacs, pinks, reds etc. were $190, now on sale for $90. Men's warm-ups in navy, burgundy, kelly, royal and black on sale for $80. Running shoes from Reebok, Asics, Sauconny, and Nike are well- priced for $29 to $69, usually $40-$110. Great buy on Air Max, now on sale. Popular tennis racquets Wilson, Dunlop, Prince, run (unstrung) $50-$290. Popular Wilson Hammer, light and powerful, (strung) depending on model is $180-$220. Store hours Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Adolph's Sports
1193 Center Street, Newton Center
964-6633
Visa, MC, Amex, checks with I.D.

Sharyn Fireman is an interior designer and owner of Buy Design, a service providing access to National Design Centers and purchasing of fine home furnishings, fabrics and accessories at designer prices. She can be reached at the Buy Design office, 494-0303.



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If you're looking for that something special in Italian dining, you'll find it at Stromboli's. Prepared with the authenticity of Italy's Northern region, you will feast on such delectables as Veal Parmesan to Shrimp Scampi, Fettuccine Alfredo to brick oven Pizza. Plus home made pastas, breads and deserts made fresh daily. So come and enjoy dining in an atmosphere of relaxed elegance and old world charm, at a leisurely place.

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Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

Calling All Wine Bores

"...Collecting, tasting, debating, sneering, browbeating, anything is preferable to having to shut up and enjoy a bottle..."

For the Wine Bore, "Collecting, tasting, debating, sneering, browbeating, anything is preferable to having to shut up and enjoy a bottle."

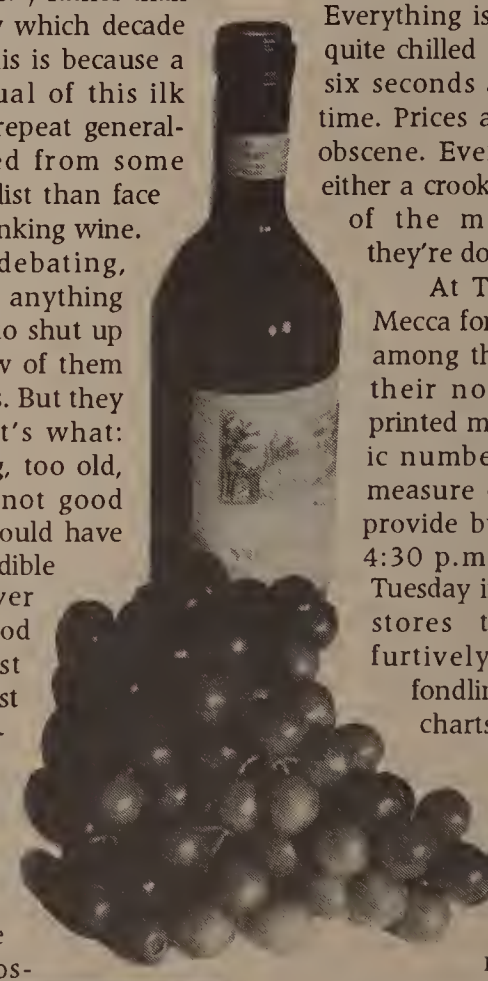
An ability to recognize the world-class Wine Bore for what he is and to understand his peculiar predatory manners of speech and behavior are most rewarding skills. They will save you time and money. To the untrained eye, though, an authentic wine lover is not easily distinguishable from one of these joyless bullies in disguise.

One unerring clue is the frequency with which you hear the word "vintage" cropping up in conversation. Extravagant pronouncements abound. The true certified snob is noted for abbreviating the year (e.g., "No question at all, the three's were far superior to the two's.") rather than even stooping to clarify which decade is under discussion. This is because a cutting edge individual of this ilk would actually rather repeat generalizations he has culled from some equally clueless journalist than face the daunting task of drinking wine. Collecting, tasting, debating, sneering, browbeating, anything is preferable to having to shut up and enjoy a bottle. Few of them actually own corkscrews. But they definitely know what's what: everything's too young, too old, the most, the worst, not good enough, almost good, could have been better, more incredible than anything you ever heard of, almost as good as something I almost had, or just plain the best ever, period, exclamation point.

Scratch one of these creatures and what you really find is a true believer, a fanatical devotee of some guru or other who possesses secret mystical information you can receive in the form of an advisory newsletter. The Bore, it turns out, is a born sucker. Most of the big talk is a self-aggrandizing rehash of The Word according to some other complete loser with a snappy sales pitch.

How to spot one of these birds in their natural habitat:

At The Restaurant. They're itching, they're ready to go, they walk in loaded with attitude. They take forever to order because nothing is good enough. The wine list is slammed shut dramatically and then opened again. Shut and open, open and shut. There is a sense of outrage because the 1991 Chenin Blanc is no longer available. Why do you carry this and not that, they ask. Sighs. Lectures. Incessant demands for irrelevant information. Everything is either too cold or not quite chilled enough, or was opened six seconds after the precise right time. Prices are never high, they're obscene. Every restaurant owner is either a crook or a moron. And none of the managers know what they're doing either.



At The Store. A veritable Mecca for wine bores eager to be among their own flock. Usually their nose is buried in some printed material with hieroglyphic numbers detailing the exact measure of ecstasy a bottle will provide but only if consumed at 4:30 p.m. on a sunny but dry Tuesday in 1997. In high-volume stores they're tight-lipped, furtively investigating prices, fondling labels and examining charts and the like. In more sedate shops, their baritone voices boom out instructions, orders, lame jokes. The bore on center stage relates an endless stream of pointless anecdotes that may or may not have actually happened to somebody else. Nothing is ever a good value, everything's a steal.

At The Party. If you begin to overhear words like "Chard" or "Cab" you're getting warm. You will soon be bombarded with details of visits to wine country, exclusive audiences with chateau owners, and the inside dope on next year's vintage, all without asking. Perhaps a color snapshot of a cellar in mid-construction will be passed around for approval. Don't even try and walk away, it only encourages them.

In The Wine Column. Either the ultimate authority or a semi-literate malcontent with nary a good word to say about anything but his own precious palate.



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APPETEASERS

"... Some Table Talk, and Farm Fresh Juicy Details..."

ONE NIGHT STAN

Stan Frankenthaler, formerly of the **Blue Room**, is spending Thursday night, August 5th, at **Daddy-O's** restaurant in Cambridge. Stan thought it would be fun to join chef/owners **Ellis Seidman** and **Paul Sussman** in the kitchen and whip up some of his signature dishes. He is currently planning the opening of his own new restaurant, **Salamander**. Some of the special items being prepared for this one night engagement are Filipino pork, shrimp and tofu fritters with a garlicky dipping sauce; and braised, then grilled, thick-cut short ribs. Many of Daddy-O's old standards will also be available with a new spin. Dinner hours are from 5-10 p.m. The restaurant usually has a no-reservation policy, but for this special night reservations are recommended. **Daddy-O's: 354-8371**.



Photo by Ursula Argyropoulos

Upstairs at the Pudding with (from left) Debra Hughes, Mayoral candidate Christopher Lydon, Julia Child, Amanda Lydon, and Mary Catherine Deibel.

TABLE TALK

Caffe Appassionato, the Seattle-based coffee bar chain, is opening their first Boston area coffee bar on Walnut Street in Newton. They hope to expand further into the Boston market soon. Look out **Coffee Connection**! **Bobby Church** of **Roberto's** fame is setting up on Hanover Street in the North End. The new restaurant will be called **Roberto's Again**. The **Four Seas** restaurant on Tyler Street will be re-opening soon. It has long been regarded as one of the best Chinese restaurants in Chinatown.

Marino's Restaurant will open **Caffe Marino** this fall in the renovated Holyoke Center in Cambridge. They are the first major restaurant to sign a lease. On a sad note, the **Downtown Cafe** on Washington Street has closed. This Combat Zone institution had a cult following and was also famous for the **Boston Disaster** tour led by owner **Dan Holmes**. We have heard that Dan is on his way to Italy, hopefully not on the Andrea Dorea. **Jose McIntyre's** opened this week at 160 Milk Street, downtown. Under the direction of Danny Weisel, the restaurant will offer Mexican/Southwestern cuisine.

RUMOR HAS IT

Rumor has it that **Pat Lyons** is behind the on-going renovation in the former **Restaurant Genji** on upper Newbury Street. The name of the new restaurant will be **Tango** or **Brazilia** (rumor, of course). The new chef will be **Bill Poirier**, currently sous-chef at **Biba**. Look for a funky atmosphere and food priced under $25 a person for dinner. Say no more.

FARM FRESH

If you're looking for produce fresh from the farm, stroll over to the farmer's market in Copley Square. On the day of our visit, **Hickin's Farm** had raspberry and blackberry cakes and pies along with an amazing selection of red, black, purple, and yellow raspberries. **Oasis Farm** offered a gourmet mushroom called the white trumpet mushroom that looked as if it would go well with almost any dish. Other vendors had beautiful red tomatoes, summer and zucchini squash, baby carrots, and wax beans. If food is not what you're after, there was also a selection of cut flowers as well as a table of miniature roses. The market operates on Tuesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and is located on the Copley Plaza side of the park in front of Trinity church. Try to go early because the vendors sometimes sell out before closing time.

JUICY DETAILS

If you couldn't squeeze into the standing-room-only crowd at **Biba's** bar last Thursday, it was because **Kam Flanders** was having a birthday party. The highlight of the evening was the arrival of the birthday cake topped with a Barbie doll. Look for **Cornucopia's Elaine Speer** and her chocolate truffle terrine with mango sauce in the August/September issue of ***Chocolatier*** magazine. It's enough to make one run to the wharf for a bite. "Get well" wishes to **Lydia Shire** as she recovers from pneumonia. The return of the **Great Yankee Rib Cookoff** will be August 25-29 in City Hall Plaza. The event will feature ribs and fixin's from around the country. More details soon. **Michael Rugnetta** is now creating desserts on-premise at **Fresh Louie's Market** on Newbury Street. Mike's bittersweet chocolate torte is our favorite. The store is also selling delicious bread from **Olives**. The selection includes focaccia, Tuscan bread, olive loaf, and black currant bread. ❑



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Restaurant Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

Akbar India Restaurant

1248 Cambridge St. Cambridge 497-6548. All major credit cards accepted.
Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting, 7 days/week, 12 p.m.-11 p.m. Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including Thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music (no cover) Thursday through Saturday nights. Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available on premises.

Bennett St. Cafe

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.
We invite you to visit Bennett St. Cafe to try our brand new exciting and delicious menu. Chef Peter Davis, formerly of The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills CA has just arrived at The Charles Hotel. He has created a totally new menu, including new Rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit the casual outdoor patio area for drinks and dinner, plus try our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made-to-order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are!

Bob the Chef's

604 Columbus Ave., Bos., 536-6204.
Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's Restaurant is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy Fall Off the Bone Bar-B-Qued Spareribs, Chicken and Dumplings, or Soul Chitterings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7.00 to $9.00 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies.
Winners of the 1993 Zagat Restaurant Survey "Best Buy." The Improper Bostonian voted Bob the Chef's "Best Soul Food." Not only do they serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, but also Bob the Chef's Restaurant offers catering. So next time you are planning a party, let Bob the Chef's do the work. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. -11.p.m.

Canestaro Pizzeria

16 Peterborough At., Bos., 266-8997
Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so stop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer thirty different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything. and we do mean everything: steak, proscuitto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. If you don't feel like going out to dinner, just call Canestaro Pizzeria for free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

Cityside At The Circle

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
A, MC, V, DC $$.
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting

Commonwealth Brewing Company

138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.
A, MC, V, DC $$.
Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live music every Fri. and Sat. night, Hours are from noon to 10:00 p.m. on Sundays, 11:30 a.m. to midnight Mon..- Thurs. and until 1:00 a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual dress.

Cornucopia on the Wharf

100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300.
A,D,DC,MC,V $$.
New American / New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are always spectacular here - Cornucopia won the coveted Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for Tastiest Dessert; Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar in Boston". Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served on Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised.

The Daily Catch Restaurants

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093.
441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696. $$.
This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

Davio's

269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

Green Briar Restaurant

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100
AMEX, V, MC, DC.
Brighton's best Irish restaurant. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads, burgers, etc. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. Also try our new exciting brunch every Sunday 10-2:30. All of this enjoyed in our casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Call for details.



The Harp at the Garden

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
MC, V, DC, $$.
Words that come to mind when you dine at the Harp include variety, affordability, and great taste! Boneless Buffalo Wings, Grilled Chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, Boston's Biggest & Best Burgers, Irish Beef Stew, Fish & Chips, Corned Beef & Cabbage and gourmet specials that will "knock your socks off!" Summer 2-for-1 dinners served Sat. -Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features Traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch an dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wed.-Sun. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line.

Harvard Street Grill

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834
A, MC,V,DC $$.
Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek in a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: Grilled Salmon with Tomato Saffron Essence and Wilted Spinach, Sweet & Sour Chicken with Beet Curry, or the house specialty: Grilled Rack of Lamb with Hoisin Sauce and Scallions. Top off a meal perfectly with luscious deserts such as Chocolate Ganache Flan with Warm Caramel Sauce, Lemon Buttermilk Tart with Blueberry Coulis, or Homemade Fruit Ice. 1992 Wine Spectator Award of Excellence, 1993 Ivy Award. Tues.-Thurs. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat. 5:30-10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

Il Nido Locanda Italiana

257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272
A, DC, $$
If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming atmosphere, then Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Only three weeks after opening, this North End restaurant is one of the up and coming hot spots. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrion to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, and abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The well-balanced wine list accommodates novices, as well as connoisseurs. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner nightly. Closed Mondays.

The Last Hurrah! Bar and Grill

Omni Parker House Hotel
60 School Street Bos. 227-8600
AE, CB, DC, DS, MC, V
This popular turn of the century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston Creme Pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Noon -5 p.m. Sat. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Mon- Sat. and 2-11 p.m. Sun. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

Mamma Maria

3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077
D, V, MC, A $$
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana

207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959
V,MC ,AE $$
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront

85 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-6425
Step into Michael's Waterfront to check out what's new from under the sea. We've added to our menu Blackened Tuna with Curried shrimp and Jicama Slaw, Seared Salmon with Dalmation Bean cakes and Native Crab, Grilled Lobster with Seafood Summer relish, Wild Mushroom Raviolis with Shrimp, Pancetta, Roasted Peppers and Garlic Olive Oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in The Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Also coming up is the "Micro-Brew BarbeQue" on Thursday, July 29. This summer beer and food fest at Michael's Waterfront features twelve different kinds of beer and multi-course dinner, the opportunity to meet local brewers, T-shirts and giveaways, as well as the chance to win your own home brew kit. This event is by reservations only.

Mineo Ristorante

69 Prince St., North End, Boston, 248-8814
$7.95-14.50, cash only
This restaurant will take you back to Southern Italy with its cooking style. If you're looking for the right mixture of contemporary and traditional Italian cuisine you found it. Mineo offers you outstanding portions of food such as the Mussels Marinara: mussels in a tasty marinara sauce served over linguini. The Rigatoni Alla Donna is a perfect pasta dish with eggplant and dry ricotta cheese in a plum tomato sauce. Last is the Veal Milanese: Veal cutlet panfried and topped with fresh arugula and balsamic vinegar. Mineo is located in the heart of Boston's North End. So come enjoy a different dining experience in Italian cooking. Open Mon.-Thurs., 4p.m.-11p.m., Fri.,-Sun., 11a.m.-11p.m. No dress code, validated parking.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
V, MC, A, DC $
Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904
MC, V, A, D, CB, En Route
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 7 days a week.

The Sabra Restaurant & The Sabra Grill

45 Union St., Corner of Langley Rd, Newton Center, 527-5641 20 Eliot St., Harvard Square, Cambridge; 868-5777
Get a taste of all-natural Mediterranean cuisine and experience "healthy foods for those who care." Sabra's Middle Eastern and vegetarian specialties cater to the healthy appetite; from Mediterranean salads to lamb curry and shish kebobs, there's a favorite dish for everyone. Open daily from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. with an executive luncheon buffet from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Newton Location. Sabra's food is available at Star Market and Roche Brothers Supermarket, catering is also available.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656
A.M.EX, V, MC, D, CB $$
Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Strombolli's

187 North Street Newton, 630-0002
12 Green Street, Woburn, 935-0070
M,C M , Amex $$
Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli, simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function!

Taj Mahal at Kenmore

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266. All major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as Chicken Tandoori and Thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection of South Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon , served from 12-3p.m. , is for you at just $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights/week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar

290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best including fresh seafood, poultry, veal and pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to individual order, and one of the best hamburgers in town. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowder" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

Dining Review / Ed and Ruth Feldman

The Rowes Wharf Bar

". . . The house specialty of chicken pot pie was a must try and lived up to its claim. . . ."

Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston; The Rowes Wharf Bar. The club-like atmosphere is cozy and inviting with richly hued wood panels and forest green upholstery. The stately furniture, sofas and chairs all add to the continental flair.

The fully stocked bar seats about twelve. Beers on draught are impressive ($4) and include local favorites such as Sam Adams and Boston Ale as well as Pete's Wicked Ale from the West Coast and Bass & Guiness imports. Not a bad start....

Lunch is served from 11:30 to 4:00 and offers a little bit of everything. Listed under Light Fare were three salad selections. Traditional Caesar ($7.50), which we found good but with not quite enough zing. The Crab, Cod and Salmon Cakes on mixed greens ($10.50) was delicious. A careful presentation of mixed baby greens, matchstick cucumbers, paper thin slices of onion and baby plum tomatoes. Three individual seafood cakes were delicious with tender chunks throughout and a delicate golden brown. The accompanying sauce was listed as tomato caper but tasted a bit too much like Heinz.

The House Specialty of Chicken Pot Pie ($11) was a must try and lived up to it's claim. Served in a large crockery bowl, the plentiful dish was topped with a cloud of puff pastry. The stew itself was very good and consisted of hearty chunks of white meat chicken, potatoes, carrots, and peas. A thick, rich gravy engulfed the whole mixture. A true pot pie.

Selections from the **Carvery** are available for $10.00 or in combination with soup or salad for $8. We sampled the open faced pastrami with pickled cabbage and were very pleased with the portion and quality.

On the **Supper** menu the clam chowder($3.50), Romaine, Radicchio and Pepper Salad with shaved Parmesan & Creamy Balsamic Dressing ($7.50) and the Grilled Cheeseburger ($8.50) are all delicious.

Dessert offerings (at $3.75) are fresh berries or pastry of the day. On our visit the berries were beautiful raspberries, blackberries, blueberries and strawberries.

A colossal pint of berries was served with a separate dish of cream. Reluctantly, the German Chocolate Tart was ordered. Not usually our favorite pick, we were reminded of why Chef Daniel Bruce has a reputation for exquisite desserts. The individual tart shell was a work of art; the bottom layer a rich, dense swirl of semi sweet chocolate. Next, a scoop of the chocolate, walnut & coconut mousse and then topped with whipped cream and a chocolate decoration.

Unfortunately the coffee ($2.25) was served tepid and was not the best impression to have as our last. However; we continue to enjoy the solitude, excellent service and ambiance of this fine bar & cafe.

IF YOU GO

The Rowes Wharf Bar

$$$
70 Rowes Wharf
Boston
439-3995

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, C-2, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun 10::30-2 p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$, C-5
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omelette. Reservations suggested.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston,
451-2600
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002
A, D, MC, V $$, D-1
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, C-6, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's Grande Dame of Hotels - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., and is only $19.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelettes and waffles, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, C-6, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanlsh tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-paneled Georgian interior serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omelette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, D-4, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bost., C-6, 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowder" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Culsine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

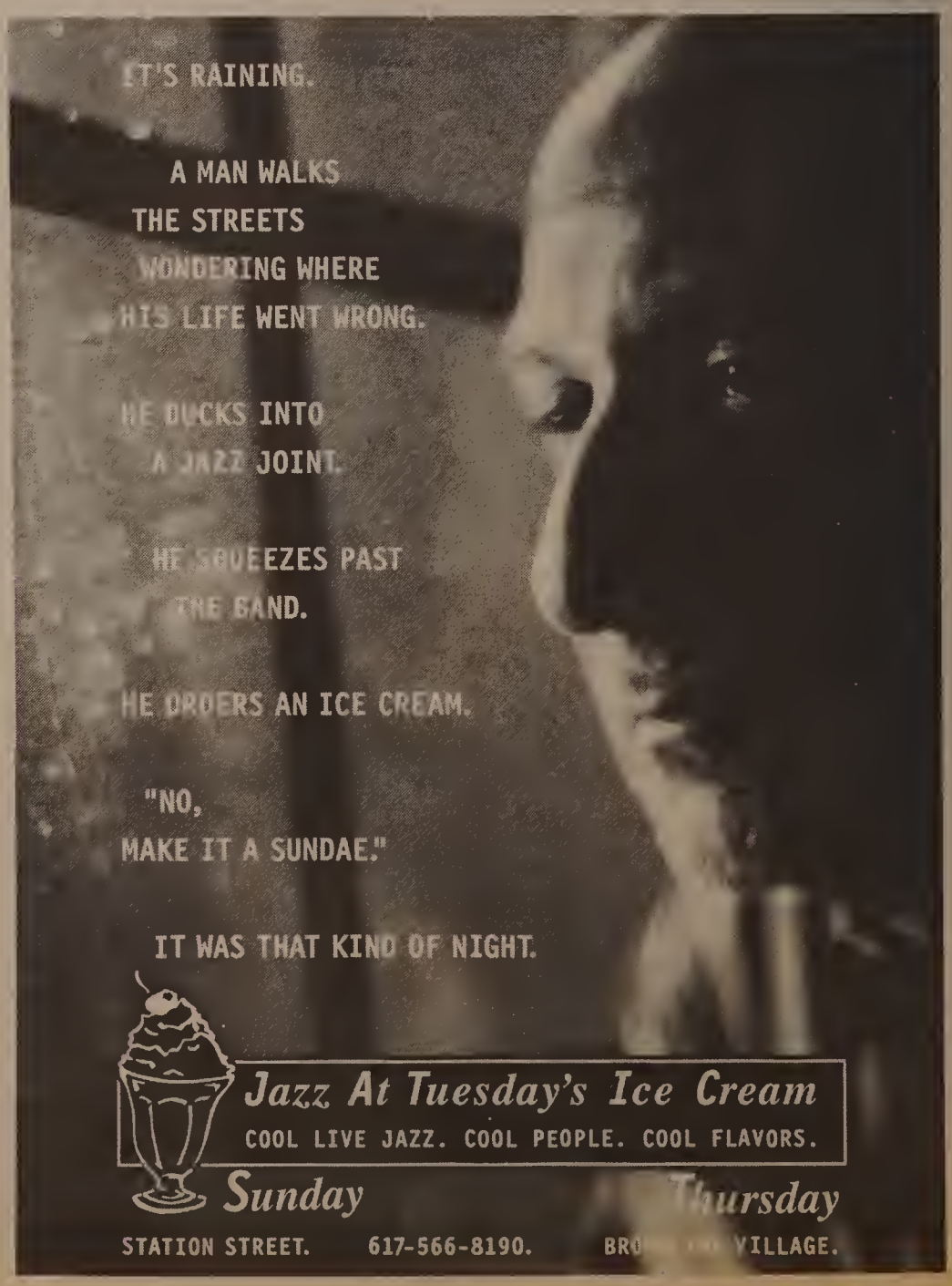
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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

The Summer Sound View

Singular Summer Concert Attractions

So you missed Lollapalooza? Don't sweat it – unless you like hanging out on a vast vacant lot with clueless-looking teens and twenty-somethings who are into bodysurfing as much as the music. There are plenty of other great multi-band concert bills this summer, to please a variety of tastes.

For starters, there's H.O.R.D.E. (that's Horizons of Rock Developing Everywhere), the "neo-hippie" alternative to Lollapalooza. The Aug. 7 line-up at Great Woods includes Blues Traveler, Widespread Panic, Col. Bruce Hampton & the Aquarium Rescue Unit (as crazy as they sound; get there by 3 p.m. or you'll miss 'em), the Samples and Big Head Todd & the Monsters. It's a wide-ranging bill of bands into the organic spontaneity of live music pioneered by the Grateful Dead and Allman Brothers Band.

"It's for the same fans," says John Popper, the Blues Traveler vocal-harmonica ace who coined the H.O.R.D.E acronym, from a recent tour-stop. "If you've heard of this band and that band, it's a chance to go see 'em, and see their fans, and all hook up."

If folk is more your cup of tea, there's the expanded Ben & Jerry's Newport Folk Festival that same weekend. Highlights on the Aug. 7 schedule include John Prine, sweet-voiced Tish Hinojosa, Mary-Chapin Carpenter, Daniel Lanois and John Gorka. Carpenter will join the Indigo Girls and Joan Baez for Four Voices in Harmony the next day, which will also feature Nanci Griffith, Alison Krauss & Union Station and slide guitar whiz Sonny Landreth.

Both days of the folk festival run 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Fort Adams State Park, while Sweet Honey in the Rock celebrate Friday night and the Bottom Line holds a "In Their Own Words" showcase (with five songwriters including Zachard Richard and Sarah McLachlan) Saturday night at the Newport Islander Hotel.

For the blues fan, you won't find a more explosive bill than the one at Great Woods Aug. 8, especially if you love guitar. Veterans B.B. King and firebrand Buddy Guy (an idol for Eric Clapton and the late Stevie Ray Vaughan) are joined by Texas' sleek-flying Eric Johnson (actually more rock than blues) and the Alligator All-Stars: Lonnie Brooks, Junior Wells and Koko Taylor, the QUEEN of the blues.

When it comes to jazz, a trip back to Newport is in order for the JVC Jazz Festival. On Aug. 14, mainstream idols Ray Charles and Grover Washington will follow the heat of the John Scofield Band, rising sax star Joshua Redman's quartet and piano buzzer Michel Camilo's "Original Trio." Aug. 15 has more heavyweights with aging timbales titan Tito Puente, sultry Nina Simone and tenor master Sonny Rollins, as well as the sunny Spyrogyra and host George Wein's All-Stars. Again, each day runs11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Fort Adams State Park.

For rock, the summer's best triple bill is Aug. 17 at Great Woods. Any show with Midnight Oil – the Aussies whose musicianship is even fiercer than their PC stance – is worth seeing, especially when shaven-headed singer Peter Garrett starts careening to the music like a spastic Frankenstein. But the Oils are touring with Ziggy Marley & the Melody Makers (now veterans at tastefully blending pop and reggae) and Hothouse Flowers, one of Ireland's best live bands, deserving more attention for their new album "Songs From the Rain." If you like rock that's spiritual and spirited, this is your night.

ELSEWHERE: If you need other, singular concert attractions, remember the Who's Pete Townshend on his first solo tour Aug. 9 and the Allman Brothers Band Aug. 15, both at Great Woods. ❑

Freelance writer/photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe.



MIDNIGHT OIL:
Touring with Ziggy Marley & the Melody Makers and Hothouse Flowers.

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Suave and Long Dead

German Baroque Masters and the Boston Scene

Whatever the drawbacks of Boston – for example, Revere – we can at least breathe a sigh of relief that our many resident early music groups continue to produce suave and enjoyable performances of great ancient works. Whatever the music, whatever the instruments, Boston performers seem to favor a lucid, stylish tone, happily avoiding that high-pitched, off-key, early music whine that always compels us to open wide instinctively and mumble excuses about flossing. In the last few months, there have been two recordings notable for this sophistication of style: the Boston Baroque's performance of Bach's last three Brandenburg Concerti (Telarc 80354), and the Chorus of Emmanuel Music's second disc of Heinrich Schuetz's choral works (Koch 3-7174-2).

Martin Perlman and his Boston Baroque always provide us with brisk, intelligent performances, and this new recording is no exception. While a silvery, even patrician, tone does mean that Perlman's performances of Bach's masterworks are less vividly aggressive than some other original instrument performances (for example, the Pinnock on DG), it does also ensure that during the slower, more contemplative movements there are no nasty yowling sounds.

This disc is a perfect introduction for those who are interested in hearing a familiar major work on period instruments. Particularly interesting is Perlman's decision to perform the 6th Brandenburg Concerto with only one instrument to a part, instead of the participation of the whole orchestra. The results are very fine indeed. You feel like you're sitting in on an impassioned discussion between friends, and not necessarily German friends. The lower strings, heroic throughout the recording, shape their solos perfectly in the Sixth. Though some might miss the primitive, thrumming orchestral bass which can make the opening movement so wonderfully savage, the soloists' sense of commitment and unity makes a new and completely captivating case for the music. Also not to be missed is Perlman's own performance of the flamboyant harpsichord cadenza in the Fifth: baroque in every sense of the word.

The Chorus of Emmanuel Music has just recently released a similarly polished performance of church music by German Baroque composer Heinrich Schuetz. This follows the almost bizarre success of a similar release last year (Koch 3-7085-2); at the time, rave reviews coincided with a tricky shipping problem, and hardly any copies of the disc were to be found in Boston. Lack of supply created demand. In no time, people who had never in their lives heard of Heinrich Schuetz were writhing on the floor of Briggs and Brigs, moaning with longing and tearing up the linoleum. The CD achieved international recognition, and Koch made the laudable decision to release this Volume II.

So who in fact was Heinrich Schuetz? He was an early Baroque composer who studied under the greatest masters in Italy, then returned to his native Germany to synthesize his own Protestant version of their styles. He led a reasonably dismal life – as did everyone before the advent of credit cards and Soap-On-A-Rope – but seems to have responded with a particularly Lutheran sense of faith and hope. Things weren't easy. He suffered through the Thirty Year's War – disorienting not just in that it was extremely petty and violent, but also in that it didn't last thirty years – and his wife died before him. In his surviving letters, he complains that his choristers are variously drunk, underpaid, or dead.

Though Emmanuel Music's recordings of these works are not the most dramatic and intense you'll ever hear, they may well be the most beautiful. Whereas German choirs and their imitators tend to project a kind of unruly, declamatory energy into these pieces, Craig Smith and Emmanuel music instead find in them a luminous serenity. This smooth, crystalline sound fits the works on this new disc – largely devoted to woks for Christmas and Advent – somewhat better than it did the more tortured Passion Week motets on their previous release. This is a disc to remember for the holiday season, and we look forward to hearing more on disc from both groups. ❑

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BAR & CLUB LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

GENERAL

BEACON HILL PUB
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

CACTUS CLUB
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, induding Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

THE LITTLEST BAR
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

MARKET PLACE CAFE
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m.. "Street Magic" A cappella every Wednesday at 8:30. Casual atmosphere and dress.

PROVINCE STREET PUB
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Featuring Kareoke, comedy great music and more! When looking for a fun night out, don't miss the Mystery Café Dinner Theater. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Café Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

WARREN TAVERN
241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, B-5. A funky little bar whose clientele includes young professionals & athletes. Also daims to attract Boston's most beautiful women (?!) Local celebs don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

POP/JAZZ/ BLUES/REGGAE

CANTAB LOUNGE
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

RATHSKELLER
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Boston, C-5
Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs, and R.E.M. The RAt attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs.

WESTERN FRONT
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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DANCING

AVALON
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

AVENUE C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

PIANO ROOMS

MONDAY'S PIANO BAR
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

BREWERIES

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

IRISH

BLACK ROSE
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your cladaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

THE GREEN BRIAR
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "HI" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

KINVARA PUB
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400, C-2
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served unti midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled anc draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed Open 7 days a week until 2AM and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'LEARY'S
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

About Last Night. . . / Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

GETTING WHACKED ON THE WATERFRONT

"...There's definitely a wide range of people at Tia's. In fact, last summer, I distinctly remember seeing a sailor there..."

Wondering where everybody's going after work almost every weeknight of the summer? Feeling sort of lost and lonely and left out when the tumbleweeds drift down State and Federal Streets, and you can't find any of the downtown kindred souls who burst out their cubicles at 5 p.m. with a slightly deranged, glazed-over look, foaming at the mouth, and muttering incoherently to themselves? Wanna know what they're saying? "Tia's, Tia's. gotta get to Tia's," they chant over and over like some kind of mantra.

Yes, the strung-up-tighter-than-a-pig-in-a-hog-tying-contest downtown types all escape wildly from their 9-5 constraints and head down to Tia's at the Long Wharf, to sit at the outdoor patio and mingle happily with their friends who have also just been recently released from a skyscraper. They come here from 53 State Street, from 1 Federal, from International Place, from Post Office Square, to while away a summer's evening, unwind after the stress of the office, and forget for a while that tomorrow they're just going to have to wake up and do it all over again. Oh, the daily grind of people who have to work for a living. (Wait a minute, I have to work for a living. Something is seriously wrong here. Oh God, I need a drink: quick, somebody, get me to Tia's!)

Tia's really only has one season (summer, duh!) but during that season it probably does more business than all the other bars on the waterfront combined. The outdoor patio is *the* after-work meeting and mingling spot for just about everybody who works downtown. But if you're starting to get the suspicion that Tia's is only for those who wear a suit and tie (or a skirt, blazer, and Reeboks) to work, well, you're right. But not completely. There's definitely a wide range of people at Tia's. In fact, last summer, I distinctly remember seeing a sailor there.

Tia's has the reputation among the slightly snobby set as being a haven for tourists and "those" kind of people. This could quite possibly be due to the fact that it is right across the street from Faneuil Hall, *capital du kitsch*, and so naturally the location does attract tourists and "those" kind of people. However, Tia's does have a lot going for it; otherwise, why would everyone stand in line all night just to get in and have a drink? For one, it has a humongous patio, and on a booming Thursday, Friday, or Saturday night, you could conceivably run into just about everyone in the world but the Dalai Lama. Just the sheer volume considerably improves your chances of meeting a date-of-the-moment there, and if you can't find a new date, you'll probably run into a willing old one that you can manage to maneuver home, if you play your cards right.

Tia's is also conveniently attached to the Marriott, so if you happen to have one or two drinks at the bar, and it somehow becomes one or two too many, or if the urge to merge suddenly gets overwhelming, you can just stumble inside and book yourself a nice suite. For those of you who require less plush accommodations, the seal pen at the Aquarium is also right next door.

The last time I was at Tia's on a rocking, hot Friday night, I did not actually need to make use of the Marriott accommodations. I did, however, run into three ex-whatever you want to call them, two potentials, and met about twenty that never were and never will be on the list. By the time last call (1:30) rolled around, I had chased and been chased around the bar at least thirty times.

Tia's is not exactly Boston's best kept secret, and if you're thick enough that you are still puzzling over where everyone disappeared to after work, or where they had that great time they're talking about on Friday or Monday morning, now you know. See ya at Tia's.

IF YOU GO

TIA'S ON LONG WHARF

Marriott, Long Wharf
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On the Allston/Brighton Line

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August 5	Big Bad Wolf
August 6	McQueens
August 7	Da Mud Hens
August 8	Coupla & D.J. Tom
August 9, 16	Millar Raserve's Luck O' the Draw
August 10	Frea Jukabox
August 11	Grinning Lizards
August 12	5-0/BUDLIGHTSPOTLIGHT
August 13	Swinging Johnsons
August 14	North-South Connection
August 15	Donegal Corderoys & D.J. Tom
August 17	Fraa Jukebox

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
617-783-9400

Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Friar

August 4	Karaoke
August 5	Da Mud Hens
August 6	Broadcast
August 7	Poco Loco
August 8	D.J. Ed
August 9	Irish Sessiun
August 11	Karaoke
August 12	Joshua Tree
August 13	Swivel
August 14	Da Mud Hens
August 15	D.J. EAugust
August 16	Irish Sessiun

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THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S • M • T • W • T • F • S

			4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17				

DANCE

BALLET THEATRE OF BOSTON
City Hall Plaza, Boston
How can you turn down something this beautiful that's also FREE? BTB gives a gratis outdoor performance at City Hall today at 7:30 p.m. Call 262-0961 for more information.

JACOB'S PILLOW
Becket, MA
The annual Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival is here again – 12 weeks of dancing, workshops, conferences and more. The sounds of Sinatra will fill the Ted Shawn Theatre through Aug. 7 when the Hubbard Street Dance Chicago returns, including the performance of two Twyla Tharp classics. In the Studio/Theatre, artist-in-residence Timothy Buckley, Jazzdance by Danny Buraczeski and the Victoria Marks Performance Company strut their collective stuffs Aug. 6-8. Call (413) 243-0745 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
Explore the splendor and history of one of Boston's most beautiful spots, the Public Garden, in a 16-year photographic retrospective. Through Aug. 29 in the Boston Room.

N.E. SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Boston
Black & white, color, experimental color, advertising, corporate, editorial, photojournalism and portraiture are all represented in this student exhibition through Sept. 13. Photographers shown were students in the two-year professional photography program.



The Golden Gallery

Richard Diebenkorn
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TOURS

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Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston
This summer, you can have Benjamin Franklin give you a walking tour of Boston! It's a three-hour tour that includes a historical performance, tour and lunch at the renowned Maison Robert. Cost is $30, and the tours are given every Tuesday in August. Call 482-6439 for more information or reservations.

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – all seen while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically-designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th and early 20th century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

ODYSSEY CRUISES
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the Spirit of Boston ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef. Call 654-9700 for reservations.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past – this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in "Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon." Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.



IMPROPER PICK

MADELEINE CARROLL AND JOHN GIELGUD STAR IN HITCHCOCK'S EARLY THRILLER "SECRET AGENT"

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Firestone silver collection, pieces of which are on display until Aug. 8, contains extremely rare 18th century wares made in Paris and other French cities known for silversmiths. An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. Approximately 125 of the museum's finest watercolors are on display until Aug. 15 in "Awash in Color: Homer, Sargent and the Great American Watercolor." MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Part 2" until September. Now through July 3, 1994, see "African and Oceanic Sculpture," with over 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle — all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Through Sept. 12. Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. ASL interpreters will be on hand July 10. Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. Call 522-6547 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious – and dangerous – sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 - ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has everything that has anything to do with New England sports, including lots of interactive exhibits - like one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Harvard Square
We promise, you'll be able to see it. The ART presents Le Cirque Invisible (that's "The Invisible Circus" for the completely language-deficient) from Aug. 17-Sept. 6. It's a mix of comedy, acrobatics, animal acts, magic and sheer theatricality; tickets range from $18-$42, with special discounts for kids under $15. Call 547-8300.

BACK ALLEY THEATER
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
Move over Frankie and Annette! Make way for Psycho Beach Party, an outrageous spoof of beach party movies and '60s psychodrama, with a little Mommie Dearest thrown in for good measure. Performances are Aug. 5-8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $15, $10 for students and seniors; call 576-1253.

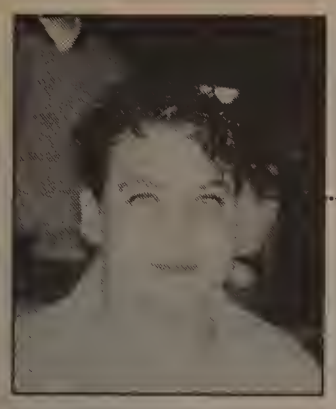
CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work, with a celebrity guest D.J. every night. A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, Shear Madness is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it

(continued on following page)

BY LESLIE

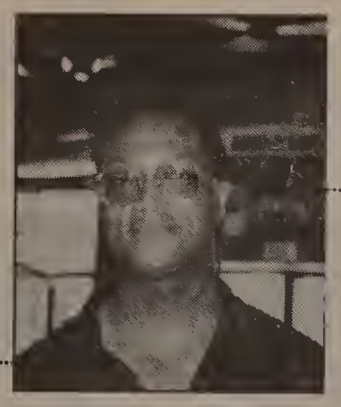
"What do you think of the Boston music scene?"



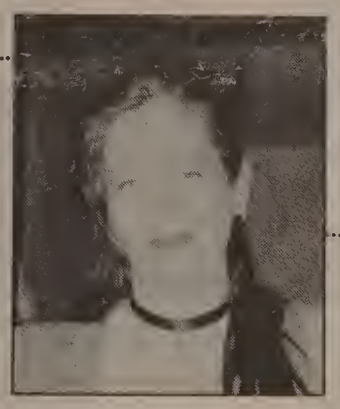
Amy, 22, Peabody.
"I think it's lame. The clubs don't stay open late and it doesn't cater enough to a younger crowd."



Russ, 24, Brighton.
"There are great local bands that don't get the recognition they deserve. How good you are isn't as important as who you know."



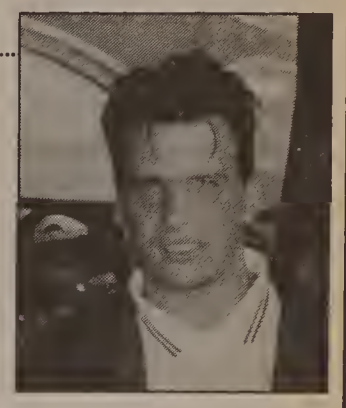
Winston, 35, Brighton.
"It's too much of a rock'n roll town geared for the younger set. Boston needs more R&B and live jazz clubs."



Juliette, 21, Amherst.
"There are a lot of good diverse bands that you can see in a lot of good small clubs."



Klaske, 28, Holland.
"It's great. There's variety and lots of talent, as long as you take the trouble to look for it."



Dicky.
Mighty Mighty BossTones
"Boston is artistically smarter than most cities. Even at its weakest, it's still the best."

plays, Shear Madness allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

KENDALL CAFE
233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge
Well, it sounds kinky to us: Steps Theater Company presents The Throb of Life, an ongoing, continuing radio drama for adults only. Admission is $7; call 499-9580 for reservations and information.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents Murder at Rick's Cafe and Let's Kill the Boss. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from Nunsense have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

THREE CHEERS
290 Congress St., Boston
The sketch comedy troupe Heavily Medicated Faerie Tales performs Aug. 11; tickets are $6. Call 423-6166 for time.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for Miss Saigon, the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the Vietnamese woman he left in Saigon. It's a must-see, but it's only here until Sept. 12. Call 931-2222 for times and ticket prices.

LECTURES/READINGS

ART DECO SOCIETY OF BOSTON
Emerson College
Zero Marlborough St., Boston
"Restoring the Hatch Shell," a slide lecture on the massive renovation project completed in June 1991, will be held Aug. 17 from 6-9 p.m. Tickets are $8; refreshments will be served. Call 325-4631.

LONGFELLOW HISTORIC SITE
105 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Summertime Stories series continues Aug. 14 at 3 p.m. with "The Myth of the Fairer Sex: Stories of Strong Women." A poetry reading is scheduled Aug. 15 at 3 p.m.; Richard Moore and David Williams are featured. Admission to all events at this beautiful home is free. Call 876-4491.

NEW ACROPOLIS
1152 Beacon St., Brookline
The New Acropolis presents "Rome Decadence and Rebirth," a lecture on the decline and fall of the Roman Empire, Aug. 6 at 8 p.m. Suggested donation: $5. Call 277-9422.

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE
10 Brookline St.
Central Square, Cambridge
T.T.'s presents Stone Soup Poetry every Monday. Call 492-0082. Donation is $3; show begins at 8 p.m.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA GALLERY
154 Newbury St., Boston
This hip gallery presents its annual exhibition of ceramic teapots at its "Tea and Fantasy" show, through Aug. 31. See diner teapots, neon teapots, cow teapots, and more! This show is always a lot of fun.

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
539 Tremont St., Boston
The BCA presents an exhibit celebrating the portrait: "His People, Her People, Their People," portraits of shared friends and acquaintances by Ralph Hamilton and Elsa Dorfman. It runs through Aug. 23 in the Mills Gallery.

CRYSTAL BLUE BEADING CO.
565 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown
An exhibition of Yoruba African Beadwork will be on view until Aug. 21. African beadwork is different from that of the Native Americans, and this display includes beaded crowns, a ceremonial sword, jewelry and clothes. Call 923-2337 for more information.

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
The Factory salutes the "Dog Days" of August with a month-long exhibition of original old advertising - dating from the late 19th century to the early 1970s - featuring canines. Call 236-8754.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St., Boston
The oils of French artist Charles Rousselon are on display through September, depicting the life and marvelous scenery of Normandy and the Opal Coast.

CLASSICAL

LONGFELLOW HISTORIC SITE
105 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Gloucester Hornpipe and Clog Society gives a free concert Aug. 8 at 3 p.m. Call 876-4491.

HARVARD SUMMER CHORUS
The Sanders Theater at Harvard, Cambridge
The Harvard Summer Chorus will be performing Dvorak's Stabat Mater on Friday, August 6th. The concert begins at 8pm. Free admission.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Every Wednesday through Aug. 11 at 7:30 p.m., MFA presents "Concerts in the Courtyard." Enjoy the cajun/zydeco rhythms of the Boogaloo Swamis on Aug. 4 in MFA's elegantly landscaped courtyard; bring a picnic dinner or buy it there. No alcohol, please. Doors open at 6 p.m.; call 267-9300 x300 for a program. Tickets are $12.

S-HIP
Emmanuel Church
15 Newbury St., Boston
The Society for Historically Informed Performance sponsors a recital by Second Wind, featuring two recorders, a harpsichord and a cello. The group will perform Aglio e Olio, a concert of virtuosic music from Baroque Italy, including Merula, Castello, Corelli and Vivaldi, with a dash of Bach and Marcello for good measure. On Aug. 5 at 8 p.m.; tickets are $10, $6 for students and seniors. Call 661-9329.

TANGLEWOOD
Lenox, MA
This beautiful outdoor facility is the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, along with other special guests. The BSO - conducted by Seiji Ozawa - performs Aug. 6-8. Call 931-2000 for times and tickets.

FILMS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
For the 48th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the BPL presents a screening of Dr. Strangelove Aug. 4 at 6 p.m., followed by Manic Denial, a compelling animated short film about the reality of today's nuclear world. The BPL presents award-winning documentaries every Thursday at 6 p.m.; Aug. 5, it's To Render a Life, an award-winning, intimate portrait of a contemporary poor family in the rural South. And then there's a Barbra (yes, it's spelled right) Streisand film screened every Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. through Sept. 7 - this is pre-Bill employment, of course. Finally, on Mondays at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., you can see movies on the theme "The Last Golden Age: The '60s Musicals." All films are screened in Rabb Lecture Hall.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
BU hosts a summer film festival, with a cool movie each week. All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're free! Call 353-3635 for a program.

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features; each day has a different theme, and they change each month. For a full program, call 876-6837.

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500 for a program.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE
Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge
Summer at the HFA ranges from the Japanese Okoge, through Aug. 5, to From Hollywood to Hanoi, showing from Aug. 13-26. In between, see Rock Hudson's Home Movies with Seconds from Aug. 6-12. Call 496-6046 for details.

HATCH SHELL
Esplanade, Boston
"Free Friday Flicks," courtesy of WBZ-TV et al, begin on Fridays at sundown (about 8:30 p.m.) at the beautiful Hatch Shell on the Charles River. Aug. 6 it's Bogey and Bergman in Casablanca, and the summer finale, Dead Poets Society (Robin Williams), will be shown Aug. 13. You may want to bring insect repellent. Call 727-9548.

LASERIUM
At the Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the Lollapalaser show every Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. - a combination of lasers and music from groups like Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other music themes are on other days; call 723-2500 for a program or more details.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Suspense/thriller aficionados will be thrilled to go to the MFA's "Early Hitchcock" series. Aug. 5 at 6 p.m. see Bon Voyage (1944), about Gestapo agents, an RAF pilot and the Polish resistance, and Number 17 (1932), a hide-and-seek detective story revolving around a diamond necklace. At 8:30 p.m. that same day, see Murder (1930), Hitchcock's first whodunit, about an actor who investigates the murder of a theater company's star. On Aug. 6, MFA switches gears, to its "Hong Kong Festival 1993." At 5:45 p.m., its Fong Sai-Yuk, a martial arts comedy (really, that's what it says) that is a current box-office hit in Hong Kong, and at 8 p.m., see Once A Thief; it will also be shown Aug. 8 at 1 p.m for more details. Tickets are $6.50. Films are screened almost daily at MFA; call 267-9300 for a schedule.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
New to the world of Omnimax is Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets, which runs through Oct. 14. For the more tropically-oriented, Omni treats you to Tropical Rainforest, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Call 723-2500 for show times. Ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.



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Linda Ventura

IM/PROPER ATTIRE

Fashion Dos and Don'ts

Ding dong. Ding dong. Do you hear what I hear? No, I'm not talking about church bells, school bells, or even door bells. I'm talking about the bells on the bottom. Greg Brady meets Karl Lagerfeld in the resurrected fad we thought would never come back. That's right, the infamous BELL-BOTTOMS! Bostonians are loosening up their puritanical wardrobes and are stepping into the socially conscious 90's where recycling (even in fashion) is totally "in."

This week a distinctively Improper look at the wildest fashion flashback of the season.



We know that the Karate Kid sequel is being cast in town, but is it really necessary to dress for the part off-screen? These bottoms would be better left for the next Van Dam thriller. Perhaps he should have taken some acting lessons from this proper Bostonian who turns heads while strutting her stuff in this sleek and sheik flared creation. This is the quintessential bell bottom in mid-swing.



Bell bottoms are meant to be big by the ankles, not in the buttocks. This emphatically improper Bostonian's "got back" and seems to be storing a little extra in the rear. (Perhaps an 80's flashback to M.C. Hammer harem pants.) She should have taken lessons from the first rate fashion sense of this proper Bostonian who emphasizes the width of her Levi's by wearing slick platform shoes– the ever inseparable partner to bell-bottoms.



These flowing fabrics seem to be slip sliding away and clinging in all the wrong spots. By the way, is she wearing a bra? You decide. But take a look at this noticeable Newburian; Cignal would be proud. This form-fitting, tailored summer blazer contrasts nicely with the easy going style of her fluid pants.

Until next time– Don't let yourself get caught looking anything but your very best!

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Improper Discount Page

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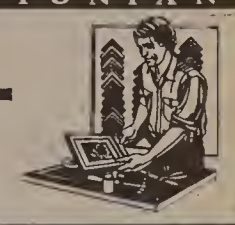
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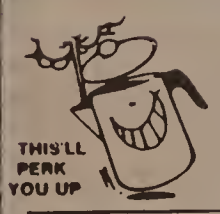
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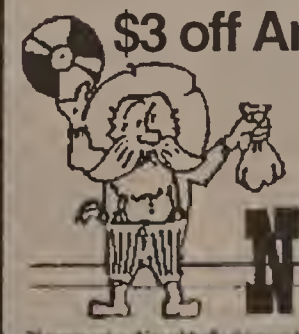
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- Be descriptive, list all the standard features of your item first.
- State the terms of the sale, the price, whether you're "flexible or negotiable."
- Include phone number and times to call.

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REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

AGENCY DISCOUNTS: 15%, Call for more information.

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

BRIGHTON 1 BR in house. Modern kitchen and bathroom, porch, parking, excellent location. $560. 254-4186

BRIGHTON Prof. seeks apartment. Clean quiet, considerate and stable M/F for beautiful home. Avail. now $400+ 789-4612

BROCKTON 2 and 3 bedroom, remodeled, exc. cond., Sept, util DLD no pets no wash mach. (508)583-8485.

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

CHARLESTOWN Owner-occupied three family brownstone. Nice res. neigh. w/ on-street prkng. Conven. location. $345.00 for rmte. or $690 full rent. Call 1-800-244-2756 ext. 603 or 617-242-9632.

NATICK CENTER Newly renovated 2 bedroom. Walk to train. Off-street parking. No pets. $765./mo. No fee. Available immediately. Call (508)653-3842 between 5-8p.m.

ROSLINDALE 2 bedroom in apt. building with heat and hot water, hardwood floors , laundry facilities on premises, disposal, on bus line. Security Deposit and References Required. $650 Call (617) 364-6585

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SOUTH BOSTON East Side, bright large 6 room, 3-4 bdrms & pantry off kitchen. Natural woodwork throughout. Extra storage in cellar. Spacious 'private' deck. Off-street parking near beach/T. For details call (617)382-4378 leave message.

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BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

BOSTON Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm near NU. Avail. 7/1 & 8/1. $500/month, including heat and hot water. Great location, cute apartment. 247-7547

BRIGHTON 1M + 1F seek 1M/1F for private bedroom & one half study. Fully furnished except bdrm. Hdwd flrs. Antique decor. 2 porches, safe nbrhd. Near Comm. Ave/B-line. Quiet, clean, non-smoking, no pets. Avail 9/1 $400+utils. 782-6808

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. in 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd flrs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

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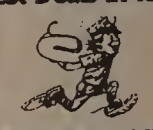
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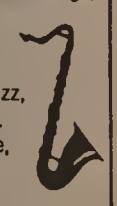
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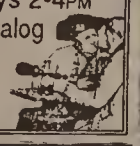
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ATTRACTIVE, PETITE, 24yr old white female, seeks good-looking, career motivated male, around the same age, who is outgoing & fun to be with. Enjoy movies & quiet romantic times. EXT•6782.

PRETTY, divorced white female, 40 (looks much younger), 5'2", short brown hair, green eyes, nice smile, college educated, great sense of humor, fun-loving, will try almost anything once. Seeks sincere man, age & race unimportant, for friendship first, then who knows! EXT•6774.

EXTREAMELY PRETTY! White female, great shape, very fit, hard body, outgoing, with a positive attitude & champagne taste. Seeks an extreamly handsome white male, 28-36, big build (bodybuilder/weightlifter), who's outgoing & a genuine nice guy. EXT•6803.

FUN & SEXY! Attractive white female, 43, 5'6", 135 lbs, blonde hair, brown eyes, non-smoker, social drinker. Enjoys music, laughing, walking the beach, working out & traveling. Seeks white male, 38-50, with similar interests. EXT•6807.

PRETTY WOMAN seeks her Richard Gere! 20-something, ash blonde, petite, slender female, loves blues, baseball and Boston. Desires well-built male, 27-33, 5'9"+, who's sharp dressed, established professional, never married, Protestant, non-smoker and social drinker. North of city! EXT•6781.

HAPPY! Attractive white female, 39, 5'4", professional, non-smoker, adventurous, feminine, thoughtful, good friend, slow runner, enjoys beginning tennis, infrequent skiing, the ocean, travel, dining out & movies. Seeks clean-cut white male professional for friendship & dating. EXT•6772.

LIFE'S TOO SHORT! Hi, I'm 45 (but built like an 18yr old), 5'2", 109 lbs, and looking for someone to share life with. I love dancing, walks along the beach, long rides & getaway weekends. Seeks someone to hold, kiss, and be with. EXT•6734.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN BEAUTY! Chaste, outspoken grad student, 20's, interracial background, seeks evangelical caucasian male, 21-25, virgin (yes!), attractive, educated, marriage-ready, humorous, financially responsible, who loves Jesus, wants a family, & enjoys the Red Sox, music, more! EXT•6703.

NICE LOOKING WHITE FEMALE, 33, 5'3", 110 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes, enjoys soft/(hard) rock & blues, playing pool, well-made movies & more. Seeks attractive white male, 30-36, 5'5"-5'11", with brown hair & semi-muscular build. EXT•6762.

PRETTY, BLUE-EYED BLONDE, female professional, 30's, 5'3", physically fit, seeks male, 35-50, for chemistry, compatibility & commitment. I enjoy long walks along the ocean, swimming, skiing, biking & romantic dinners. Please call soon! EXT•6750.

SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 29, 5'5", loves the movies (old & new), music, dancing, dining, walking, bike riding, working out & a great sense of humor. Seeks male, 28-35, with similar interests, for companionship only. Please be drug & smoke free. Social drinker OK. Race unimportant! No games please! EXT•6756.

AMAZON HEDONIST delights in silks, fedoras, Chandler, Hammett, and straightforwardness (yours & mine). Lovely & leggy black female, 5'7", seeks muscular, daring chap with manners (Cary Grant + Indiana Jones), 25-35. How well can you treat me? EXT•6760.

IF A TALL, SHAPELY, full-figured, intelligent, witty black female, mid-40's, with a great voice, doesn't intimidate you, Read On! You're a non-smoking white male, 35-45, intelligent, thoughtful, romantic, with a sense of humor, who enjoys movies, theatre, jazz, dining out, and much more. If you desire an honest, exciting, monogamous relationship, feel free to call! EXT•6801.

SLIM BLACK FEMALE, 26, 5'3", 102 lbs, with long legs & long arms, enjoys pumping iron at home & the gym, riding bikes, in-line skating, chilling at home with my two toddlers, and dancing up a storm at a nice club every so often. Seeks an honest male, 25-37, smoke-free, drug-free, social drinker, with a good sense of humor, for companionship only. EXT•6755.

PROFESSIONAL ARTIST, very attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, 5'3", 100 lbs, 38 (looks & feels younger), active, sensitive, very romantic, passionate. Seeks intelligent, sensitive male, 34-48, slim & fit, for communication & ultimately commitment. EXT•6709.

VIVACIOUS, VERY ATTRACTIVE, successful, business woman, 38, fun, athletic, widely traveled, varied interests, understands the importance of love & loyalty, non-smoker, non-drinker. Enjoys tennis, walking, skiing, dancing, movies, & quiet times at home. Seeks attractive male, 30-45, 5'7"+, who is a business or medical professional, for a monogamous relationship. EXT•6759.

HELLO, LOOK AT ME! Shy, foreign black female, 30, 6', 186 lbs, hard working & respectful, continually educating herself, loves Jesus & wants a family. Enjoys romance, dining out, movies, walks along the beach & more. Seeks attractive black male, 27-35, 5'9"-6", non-smoker & drinker, who loves Jesus. I'm waiting for you! EXT•6752.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 35, 5'4". enjoys golf, hiking, skiing, sporting events, the beach, gardening, cooking, movies, billiards & travel. Wishes to hear from a white professional male, 35-45, with similar interests. EXT•6731.

PASSIONATE WOMAN WHO'S READY, sexy, pretty & blonde, would like to share the summer season, maybe more, with a successful, strong, attractive & loving man, 46-56. Together we can experience life's simple joys! EXT•6732.

STRIKINGLY ATTRACTIVE, Asian female professional, 28, petite, fit & intelligent, enjoys theatre, jazz, fine dining, romantic getaways & good conversation. Seeks attractive, professional, well educated, non-Jewish, white male, 30-35, 5'8"+, non-smoker, who is interested in a cozy, intimate, 1-1 relationship. EXT•6701.

K.I.S.S.I Caring, sensitive, attractive, athletic white female, 30, 5'7", seeks caring, stable, professional, active, handsome white male, 28-35. Friends of Bill W's preferred. Together we can enjoy each day as it comes! EXT•6702.

LONG-STEMMED IRISH ROSE, 43, brunette, tall, articulate, sensitive, imaginative, with agile mind. NOT athletic, Not domestic. Seeks easygoing, reassuring, tender-hearted guy, 30's-40's. EXT•6717.

UNIQUE, FOXY & SEXY, Divorced Italian/Spanish female, 5'7", blonde hair, brown eyes, attractive, full-figured, classy & affectionate. Seeks male mate for long-term friendship, 1-1 relationship & love. No head games or phoneys! Sincere replies only! All races welcome! I'm real, call me! EXT•6713.

UPBEAT, multi-cultural, professional businesswoman, sensual, creative, magical & classy. Seeks friendship, partnership & passion with a successful, communicative, wise, witty, evolved male human, 38+, comfortable with evolution of spirit, open heart, & extraordinary liaison with an exotic lady. All races understood! EXT•6705.

BEAUTIFUL & ELEGANT Jewish female professional, with startling green eyes, brains, heart, humor & depth. Seeks a good man, 38-48, with style & substance, valuing intelligence, loving kindness & creativity, open to growth, joy & a fabulous relationship. EXT•6737.

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT & CLASSY! White female, 35, fit (emotionally & physically), professional, positive, energetic, diversified, outgoing personality. Seeks secure mature, handsome male who is healthy, charismatic, communicative, straight forward, sociable, affectionate, humorous, monogamous, childless & a non-smoker, for friendship, relationship & possibly marriage. EXT•6711.

VERY ATTRACTIVE FEMALE, just turned 40 (looks 35), long blonde hair, sensual, provocative, compassionate & caring, loves music, sports, the ocean & city life. Looking for a 1-1 relationship. Mr Right, are you out there? EXT•6633.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar interests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6693.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 21, 140 lbs, 5'8", seeks tall & handsome, non-smoking white male, 21-25, who is caring, compassionate & trustworthy. Social drinker Ok! EXT•6683.

WHAT CAN I TELL YOU? The truth is I'm gorgeous, slender, voluptuous & passionate. My academic credentials & creative achievements are impeccable. This 37yr old, divorced white female would like to meet you. Your attributes: intelligence, stability, loyalty & looks. White male professional, 38-48, desired. EXT•6671.

DIVORCED WHITE MOM, 40, 5'2", 115 lbs, 13yr old daughter. Seeks white male, 35-45, who enjoys dining, slow dancing, movies, camping, fishing, walks, music (country, rock-n-roll), and all kinds of fun. EXT•6638.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, sensuous & petite lady, 35, dark hair & eyes, enjoys the beach, music, bodybuilding, cooking, fun/quiet times together. Seeks very good-looking, romantic, physically fit man, with similar interests, for friendship, possibly more. EXT•6619.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

YUPPIE IMAGE, compassionate personality! Attractive young professional, 22, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, healthy, intelligent, articulate, dynamic, honest & such a romantic. Seeking young (22-28), attractive, optimistic, honest, career-oriented woman to enjoy travel, recreation, diversion & to share the special opportunities of a progressive lifestyle. EXT•7377.

SEXY WHITE MALE, 44, dark hair, green eyes, nice smile, good sense of humor, college grad, self employed, enjoys body building, jogging, fitness, dining out, dancing, walking, music & more. Seeks female bodybuilder to share my gym & work out together. Must be a fun person! EXT•7314.

UNBELIEVABLE! Good-looking Italian male, 30, excellent shape, secure, seeks Hispanic woman, 22-38, for a sincere 1-1 relationship. Call me, you'll be very surprised! EXT•7313.

ATTRACTIVE, IN-SHAPE, white male, 50, financially secure, seeks an attractive, mature woman with wisdom, a sense of humor, a strong sense of herself, and the ability to really care for someone. EXT•7320.

WHITE MALE, 39, 6'3", 195 lbs, cute, fit, athletic, poetic, adventuresome, lovable, funny & intelligent. Seeks a quality woman, 25-35, for a relationship. EXT•7312.

PHILOSOPHY PHD! White male, 42, formerly editor of scholarly journal in Europe, now graduate student in physics. Have own engineering consulting company, planning new career in astronomy. Solitary, introspective, independent, unconventional. Seeks lady 21-51 with similar background, interests, outlook. EXT•7330.

HUMOROUS, ATHLETIC, attractive white male professional, nearing mid-30's, 5'9", 160 lbs, very physically fit, enjoys many sports. Seeks an attractive, athletic woman, 28-37, who sees the lighter side of life, has a lot of energy, but also likes quiet times to share feelings & thoughts. EXT•7342.

WHITE GENTLEMAN, 55, seeks "The Right Gal" who likes sports, dining out & weekend travel, for friendship & possibly more. If interested, please call! EXT•7291.

WHITE MALE, 48 (looks 47 1/4), seeks a person who is 1) female 2) breathing 3) nice. I enjoy sports (Bruins & Celtics season ticket holder), movies, TV, dining, dancing & the outdoors. I live with 3 animals- my cat, my dog, and my brother. EXT•7327.

ATTRACTIVE, HONEST, WARM, affectionate, caring, giving, black Jewish medical professional, 42, 5'9 1/2", 145 lbs, slim, spontaneous & romantic, loves outdoor life. Seeks white or Jewish female, 35-45, 5'5"+, slim, attractive, down to earth, comfortable with herself, ready to meet a challenge & willing to work on them together. No walking wounded please! EXT•7333.

HANDSOME ITALIAN MALE, 32, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes, never married, down to earth, confident, easygoing, very romantic, very honest, good sense of humor, north of Boston. Seeks quality woman, 26-30, who's attractive, thoughtful, caring, sincere, loving & respectful, for a possible long term, monogamous relationship. Italian a plus! Take a chance! EXT•7311.

KIND, KINKY & CARING! White male, 26, blond hair, blue eyes, works out regularly, enjoys dancing, golfing & having fun. Believes a relationship is based on trust, communication & commitment. Seeks an athletic & outgoing female, 26-30. EXT•7319.

LETS SHARE SOME QUALITY TIME! Divorced white male, 49, 5'9", 172 lbs, Scorpio, considered good-looking, seeks attractive female, age unimportant, for a lasting relationship. Intimacy & communication are very important. EXT•7244.

TALL WHITE MALE, 55, loves to laugh, work out, movies, restaurants, jazz clubs, rock concerts, travel & endless days at the beach. Seeks attractive, reserved, physically fit woman who is kind of shy like me. EXT•7285.

READY TO SETTLE DOWN! Tall, dark & handsome white male, 39, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair & eyes, honest, sincere, great sense of humor. Seeks the girl next door, for love, marriage & family. So, what are you waiting for? Serious replies only! EXT•7274.

CLEAN & SOBER WHITE MALE, 39 (looks 38 1/2), 5'10", 165 lbs, hazel eyes, brown hair, down to earth, humorous & emotionally secure, into blues, beaches & books. In search of an honest & open-minded woman to share fun, fantasies & maybe a future. A life & love is better shared! EXT•7248.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7279.

SLEEPLESS IN BOSTON? Here's your chance to come alive! Handsome white male, 36, 6'2", black hair, green eyes, non-smoker/drinker, seeks attractive white female, 25-34, who enjoys life's pleasures. EXT•7325.

HAPPY, HEALTHY & ATTRACTIVE! Easygoing white male, 38, loves romance, demands honesty & sincerity, seeks white female, 30-40. Don't reply if you use drugs or alcohol! EXT•7292.

WHITE MALE, 34, 5'11", 170 lbs, self employed, homeowner, non-smoker, non-drinker, seeks slim, outdoorsy white female for sincere relationship. I enjoy bicycling, hiking, camping, beaches, travel, concerts, movies, dining & quiet times. EXT•7264.

DARE TO USE YOUR MIND! Bring on the fabulous 50's! Separated Italian/Lithuanian male, 50, 5'11", 175 lbs, brown hair, light complexion, dances Doo-Woop, Funk, Hip Hop & more. This understanding, supportive & very mindful man seeks a lady to compliment him! EXT•7278.

NEW GUY IN TOWN! Attractive, funny, confident, outgoing white male, 28, 5'9", enjoys working out, mountain biking, movies, sunshine, family & friends. Seeks a cute, fit woman, 24+, to help explore this unfamiliar territory! EXT•7259.

ATHLETIC & MUSCULAR! Very romantic, good-looking white male, 35, 5'10", dark hair, green eyes, very cut-up body, good sense of humor, loves long walks & the beach. Seeks black female non-smoker, 25-35, who is athletic & down to earth. EXT•7245.

THIS WHITE MALE is a young 41 with a touch of gray, successful professional, tall, slender, Ok to look at, leads an active life (indoors & out), and enjoys fine dining as well as simple fare, exercise, beaches, humor, old movies, reading, music, you name it! If you're 30-40, single or divorced, female please, just call...that's all! EXT•7284.

FORMER LIFEGUARD, 34, 5'9", 165 lbs, seeks warm, intelligent, attractive female beachcomber, 29-39, to share good times. I'm attractive, intelligent, sensitive, have a good sense of humor, and enjoy sports, dancing, reading & cooking. EXT•7272.

THE ONE FOR YOU! Handsome Jewish male, 35, tall, slim, intelligent business professional with heart, soul, sensitivity, wit, playfulness, a great sense of humor & many interests. Seeks a classy & pretty Jewish female, 23-34, not overweight, who has style, intelligence, and is ready for a committed relationship. EXT•7258.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times & fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate & genuine? This thirtysomething firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! EXT•7219.

SEEKING THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE! Handsome male, 27, 5'11", 190 lbs, brown hair, green eyes, caring, honest & sensitive, enjoys exercise, movies, TV, dining out, dancing & quiet evenings at home. Seeks honest, warm, sensitive, smart, fun, athletic & attractive female, 21-40, for friendship, perhaps more. EXT•7237.

ATTENTION FEMALE SHOPPERS! For Sale: Handsome white male professional, 33, with blond hair & blue eyes. Your Cost: Be a mature, attractive, intelligent female. This sale is for a limited time only, so act fast! EXT•7232.

IRISH MALE, 32, 5'11", 155 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, enjoys casual dining, day trips out on the boat, cooking outdoors by the pool & just enjoying life. Looking for Ms. Right to start what could become a very meaningful & long term relationship. Please be 26-34, honest, attractive & single. Call and lets see where this leads! EXT•7218.

ALWAYS A BEST MAN, NEVER A GROOM! A godfather, never a father! Know the feeling? Great looking, Dbl-X white male, just turned 38, seeks great looking, old-fashioned white female. Summers here, lets enjoy it together. All calls will be answered! EXT•7215.

RIPE FOR LOVE! Youthful Jewish male, 44, fit, wholesome, literate, emotionally available, enjoys WFNX, WBUR, theatre, beaches in summer & flannel PJ's in winter. Seeks similar "Ripe" Jewish female, 35+. I'll fall into your hands like a ripe peach! EXT•7229.

2 GOOD LOOKING, professional, ambitious & dependable 27yr old white males, are seeking 2 sincere, attractive & adventurous females to share either a day at the beach, or a night on the town. EXT•7189.

A LOT OF LOVE TO GIVE! Attractive, witty, talented black male, 30's, 5'6", musician, professional, enjoys movies, dancing & spending time at home with that special someone. Seeks lovely young lady, 24-34, for romance, fun, and a possible relationship. Race unimportant! EXT•7185.

JUST SAY, "KEEP ME LAUGHING"! This active, outgoing white male can do it. Me: 38, 5'11", 170 lbs, professional, entrepreneur, golfer, dancer, skier, & more. You: white female, 26-36, outgoing, active, fit, looking to be friends & more. EXT•7201.

TRIM, ATHLETIC & PROFESSIONAL! White male, 47, 5'7", 155 lbs, brown hair, green eyes, enjoys downhill skiing, running, swimming, dancing & romantic dinners. Seeks attractive, fun-loving, female partner with similar interests & a good sense of humor. EXT•7205.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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By Rockie Gardiner

August 4 - August 17, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too.)

Did you make contact with the spiritual hierarchy from the star Sirius during the Leo-Aquarius full moon (which is when this door opens) or is your new-found enlightenment something you stumbled across at home? It's a quiet weekend, more conversational than confrontational, although Mercury's contact to incisive Mars on Sunday lets you cut through the paperwork and utter the last word on a subject left over from the Mercury retrograde days. Both planets are teetering on their respective edges: Mercury enters Leo with a flourish on Monday night, Mars glides into Libra on the 11th. Cuspy people will feel the shift more than those planted squarely in the middle of their sun or rising signs. What we'll all feel is the need to indulge ourselves, show off, be divinely lazy and outrageously optimistic – the "not good for you" joys of a Venus-Jupiter square. If you can't control yourself, the 11th will be very expensive. Reach instead for the stars; get to the top of a mountain and catch the Perseid meteor showers – 50 per hour. Life gets more intense around the 15th when the sun squares potent Pluto and we prepare for the Leo new moon on the 17th, exactly at 9:28 a.m. Love becomes strange, you attract oddballs and spacecases while Venus opposes nebulous Neptune and erratic Uranus later that night.

ARIES (March 20-April 19)

An Aries moon this weekend makes for rambunctious Rams. Whether you're carousing at home or in the field won't matter – your companions will be as playful as you are and slightly more generous. Make sure this party goes on their expense account, not yours. You possess a raging creative spirit and they want to tap into it, to give it a literary or legal (as in deal) form. Discuss the small print on Sunday before Mars enters Libra, your cosmic complement on Wednesday and you get distracted by love.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Bide your time, hang out at home and celebrate the joys of summer while you can. A crisis of sorts, pleasurable but expensive is building; it'll reach a head around Wednesday when your Venus ruler squares enthusiastic Jupiter. Then the paranoia can strike: are you having too much fun, how much is it really costing lovelife-wise and are you willing to pay in full? Take a holiday, maybe take acting lessons, but to buy out an entire theater so that you can perform is entirely too much ego-gratification!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Emotions don't have to soar or radically drop down if you concentrate on a financial matter that involves the family or the next place you want to call home. If need be, you might break some sort of ground. An addition? The focus of your interest changes when your Mercury ruler leaves real-estate oriented, domesticated Cancer (after a long 10 weeks) for playful Leo. You'll need to be admired for your creativity, but don't spend a fortune trying to win approval. In two weeks you won't care.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

One good thing about Leo time is that you see money matters in a brighter light, so if you were a bit worried, you'll feel cheerier about your financial future. However, this is not a license to go overboard. That comes from loving Venus in your own sign squaring generous Jupiter in Libra, your home-base on Wednesday. Whether you want to entertain lavishly, buy expensive art for the house or spend because it feels right, you should know that there's no counterbalance to excess and extravagance this week.

LEO (July 23-August 22)

You can think your way through any problem with ease and speed this weekend, particularly what to buy and how much to spend. But in the middle of the week, a colleague or a group with whom you're affiliated (the union?) demand more from you. Ever-generous Leo cubs are eager to have a good time, to celebrate themselves and make everyone else feel good, but there's a tendency to let cock-eyed optimism blind you to the truth. So what! It's your season and finally there's a decent reason to indulge.

VIRGO (August 23-September 22)

Clarity and purpose. An educated friend comes up with the latest data you need to proceed. And while your move doesn't have to be of heroic proportions, this is the last week Mars will be in Virgo, so take advantage of his bravura if you need it. Otherwise just relish the show presented by your Mercury ruler transiting through the grandeur that is Leo. Two weeks of playing around, creating your own toys or hobnobbing with the social lions is the best way to get through the dog (Sirius again) days of August.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22)

You're lit, which in astroparlance means you're experiencing meaningful planetary relationships and, we trust, human ones too. But what felt enjoyable, expansive and easy a month ago can become a major issue between the two of you this week. Plus the pressure to be even more generous, to reach out to an influential maternal type or a foreign publisher may turn into a flamboyant fiasco. If you realize you're overstepping the bounds of good taste and are willing to pay dearly for your fun, then go for it.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21)

Who is that smart aleck and why is he asking you to join his table of friends? Social connections to academia and companies from abroad continue and, although the contacts might not seem impressive, one may turn out to be a really big deal. Think about your career and reputation while the Leo sun lights up your midheaven. The rest – joint income to pay the bills and carefree romantic sentiments – are abundant enough to drive you slightly manic if you let them. Summer fun.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21)

The cutting edge dulls – Mars moves out of supercritical Virgo – on the 11th. No more sharp words from the paternal powers that be, the boys in the back room or the healing, fashion and craftsmanship hierarchies. Everybody becomes more diplomatic about your career at least until the sun enters Virgo. Adding to the high and slightly hysterical flavor is an emotional challenge to your gung-ho Jupiter ruler. This is the "cheer your little heart out" aspect that drains you dry. Still betting on the Red Sox?

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20)

In a way you're out of the hot seat this week, or so it will seem to your mate, who just might grab this opportunity to shower you with affection and insights, to soothe the ruffled ego and, unfortunately, stick you with the bill. Any overture on anybody else's part can be too effusive, too expansive, too emotional for words. Exhausted or simply embarrassed trying to look pleased for their sake? Actually this would be a good time to take a break, to prepare for an onslaught of activity at the end of August.

AQUARIUS (January 21-February 18)

Just remember that as long as the sun is in Leo, you're bound to focus (but not obsessively, please) on the Other. Where is your soulmate, is this partnership working out, and is this all there is this time around? Mercury in Leo brings clever youngsters to your scene, and there's an undercurrent of excessive emotion that can make you fall for any warm, cuddly critter in your path. Your urge to nurture can be enlightening and expensive, but it won't wipe you out. Actually playing patron can be fun.

PISCES (February 19-March 19)

Fish born near the Aries cusp could be engaged in battle until feisty Mars in your marriage house moves to Libra on the 11th. For you guys, the normal give-and-take of any close relationship might be more brutal than usual right now. The other Pisces in the pond focus on the home front, the kitchen and the many ways they can absorb huge quantities of money – a really good school, the top-of-the-line stove/range/grill, perhaps a redesigned landscape with the soothing sound of a waterfall and some koi.

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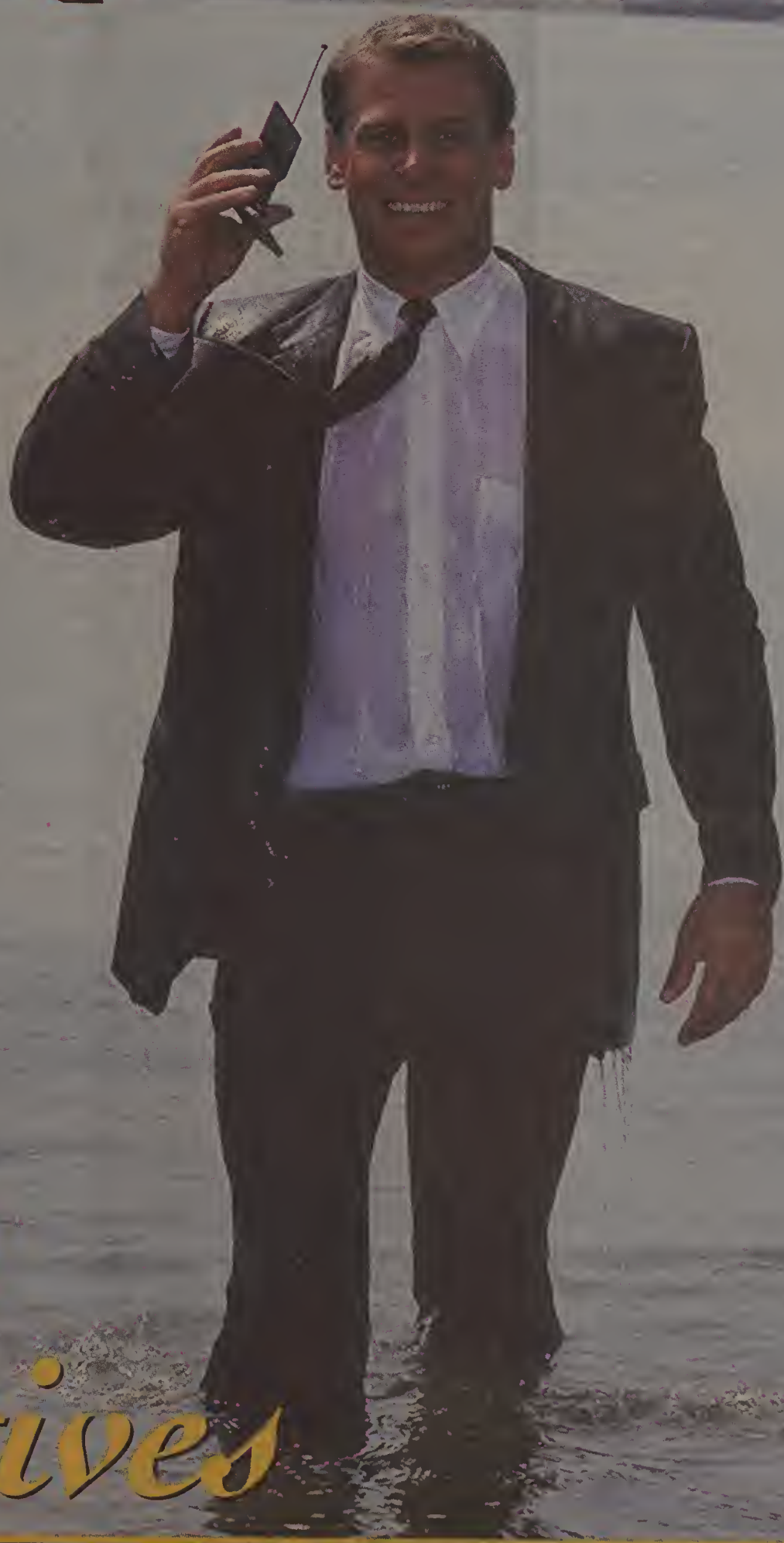
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What To Do When You Don't Want To Work

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

The Elements of Style — Discounted

Factory outlets tend to be at the edge of town in huge warehouses. Elements, which bills itself as the "Ultimate Factory Outlet Store," blends right into the flow, traveling incognito amid its chic neighbors. Vending the overstocks of gift shops, certain catalogues, and some museum shops, they also serve as an outlet for designers of jewelry and sundry other,

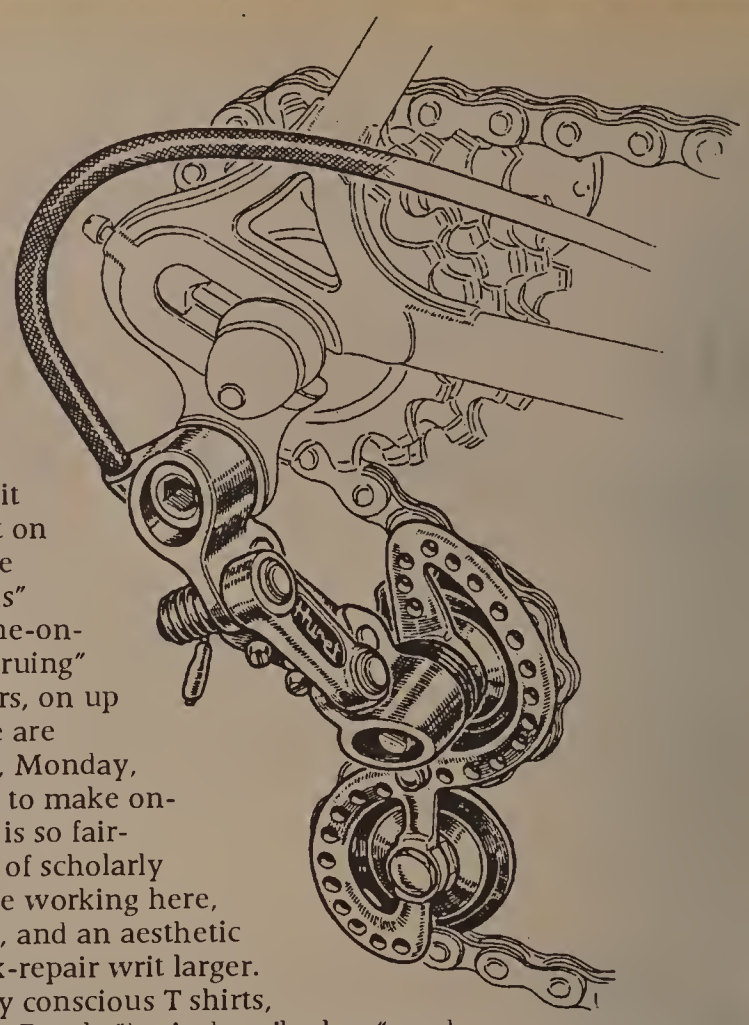


sometimes comic, things. For instance, a cup showing the back end of a cow, plunging with udders, is one of their best sellers. This is also a good place to find the picture frames of irony, many done in a dark, marbly green with such "Yeah? So what?" decorations as a spoon and a fork on either side of the picture. Shockingly cheap and yet substantial are the Mexican glass pieces – tall green or blue glasses with an intended irregularity, some with stripes of thick glass around them, as low as $5 per glass. Just some of the other items offered are wool throw blankets in plaid (60" by 84") for $48, as opposed to the list price of $98; interesting toiletries including rough, chunky soaps, and the Mexican ayate, a deceptively light cloth that, once soaked and softened, exfoliates skin in the tub. There are also deadpan clocks for $28, with only the most stony-faced background, and maybe a joke or two around the key hours; the South West Clock, for instance, scrunches 12, 3, 6, and 9 in the lower right corner and marks them with a horse, a star, a cowboy and a lasso.

Elements, The Ultimate Factory Outlet Store

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Spinning Your Own Wheels



Wonderfully true, after all these years, to the spirit that was a lot more common in 1972 when they opened, the Broadway Bicycle School is still owned and run as a collective. For the participant/consumer – since this is a place that teaches you how to tune up and repair your bike – that trickles democratically down to signify true-blue low prices. The goal, in modern parlance, is "empowerment," making it possible for the cyclist to be more independent on the path if repairs need doing, and bringing the biker closer to, as they put it locally, "her or his" own bike. For $12 an hour, one-on-one (or one-on-a-few) teaching will include changing a flat, "truing" the wheel, fixing the brakes, adjusting the gears, on up to overhauling the bottom bracket. Then there are classes on Sunday (these are for women only), Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. A shorter fix-it visit to make on-site minor repairs costs only $6 (and the place is so fair-minded your time is pro-rated). There's an air of scholarly grease, sweat, and serious fun about the people working here, their bikes on the stand, wheels twirling away, and an aesthetic of tinkering, like car-repair writ small, or clock-repair writ larger. What they sell – parts, rain gear, and politically conscious T shirts, some to raise money for Nicaragua ("Bikes Not Bombs") – is described as "good quality, less expensive, lasts a long time." Of course, you can applaud the effort, and the atmosphere, and still leave your bike to be repaired or tuned-up by the collective for a bit more money, but you will still leave having been incidentally tuned in, yourself, to some of the features of the tune-up you've just gotten. The School strongly supports year-round biking, especially as a commuting method, and even offers a workshop on that subject. Closed Monday.

Broadway Bicycle School
351 Broadway

Little Sister

Katie, the narrator of Elizabeth Berg's novel *Durable Goods*, which is written in a sort of dreamy trance of early adolescent yearning, has a dead mother, a distant, surly, and sometimes violent father, and a sister, Diane, who blazes the cool and exotic trail up ahead into serious grown-up adolescence. Similarly, her friend Cherylanne, with her contemptuously hip superiority, contributes to Katie's feeling of being the one who's watching, bumbling, straggling forward but never quite catching up with the more sophisticated girls, but that is exactly her charm. Elizabeth Berg is so gracefully inside her narrator's lightly quirky longing for adventure – the adventures of love and sex – and for safety and security – buffers from her angry father, and from her motherless state – that when she has Katie entering into a small fantasy, the sentences soften to glide her seamlessly into the desired state. As her father is berating Diane, Berg writes: "I hear furniture scrape across her floor. He pushes her sometimes before he hits her. I put the pillow over my head. I live on a farm, alone, with many animals. The sky overhead is flat and deep blue. No clouds." In remembering her mother, she floats on the soft, matter-of-fact footprints of the present tense to wish her back to life: "But then right after we left the grave site she woke up and said 'Just a minute, just a minute. I am still alive.' Someone helped her out of the casket and said "Well, for heaven's sake, let me call your family." D*urable Goods* is a grown-up's novel of growing up, or trying to.

Durable Goods
By Elizabeth Berg
Random House

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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From clam shacks to book shops, M.T. Anderson asserts his natural independence and enjoys the American experience while championing some unusual American virtues.

By M.T. Anderson

20 Secrets of the Seller



A new breed of Sommeliers, armed to the teeth with a bevy of daring food-wine pairings, has inhabited the top restaurants in Boston. Sandy Block embarks on a journey of inquiry into their art.

By Sandy Block, M.W.

25 Under the Volcano



The Queen of late night, Lauren Dare, discovers semi-intelligent life after last call when she ventures under the Volcano.

By Lauren Dare



On The Cover

Photographed by: Gerald Burg

Model: Tony Hagelgans

Special Thanks: Amy Burg

Corrections:

- 7/21 issue, the owner of the Hard Rock Café was incorrectly reported to be Isacc Tigret.
- Thanks and photo credits to Christopher Moscatiellio for last issue's Appeteasers photos.

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photo by Tracy Aiguier

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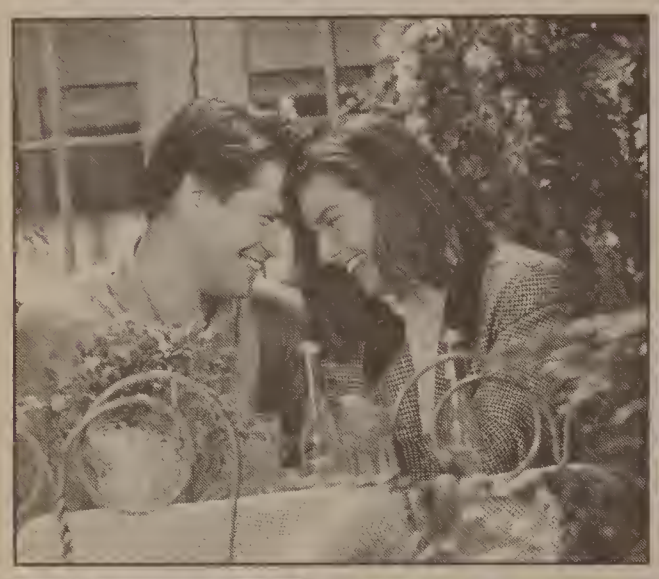
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Hiding Your Smile?



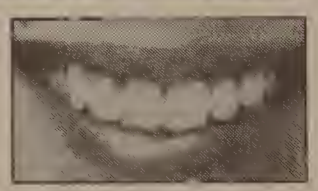
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Model: Tiffany Baxter, Elite. Paris 1992

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Compiled by Jon Kooker

City Rave

What's Hot in Boston Now

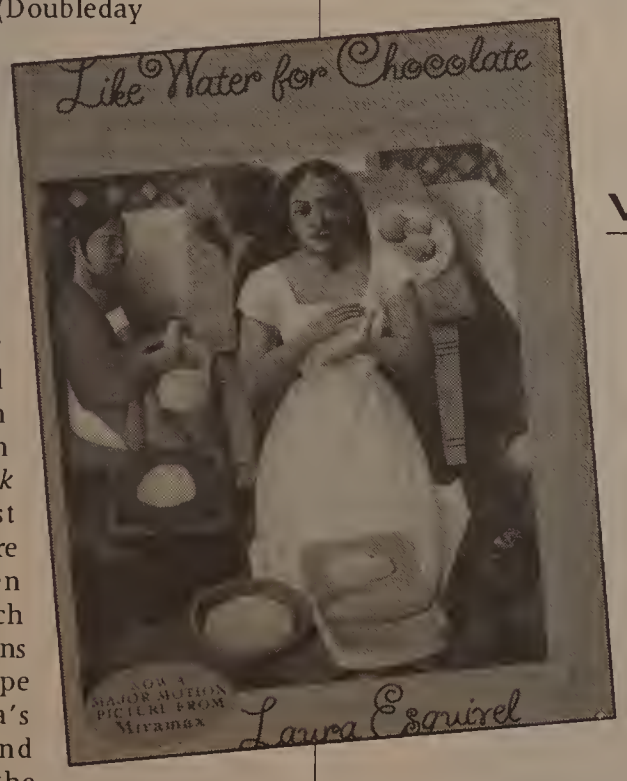
Beverage



Cider Jack. Before prohibition, hard cider was the holiday drink of choice for millions of consumers around the world, and in 1991, 80 million gallons of hard cider were consumed in Europe alone. Now here at home in Boston, hundreds of pubs serve it on tap or in bottles. With an alcohol content just slightly above beer, and a crisp, dry after taste, Cider Jack is the all natural summer refresher with a kick.

Books

Like Water for Chocolate. **Laura Esquivel.** (Doubleday Books. $17.50) Tita is the name of the main character that juggles an elusive love affair against her established role within her family in this *New York Times* best seller of more than fifteen weeks. Each chapter begins with a recipe from Tita's kitchen and chronicles the process by which Tita is driven from her mother and into the odd union that ultimately brings her closer to her lover.



Recordings

Billy Joel, ***River of Dreams.*** To the consternation of many critics, the Piano Man, now at 44, has seen eight of his previous ten studio albums thrive in the top ten, while still trying to shake his pop music reputation and produce an album of true depth. From Joel's latest, fans not only get more of the tightly constructed, polished musical packages that Joel is famous for, but an added level of introspection that will remind most of his early albums. Available at Tower records.

James Taylor, ***James Taylor Live.*** Although not exactly a foot stomper, most will agree that J.T. seems to be in peak form for this double CD live album recorded on his latest 1992 East Coast Tour. These thirty familiar songs, as followers old and young can attest, hew as close to the bone as they did years ago, and step into the 90s with fresh instrumentation as well.

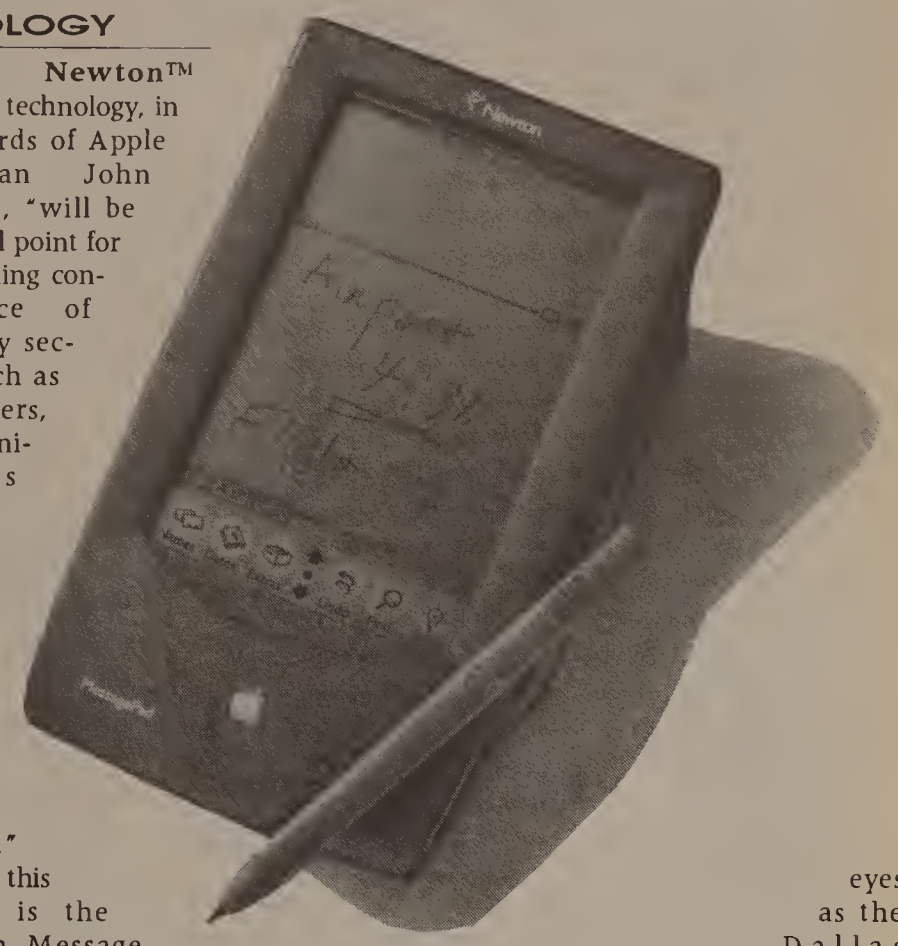
Concert

Depeche Mode. Great Woods, September 10. For one night only, Great Woods will host one of this decade's biggest draws all over the world. For their latest album, England's 80s electronic dance masters have adopted a harder edge that seems to give them more credibility in today's market. Just look at the posters, leather still means rebel. Call 931-2000 to get your tickets well in advance.

Video

A Few Good Men. **Tri-Star Pictures.** Tom Cruise is cast as the maverick hot-shot lawyer with an aversion to court-room conflict, in this military thriller that also stars Demi Moore. Moore and Cruise, along with a team of toadies, put their differences aside and decide to fight an unjust military system, personified by the raucous Jack Nicholson. By the finale, it is truly Nicholson that steals the show away from his brat-pack comrades.

Technology



Apple Newton™ Newton technology, in the words of Apple chairman John Sculley, "will be the focal point for the coming convergence of industry sectors such as computers, communications and consumer electronics." Just out this month is the Newton Message Pad™, a palm sized unit that can actually "learn" the habits of its user and coordinate everything from a corporate takeover to a friend's birthday party. On the horizon are many peripherals – such as internal faxes – that seem to make good on Apple's claims.

Movies

The Fugitive. Directed by Andrew Davis. The finale of the 1960's television series caught almost as many eyes as the Dallas episode that answered the question "Who shot JR..?" Now on the big screen, Harrison Ford stars as the Chicago surgeon Dr. Richard Kimble wrongly accused of his wife's murder, who en route to prison, is freed by a freak accident and frantically hunts his wife's killer. Tommy Lee Jones is the obsessive deputy US. Marshall that will stop at nothing to bring Kimble back dead or alive.



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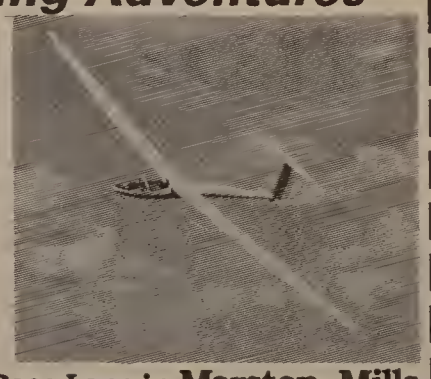
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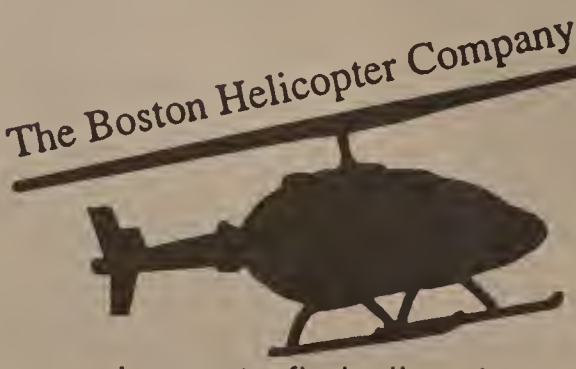
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WEDNESDAY

18 Blues great **Ronnie Earl** gives a 30-minute performance to accompany the screening of **Pride and Joy**, a film featuring concert footage of R & B legends like **Koko Taylor, Lonnie Brooks** and **Elvin Bishop**. The movie was made to celebrate the 20th anniversary of blues label Alligator records. Tickets are $8 and $10. Call 267-9300. Shows at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m.



COMEDIENNE DIANE FORD
Performs August 27 at Nick's Comedy Stop

THURSDAY

19 Reservations just might be required to catch one of the last two performances of the smash musical **Grand Hotel** at the **North Shore Music Theatre** in Beverly. It's about romance in a posh, 1928 hotel in Berlin. Call 1-508-922-8500

FRIDAY

20 Ahoy, mates! **The Boston Seaport Festival** is being held at the **Charlestown Navy Yard** through Aug. 22. Approximately 10-30 vessels, ranging from 25-150 feet in length, will sail into Boston harbor for this event. The boats will be open for tours tomorrow, and there will be entertainment, food and two small regattas. Call 439-7700 for more details.

SATURDAY

21 Come on out to **Tanglewood**, the beautiful outdoor facility in Lenox, Mass., that is the summer home of the **Boston Symphony Orchestra**. The BSO performs **Verdi, Barber** and **Dvorak** tonight at 8:30 p.m. Call 931-2000 for tickets.

SUNDAY

22 Get cultured! Go to **Chinatown** for the 24th annual **August Moon Festival** on Harrison Avenue, Beach Street, Tyler Street and Hudson Street from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free; there will be Asian foods, entertainment, music, dance and arts & crafts. Call 542-2574.

MONDAY

23 The **Publick Theatre**, Inc. will present "An Evening of Cabaret" as their annual fundraising event tonight at 8 p.m. at **Christian Herter Park**. The park is located on the Banks of the Charles River on Soldier's Field Road, directly across from WBZ-TV's studios. Musical selections will include Broadway faves and other popular tunes. Tickets are $15, $20 at the door. Call 782-5425.

TUESDAY

24 The **Maccabi Youth Games** continue at **Brandeis University** through the 26th. More than 1,000 Jewish youth athletes have come to Boston for five days of Olympic competition. Call 341-2016.

WEDNESDAY

25 Check out "The Other Side: A Virtual Reality Arena" at the World Trade Center. Tickets are $7; some rides and attractions are extra. It's the largest gathering of **virtual reality** entrepreneurs this summer. Call 1-800-367-9822 or 439-5000.

THURSDAY

26 **Aerosmith** rocks Great Woods tonight and tomorrow night. They have a new album out, but Steve Tyler and Co. will surely play some old classics as well. Call 931-2000.

FRIDAY

27 Comedienne **Diane Ford**, who has appeared on many televised comedy shows, will be headlining **Nick's Comedy Stop** tonight and tomorrow night at 8:30 &10:30 p.m. She has been nominated "Comedienne of the Year" for the past five years.



ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE
And Boston Police Commissioner Bratton & his wife merely players, guest DJaying in a Closer Walk with Patsy Cline *August 31*

SATURDAY

28 This just in! **Billy Bragg, Natalie Merchant** (former lead singer of 10,000 Maniacs), **Belly and Buffalo Tom** give a benefit concert at **Ft. Adams State** Park in Rhode Island beginning at noon. The performance is called "Shake a Leg," and money will go to help people with spinal cord injuries. Call 931-2000 for tickets or details.

SUNDAY

29 Today is the last day you have to catch the **Great American Yankee Rib Cookoff** on City Hall Plaza. Thirty of the U.S.'s top **BBQ** restaurants set up shop so you can have yourself a **FEAST!**

MONDAY

30 Ramblin' **Jack Elliott, Janis Ian, Roger McGuinn, Joni Mitchell** and **Tom Rush** comé together for an outdoor show, "Troubadours of Folk," at 5 p.m. at **Tanglewood** in Lenox, Mass. Call 931-2000.

TUESDAY

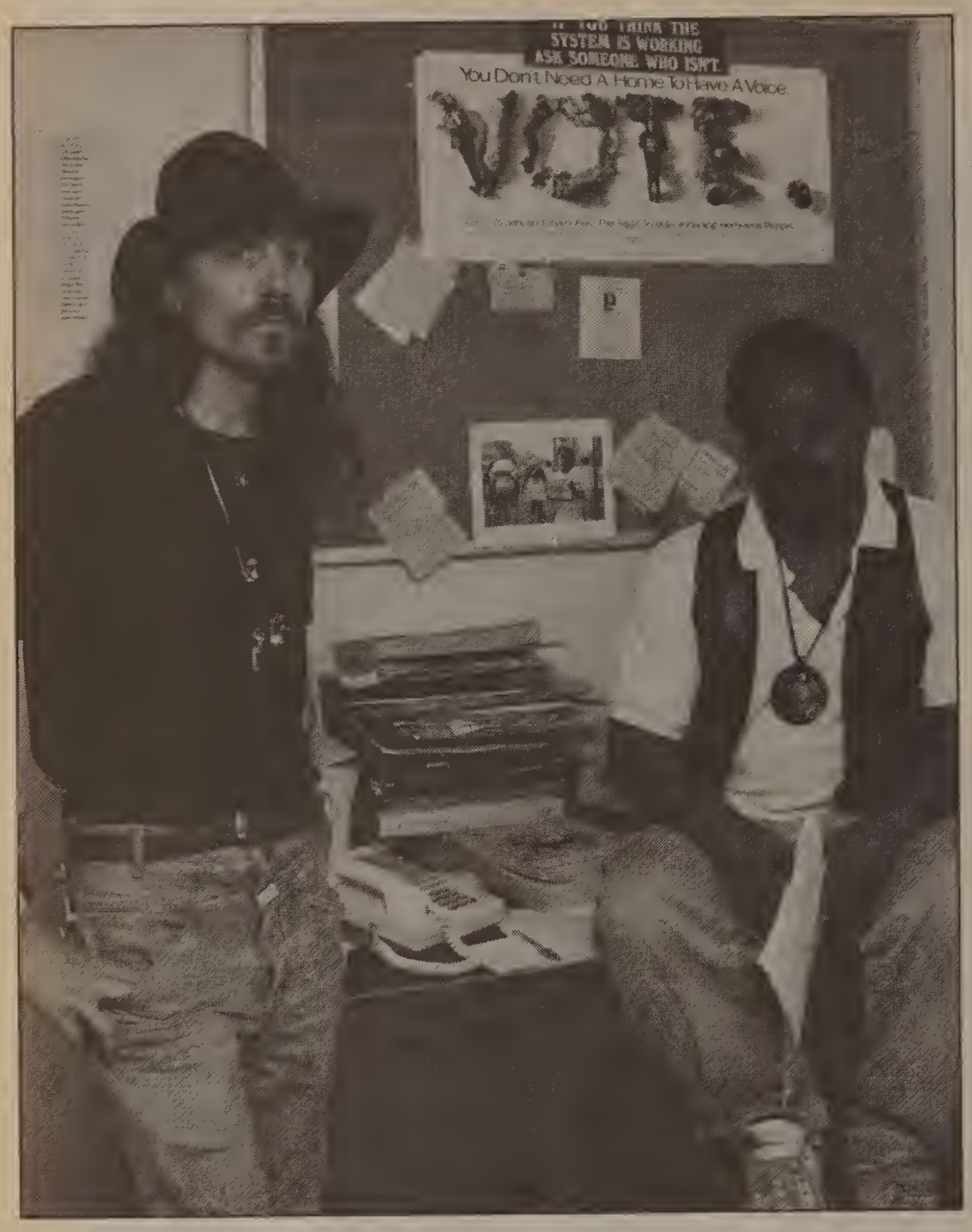
31 Boston Police Chief **William Bratton** and wife are the guest **D.J.s** at tonight's performance of "A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline" at the Charles Playhouse. It's a benefit for the **Police Athletic League**, one of the U.S.'s largest juvenile crime prevention programs. Call 426-6912.



SINGIN' THE BLUES
Ronnie Earl performs August 18 at the screening of pride and joy.

PROFILES

PHOTO BY PAUL PILCHER



Byron Paladin and Jimmy Shearer

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

A Hand Up

We see the acolytes of The Homeless Empowerment Project hawking their newspapers on street corners and at T-stops every day. "Help the homeless help themselves," they sing as they try to sell us awareness and knowledge. How many times have we ignored them, or wanted to buy a copy of *Spare Change* but were afraid of the "homeless beggar" or "street person" who was straight-backed and proud instead of slump-shouldered and weary?

The people of *Spare Change*, the publication "By, Of, and For the Homeless," are determined to educate the public about homelessness. "We're trying to bring the issue of homelessness back to the forefront," states Jimmy Shearer, the managing editor of the newspaper, "Nobody worries about them...it only comes up every Thanksgiving and Christmas."

Jimmy is a warrior. Every day he fights to eliminate the myriad of stereotypes that misrepresent this group of people with which he shared the streets of Boston for 13 years. "We want to show that homeless people, given the economic means, can accomplish things," he states vehemently. "People think we can't put two and two together," adds production manager Byron Paladin, "and that's just not true."

Byron is as his surname is defined: a heroic and knightly champion. He is a homeless veteran who found his way from the streets of Boston to the pages of *Spare Change*. He recalls the days when he used to shine the shoes of privileged Bostonians while he wondered what shelter he would be sleeping in that night. Like his editor, Byron knows firsthand that the line that divides the homeless from the rest of the population is a thin one. "You can take everybody from every level of society," he says from beneath his signature black leather hat, "and you will find a homeless person who has been in their shoes."

Spare Change has gone through a metamorphosis since its debut on May 7, 1992. What started out as a personalized journal of the homeless in Boston has grown into a respectable investigative publication. Both Jimmy and Byron, who have been with the newspaper since its inception, agree that they have a distinct advantage to be "working" for *Spare Change* rather than "bumming" spare change.

"25 years down the road, when people talk about the homeless movement, I want them to talk about *Spare Change*," Jimmy says about his goals for the paper, "I want us to be a major influence."

Catherine Silirie

BY NICOLE L. MILLS

The Days of Wine and Roses

If you hear Cat (Catherine) Silirie say "Great legs." around you, she's probably not talking about yours. At 29, Cat is one of only three women sommeliers (that's wine steward, to the unwashed) in the city. In her position at Rocco's restaurant on Charles Street South, she selects and buys the wines for the extensive wine list that accompanies Rocco's Northern Italian menu. How did she make the decision to become a cave dweller, so to speak? There's no formal training involved in becoming a sommelier, but Cat, who had been working in restaurants since she was fourteen, just started to gravitate towards the liquid side of the restaurant business. "I was just a firefly in a jar all through college," she smiles, "Trying to find something that interested me. Wine fascinated me."

She worked at Grille 23 for two years before joining owners Patrick and Jane Bowe at Rocco's, a theater district hot spot. Although many patrons are slightly surprised to have a sommelier on premises to help them with their choice and answer questions about vintages and accompaniments, Cat believes that they are pleased that "Someone cares and is selecting the wine, and knows about the food. If you go out to dinner, and you know the chef is preparing something special, you want to think that there's a special wine to go with it. I love the gratification of bringing wine to the table."

In choosing Rocco's wine list (which carries over 90 labels), Cat aims for an extensive variety, but she is definitely "Gearing up to have an all-Italian wine list. There are so many regions in Italy, it's like separate countries. People think Italian wine and they think Chianti, but there's much more."

She is also working on developing a wine list for the Harvest restaurant in Harvard Square, which the Bowes recently bought, and she "Keep[s] bugging Patrick to open a wine bar. I want to call it 'Miss Kitty's Wine Bar,' and offer everything imaginable."

Asked about her own personal favorite wine, she says "It's the variety I love." She laughs, "I have to have a little white wine before I have my red wine."

As sommelier, Cat informs the customer about wine, and simplifies the selection process. But she doesn't want to bring wine down to a pedestrian level. "Restaurateurs are always saying that we have to 'demystify' wine. To me, wine is the most mysterious and poetic thing."



LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

Design Industries Foundation for AIDS

By Linda Ventura

Today's sobering reality is that we are eleven years into the AIDS epidemic, with no cure in sight. And if there is one crucial thing that we have learned from these eleven years is that regardless of who is in the White House, it is the community-based AIDS service organizations across the country that will continue to be on the front lines in the battle against AIDS and HIV illness. One of the greatest vanguards of community-based AIDS service is DIFFA.

Founded in 1984 by textile designers Pat Green and Larry Pond, Design Industries Foundation for AIDS (DIFFA) was established to raise funds for AIDS/HIV programs throughout the United States. DIFFA originally began with volunteers from the fields of interior design, furnishings, and architecture, but now has expanded to include the efforts of all sectors of the design world, including fashion, graphics, textiles, industrial, and tabletop. It is this creative mixture of volunteered talents that, according to event co-chair Marilyn Stahl, makes DIFFA so uniquely successful.

This broad-based support makes DIFFA the only national industry-based foundation that responds, through the awarding of grants, to the wide range of needs presented by HIV illness and AIDS. DIFFA's principle activity is to raise and distribute funds to AIDS organizations and projects nationwide, making it first and foremost a grant giving foundation. DIFFA has funded more than $17 million in grants to a range of up to 800 organizations and programs in 48 states that have responded in direct and innovative ways to the needs of people with HIV and AIDS. These grants are carefully awarded in periodic granting cycles to organizations that "provide direct services to people with HIV and AIDS illness; foster awareness and prevention through education and outreach programs; and promote public policy and advocacy initiatives."

Although DIFFA has nationally responded to the AIDS epidemic, it is unique for its community level organization and direct focus on local needs. The Foundation's policy requires that at least 85% of all monies raised by the steering committees stay in their locale to support AIDS services and community education. The remaining monies are contributed to the national grants pool, which permits DIFFA to make awards in communities without steering committees, and to fund state and national AIDS organizations.

With branches located in 14 major cities across the nation including Boston, DIFFA raises funds with the help of its strong volunteer base at local and national levels through various fund-raising efforts, including special events, merchandising, and direct solicitation. In addition, the Foundation has broken new grounds and untapped funds by developing marketing strategies that raise grant dollars through company sponsored programs. Such programs are tailored to meet individual corporate needs and are a mechanism for companies to actively support the fight against AIDS and HIV illness by designating a percentage of sales on specific products and campaigns. Some businesses have used their design and marketing skill to create products whose profits are wholly or in part contributed to DIFFA.

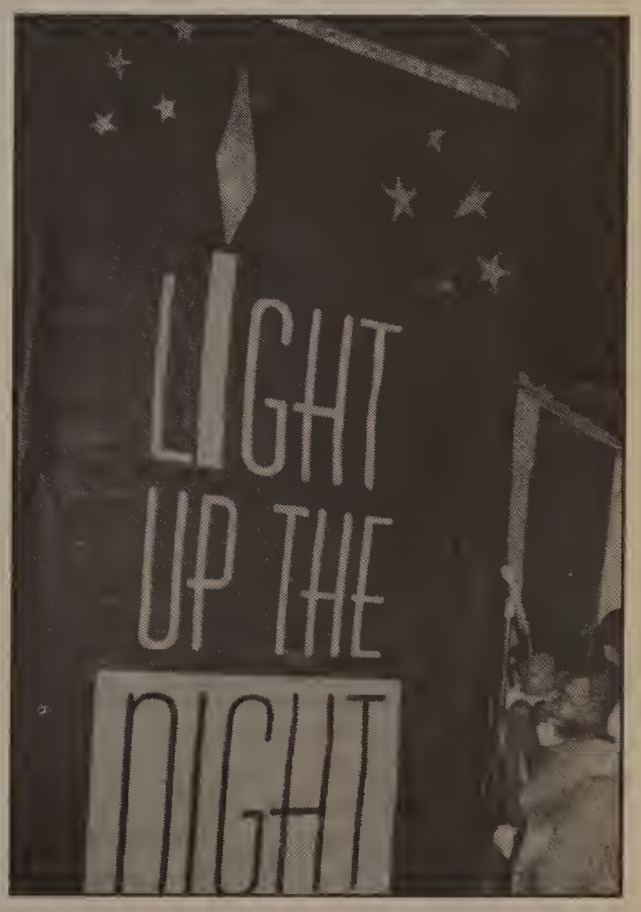
In return, DIFFA services its professional community by providing general AIDS information and education to firms, associations, and individuals through print materials, presentations, and referrals.

Major fundraising efforts in the past have included DIFFA's two national tours, "Heart Strings" and "An Event in Three Acts," designed to help communities raise money for their own local service providers and at the same time, serve as educational programs that heighten awareness about AIDS and HIV illness.

Future fundraisers look towards "Arts in Boston" in October, the Dallas Collection in December, that will feature denim jackets revamped and recreated by major designers, and DIFFA's signature event: Celebration '93 on Wednesday, September 22nd at the Roxy. Marilyn Stahl states that this glamorous $200 a plate dinner benefit is "a collaboration of Boston's top designers who will transform each table setting (and even the furniture itself) into a work of art uniquely their own." Proceeds from these events will help fund future grants in efforts to maintain the awareness that everyone is living with AIDS and everyone has to be part of the solution. As the DIFFA slogan so poignantly states: "We are all affected – even if we are not all infected."



Marilyn Stahl (center) founder of Light Up the Night, with Suzanne April & Steven Oleira.



Lighting Up Copley Square last Saturday. *See page 16.*

For more information on how you can become a part of future activities contact **DIFFA /Boston** at **(617) 261-0234** or **(617) 964-8680** or write to DIFFA, One Design Center Place, Suite 642, Boston, MA 02210.

DIFFA
Design Industries Foundation for AIDS



Suitable Alternatives

What To Do When You Don't Want To Work

Here's a wonderful story of American freedom and independence. Once upon a time, would-be author Sherwood Anderson was running a large and wildly profitable paint factory in Elyria, Ohio, when one day he had a breakdown in the middle of dictating a letter – in fact, in the middle of a sentence about product quality – and just stood up, looked at his secretary, and said, "I have been wading in a long river and my feet are wet." He walked out of the office and headed east towards Cleveland and never returned. A beautiful story, except that he headed towards Cleveland. When it comes to fleeing work for a day of self-indulgence, we have some better suggestions.

the Great Outdoors

Revere Beach
Plum Island
Provincetown
Mt. Monadnock
Concord
Arnold Arboretum

Beaches, islands, and mountains are all obviously high on anyone's list of get-away spots. New England offers a regular smorgasbord of beaches, the extremes being the heavily populated Revere Beach, and the nature sanctuary on Plum Island. The choice essentially boils down to this: Do you prefer to watch the



mating rituals of terns, or those of people from north suburban Boston? Revere Beach is close to the city, and the action can be quite lively, especially when you throw in a few hundred gallons of tanning oil. Nature lovers at Plum Island, while enjoying nature in its glory, might also have to endure observing a few fish gasping in the oil-slicks (not the tanning variety).

Plum Island, located up near Newburyport (a lovely old town in itself!) features an amiably desolate coastline, with hissing grass and unselfconscious sea birds. It seems much more remote than it is – but it's best to get there early, since the number of cars allowed on the island is restricted when various protected birds are mating.

For those who want something somewhere between these two beach extremes—both geographically and atmospherically—you might look into Wingersheek Beach near Gloucester off Route 128. You'll find other bathers at Wingersheek, building sand castles and chortling blithely at the open spaces, and unlike Revere, you won't feel like you are watching a badly-cast teen exploitation film.

Many people migrate down to Cape Cod or the South Shore. If you leave early enough, you can drive or catch a boat, and still make it a day trip. The Cape and environs can be a mixed experience. On the good side, there are clam shacks. Throw aside your no-grease diet and make that hedonistic belly-flop into a Clam'n'Onion Boat. Feel that cataract of cholesterol pouring down your chin. Wear a bulky yellow rain slicker to protect your pants. There are also good Cape Cod things like Provincetown, which features a nice selection of small art galleries that welcome browsers, especially during the periodic festivals that are held throughout the summer. The work displayed ranges from the cutting-edge to more traditional paintings of little sea-side shacks, rotting skiffs, and other picturesque insurance liabilities. Provincetown is charming, if somewhat aware of the fact. Unfortunately, many places on the Cape are somewhat less charming than they think. It is possible to die of a surfeit of saltwater taffy without ever eating a bite.

If you are a mountain person rather than a beach person, head north to the New Hampshire mountains. Mt. Monadnock is only about an hour and a half from Boston (Route 3 North to Route 101A to Route 101, look for signs). Monadnock is a geological term meaning solitary mountain; climb up the mount, and it will be just you and the view, featuring bold vistas of distant mountains, rainstorms in Vermont, and even Boston sparkling like a little gem off in the distance on a clear day. You'll feel the tickling of the sublime and you'll want to stand on a cliff and recite Wordsworth or pee all the way down (depending on what makes you feel most on top of the world), and you'll get some fine exercise while you're at it.

If you go out to Concord, MA, you can rent a canoe at the South Bridge Boathouse (508-369-9438), and paddle silently up the Concord River towards historical Old North Bridge, though it is now politically noxious to pretend you are Hiawatha. The Buttrick Mansion, which overlooks the river's lazy meandering, has some beautiful topiary gardens and, inside, a model of the Battle of Old north Bridge which looks just like the real thing, except the people are about an inch tall,but some visitors probably won't even notice.

Boston itself offers any number of daytime delights for those fleeing the grindstone. Those longing for a whiff of old Europe can wander around the north end through the ancient mottled brick streets. Secluded restaurants offer rich, authentic cuisine. Graying postcards from half-remembered relatives dot the walls. Old men hunched at tables hum arias from *Rigoletto*. And yet, the place is very real.

Romantics might enjoy a ramble through the Arnold Arboretum, a well-molded botanical garden just south of the city, dotted with pleasant groves, perfect for an afternoon's wander. Modernists might enjoy a stroll through the wharf district, flanked by vistas of corroding iron, industrial chasms, and seagulls tearing at carrion, or small children's popcorn, if no carrion is to be found

the Great Indoors

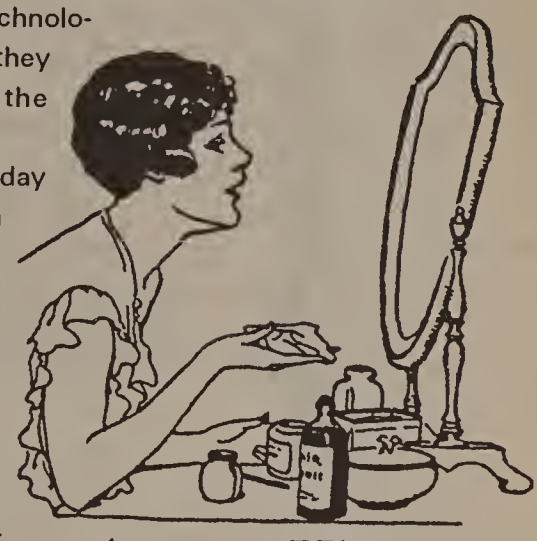
If you're determined to stay out of the sun—if you burn easily, for instance, or if you are one of those people hysterically convinced that even roll-on deodorants decimate the ozone layer, or perhaps, you think that a tan would be just too much incriminating evidence that you skipped work to frolic— then there are any number of things you can do indoors. These have the added attraction that you aren't as likely to be spotted by co-workers on a lunch break.

A dark movie theater is guaranteed to throw them off the scent. You'll avoid that embarrassing one-day-flu-tan. Matinee movies are usually several dollars cheaper that the evening showings, and it's easier to find a seat during the day (unless you insist on going to a Care Bears double feature). Almost all the larger theaters in Boston offer matinees; for blockbuster films, you might try the Cheri, the Circle Cinemas, or any of the Loews branches. For more of an emphasis on people in starched collars saying bitter things in Gothic settings, you might try the Nickelodeon or Janus. If you enjoy the alternative theatre scene, you might look into the Coolidge Corner and Somerville Theatres, which are often running fascinating film festivals 'round the clock—everything from Looney Tunes re-runs to surreal Italians crying their woes on fish-back. Events like the Animation Festival, the Science Fiction Film Festival, and the general Boston Film Festival are undoubtedly worth missing work for.

A browse through a book or record store can lend a pleasant, *parasseux* air to a free day. Make it a sensual experience. Linger over your choice of beach reading. Inhale the scent to fine inks and sturdy paper. Run your fingers over the puffy covers of romances, the pearly jackets of post-modern novellas. Sing out the back-cover blurbs to the tunes of favorite hymns, but maybe sort of quietly. A bookstore like Waterstone's, with wide aisles and fixtures out of a Sargent painting is perfect for an afternoon's browsing, or you might want to try excellent discount stores like the Wordsworth and Barillari Bookstores in Harvard Square, full of eclectic and underpriced treasures.

Boston and Cambridge offer any number of used bookstores, where the selection is more apt to be eccentric, but admirably suited to a slow meander through the stacks. The Harvard Book Store on Mass Ave. sells both new and used books. Because of the university population, the selection is an odd mix of wordy theories on justice and romping tales of the undead. The Avenue Victor Hugo Bookshop, which theoretically stresses the latter, is in fact marvelously well-rounded, with an extensive and very intelligently organized stock of all types of used books. The place also has a pleasant atmosphere; on the walls hang picture-portraits of Woolf and Joyce and yellowed newspaper clipping of obscure and murky meaning. From the stereo drifts the crooning of forgotten show-tunes croaked by a woman who smoked when the Weimar Republic was young; and in the horror stacks sits a copy of the *Necronomicon,* quietly eating through the woodwork. The proprietor and staff are highly knowledgeable. Also worth mentioning is the Brattle Book Shop, which is tucked away near Lafayette Plaza, and which also offers a wide selection of used books on every conceivable topic, and a few inconceivable ones as well. Their buck-a-book carts outside are worth scavenging through if you have a little time, which undoubtedly you will, since you're skipping work anyway.

If you want to devour your book purchases on the site while sipping something cold—a reasonable idea on a lazy afternoon—you night remember the Harvard Bookstore Cafe on Newbury Street. And if you find yourself looking around shiftily to see if any co-workers are coming, you might think about relocating to the Bookcellar Cafe near Porter Square. In the underground cafe, you'll be safe from most surveillance technology. In keeping with the general theme, they host underground poetry readings in the evenings.



Avenue Victor Hugo

Bookcellar Cafe

Newbury Street 'Do

Finally, you can spend your stolen day grooming. We needn't dwell at length on the pleasures of reading comic books in a bubble bath. But to really do it right, you should splurge and put yourself in the hands of a professional. A leisurely haircut, manicure, pedicure, facial, or upper body massage can be had at any of the swank salons that line Newbury Street's gilded sidewalks. The "technicians" will eagerly perform strange, ritualistic acts on your head. Enjoy the shampoo, the fingers in your hair, and the murmured club gossip. Nap while the scissors tickle your forehead and the razor purrs against the nape of the neck. Don't do it because you want your hair shorter or bigger. Do it because you can. This is your day of liberation. True decadence is not getting your hair styled and going out to dance and be seen; true decadence is listening to your stylist whoop, "Looks beautiful! And where will you be going this evening?" while you reply,"Nowhere. I'm staying at home in the dark and eating Weaver's chicken and mashed spuds with my hands."

So see some of New England, enjoy the American experience and some unusual American virtues. Walking away from your job is not laziness or cowardice. It's an assertion of your natural independence. It's just that "Go East, young man!" spirit which drove Sherwood Anderson from his paint factory. What could be more American than that? Working is practically treason.

- M.T. Anderson

Shirking Work—A Few Good Reasons

It's hard to throw off the yoke. You moan and make up excuses. You cringe at the thought of sarcastic secretaries and blustering overseers. So we've thought it prudent to remind you of just a few of the reasons why you deserve a break today.

- *Summertime. The living is easy.*
- *You'll have to take the Red Line.*
- *Fish are jumping and the cotton is high.*
- *Your boss invites you into to his office wearing chaps and calling you "Miss Lucy."*
- *The climate is revolting, and you feel that you're wrapped in sweaty cellophane, sometimes even when you aren't.*
- *You discover you have secretly hoarding paper clips, and singing to them.*
- *The corn is as high as an elephant's eye, and it looks like it's reaching right up to the sky.*
- *Your predecessor wasn't promoted. She lives on top of a mountain, prophesies, and eats slugs.*
- *Surf's up.*
- *The birds are tweedling in the trees.*
- *Everyone at work hates you and makes statues of you with nails stuck in them.*
- *The sky is blue and the breeze is delicious..*
- *Someday worm will eat your flesh, and it won't really matter much anyways.*

So have fun.

Comedy / Ross Garmil

JOKELESS WONDER?

". . .Not that Miller is indecisive, it is simply that he does not wish to rule out any argument. . ."

Larry Miller is a thoughtful man. Larry Miller is an intelligent man. Larry Miller is a talented man. Larry Miller is a confusing man. He considers both sides of any issue. He understands both sides of any issue. He agrees with both sides of any issue.

This is not to say that Miller is weak-willed and cannot decide what he believes. He does decide. He decides rather decisively. The problem (well, it's not really a problem (however it does make for a difficult situation, so it would seem to be problematic (on the other hand, it is not like the situation cannot be overcome, it's not as if Miller needs to go to a meeting of Indecisives Anonymous (but then again – nah, forget it!))))) is not that Miller is indecisive, it is simply that he does not wish to rule out any argument.

This attitude helps him deliver his form of humor, which is, for the most part, a catalog of how he views the world. This does not mean that his humor is confusing, but instead his style is thoughtful. In the true spirit of observationalist humor, Miller finds aspects of life that interest him, and he climbs up on stage and reports on these aspects in a humorous manner. Miller himself admits, "If you know my work, you know that there are really no jokes there."

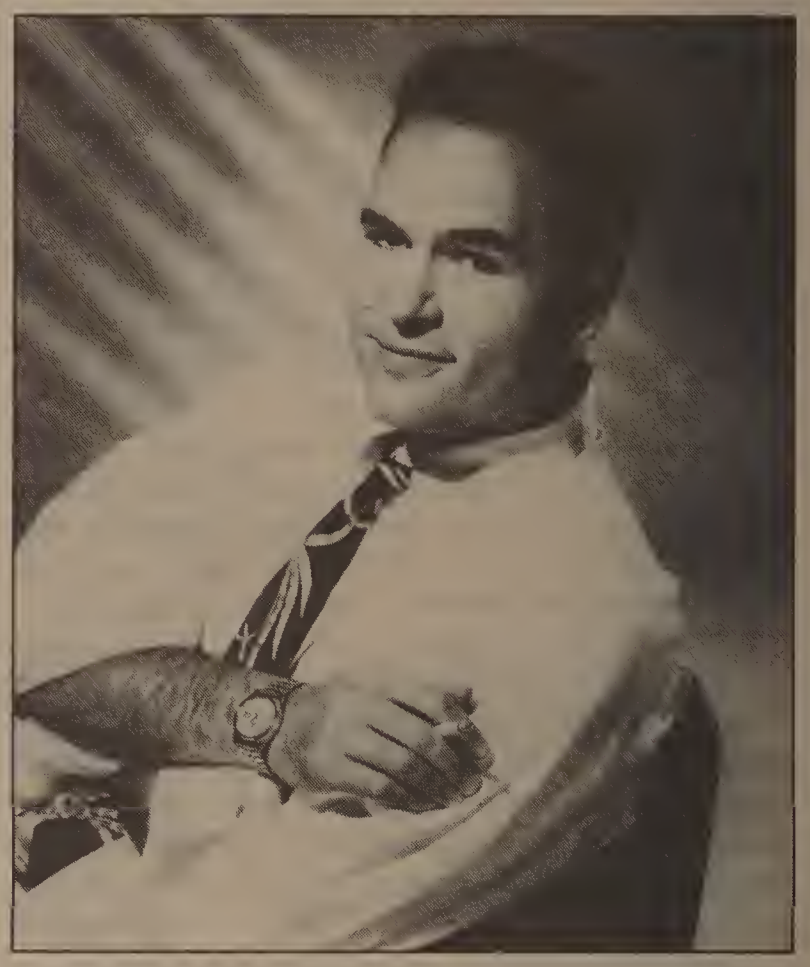
IF YOU GO

LARRY MILLER

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston
248-9700
Fri., Aug. 20, $14. Sat., Aug. 21 $15
Shows at 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.
(Wheelchair Accessible)

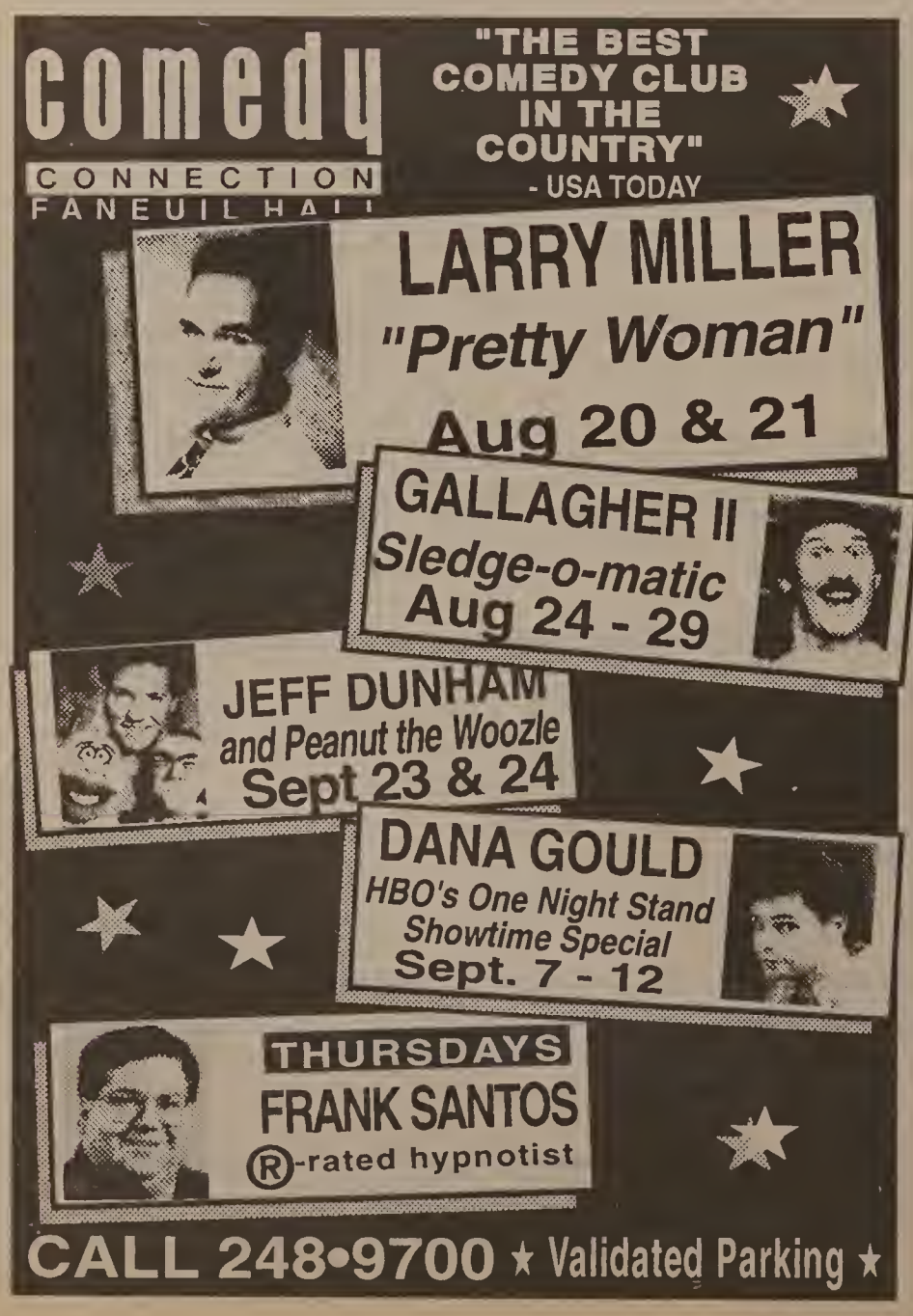
Miller enjoys writing and performing equally, and prefers to have all of his material precisely organized before performing it. So does that mean that once the material is written to his satisfaction it is never adapted, or does it continually evolve over time? "Well," Miller explains, "Both, oddly enough. And that's not contradictory, really." All right, if that's the way he wants it. When he performs, would he consider his material to be observations held by Miller himself, or by a character played by a comic? The comedian responds, "Again, it's hard to be objective." And he backs up his claim by asserting, "To me, that's a direct answer." Well, then, what do you do in order to get a more direct answer? Ask a more direct question. Would Miller consider himself to be a dog person or a cat person? Once again, Miller says, "I'm answering honestly when I say both. I mean, who doesn't love a kitten? You see a kitten and you say, 'Oh, it's a kitten.' On the other hand who doesn't like a dog, because you see one and you say, 'Oh, it's a dog.'"

"Sometimes I think I've missed a great career in the foreign services," Miller contemplates, "because it's a sincerely honest answer to me to say, 'Well, it's both, actually.'"



TO BE OR NOT TO BE? *Maybe.*
Larry Miller, in the true spirit of observationalist humor.

But even if he has Clinton-esque trouble taking sides on some issues, Miller is certain that he is happy as a performer. When it comes down to the basics, Miller enjoys performing his stand-up in the relaxed atmosphere of comedy clubs. When push comes to shove and we must face our judgment and discover who we really are, Miller already knows. "I'm a joke teller," he says, plain and simple. But, didn't he say before that his comedy doesn't really contain jokes? Is he a joke teller or isn't he? Which is it? Well, it's both, actually. ❑



CLUBS AND SHOWTIMES

CATCH A RISING STAR AT THE CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
C6, 76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737.
This legendary comedy club has a new location, but has not changed in bringing top rate performers to Boston. Located in the Charles Playhouse, Boston's oldest remaining home of standup comedy. Every Mon. thru Wed.: Live music from regional bands. Every Thu. at 8:30p.m.: TheComedy Lab. Every Sun. at 7:30p.m.: Comedy Underground. Admission $7-$12.
Fri. 8/20 & Sat. 8/21- Matt Graham, Sam Seder, Jonathon Katz. Fri. 8/27 & Sat. 8/28- Tom Gilmore, Jim McCue, Bo Smithson.

THE COMEDY CONNECTION AT FANEUIL HALL
248-9700.
Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating, their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall, there is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Every Sun at 9:30: Black Comedy Showcase. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 8/18- Mike McDonald. Thu. 8/19- FrankSantos. Fril 8/20 & Sat. 8/21- Steve Hurley, Larry Miller. Sun. 8/22 7p.m.- Rich Ciesler. Mon. 8/23- Kevin Knox, Jackie Flynn. Tue 8/24 thru Sun. 8/29 8p.m.- Gallager 2 "The Living Sequel." Mon. 8/20- Kevin Knox, Greg Carey. Tue. 8/31- D.J. Hazard, Greg Carey.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY HUT AT AKU AKU
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422.
Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $8. Always packed and second hand smoky.
Fri. 8/20 & Sat. 8/21- Jeff meisler, Brian Frazer. Fri. 8/27& Sat. 8/28- Sue Bartlett, Brian Longwell.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT AT REMINGTON'S
124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626.
This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 9:30p.m. Admission $10.
Fri. 8/20 & Sat. 8/21- "Boston's Best" Comedy Showcase. Fri. 8/27 & Sat. 8/28- Bob Gautreau.

NICK'S COMEDY STOP,
100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930.
A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.

STITCHES,
835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995.
Stitches is closed for renovations. It will reopen with a bang after Labor Day.

Stage Notes / Nancy Leonard

Clowning Around

The Circus(es) are coming to town

The American Repertory Theatre is hosting the return of **"Le Cirque Invisible,"** from August 17 through September 5. This mini-entertainment, delightfully mixing comedy, acrobatics, animal acts, magic, and theatrical fantasy, is performed by a versatile three-person company – Victoria Chaplin, Jean Baptiste Thierrée, and their son, James Spencer Thierrée – who have just completed a critically acclaimed world-wide tour. For tickets and information, call the ART box office: 547-8300.

Fun With the Sun

On a much larger scale, the Montreal based **Cirque du Soleil** is bringing its new show, **"Saltimbanco,"** to Boston's Fan Pier, September 9 through 19. This is the celebrated company's first time in this city, and they're setting up their own blue and yellow circus tent on Northern Avenue, next to the World Trade Center, to accommodate more than 40 performers, a theatrical set, and seats for 2500 spectators.

In a recent interview, on the day after a hectic opening night in Chicago, Artistic Director Gilles Ste. Croix spoke ardently about the company and the show. The production is grounded in circus and theatrical arts, where athletics, music, costumes, and a conceptual theme magically blend into an entertainment for all ages. "Saltimbanco," which is an old Italian word for "street performers," began with the inspiration of urban life, and built upon unifying concerns of family and community. The individual circus acts – featuring acrobats, trapeze artists, contortionists, etc. – are tailored to fit in with the general theme. "Saltimbanco," Mr. Ste.-Croix emphasized, "has something for everyone," – and he's constantly surprised by the public's positive reaction.

For tickets, call the Cirque du Soleil's local box office at 426-0611 or ticketmaster at 931-2000.

Shakespeare Express

The **Shenandoah Shakespeare Express,** a 12-member professional touring company, is presenting **Anthony and Cleopatra, Romeo and Juliet,** and **A Midsummer Night's Dream,** in repertory at the BCA Theater, Boston Center for the Arts, through August 22. The "young and lively company," based in Harrisonburg, Virginia, dedicates itself to contemporary, uncluttered productions of Shakespeare, and tries to stage its shows under the specified set of conditions with which the author designed them. For information, call 426-5000.

Hughie

Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, Rhode Island, is celebrating its 30th birthday with a special appearance by **Jason Robards** as Erie Smith in Eugene O'Neill's **Hughie** for one week only, August 17 through August 22. The renowned American actor originated the role and received a Tony nomination for it in 1965. For further information, call 401-351-4242.

A Funny Thing. . .

A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum concludes the season at the open-air Publick Theater on Soldiers' Field Road in Boston. Artistic Director Spiro Beloudos is playing the lead role of the conniving servant Pseudolus, whose efforts to win his freedom by gaining a bride for his master propel this riotous musical adventure.

A Grand Performance

The musical **Grand Hotel** plays at the North Shore Music Theater in Beverly through August 21. Cyd Charisse is recreates her Broadway replacement role as Elizaveta Grushinskaya, the aging ballerina at the end of her career. Keith Rice, who appeared in last year's Phantom (the Arthur Kopit/Maury Yeston version, which was lavishly praised by its Beverly audiences) plays her lover, the Baron. For tickets and information, call 508-922-8500.

If you Missed the Show

Miss Saigon has been extended at the Wang Center through October 9.



SUN DANCE: *The Montreal Based* Cirque du Soleil *will be bringing its new show* Saltimbanco *to Fan Pier September 9 through 19.*



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Boston's Best Japanese Restaurants



Gyuhama Of Japan
827 Boylston St.
(Opposite the Prudential Center)
437-0188

Gyosai
MarketPlace Ctr.
Faneuil Hall
345-0942

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

AMERICAN HEART
★★

This low-budget, independent feature restores to cinema the off-beat, gritty Seattle of yore before the city became synonymous with single, sleepless yuppies crying into their Starbuck's cappuccino. Unfortunately it turns Seattle's unhappy street life into a freak show. Jack Kelson (Jeff Bridges), a stringy-haired and tattooed ex-con who's out on parole, tries to walk the straight line in Seattle so he can make it to Alaska. But he's stuck with a job washing windows, a not very helpful ex-partner, and a round-the-clock conscience: his 15-year-old son. While there's something ever-potent in the story of a motherless, wise-before-his-time boy trying to domesticate his erratic, irresponsible dad, the film alternates between having no plot or suddenly, too much plot and a stupid one at that.

G.PEARY

ANOTHER STAKEOUT
★★

The government wants her to testify. A notorious Chicago crime family wants her dead. Or is it the other way around? With a film this forgettable it hardly matters. When assistant D.A. Rosie O'Donnell sets up house with cops Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez in a stakeout to find the missing woman, the result is a lot of amusing bickering "All In The Family" style. Double agents, double takes, and double-entendres make up the [illegible] of this muddled but ambitious gun-in-cheek story. With few real action/suspense scenes, [illegible] relies heavily on the antics and banter of [illegible]tched trio, which are good but in the [illegible]gh.

M.R.D'ENTREMONT

[illegible]ADS

[illegible]ducer Lorne Michaels recruits almost the entire cast of *Saturday Night Live* for this extended comedy sketch. As with the NBC show, the scenes range from riotous to bland. After a crash landing, the Coneheads, Beldar (Dan Aykroyd) and Prymaat (Jane Curtin), make the best of suburbia among the "bluntskulls" in Paramus, NJ. Life is surprisingly human: they run the family business, face marital problems, and help their teenage daughter through school and dating. On Saturdays they relax and "consume mass quantities" at the backyard barbecue. Curiously, no one seems to mind their cone heads: the community accepts them as the ideal family. If only people in real life could be so open-minded.

M.R.D'ENTREMONT

THE FIRM
★★

Hotshot Harvard Law School grad Mitch McDeere (Tom Cruise) makes a deal with the devil and to extricate himself goes up against his new law firm, the Mafia, and the FBI. Director Sydney Pollack establishes character and motive with declsive sledgehammer blows, but there's little build-up and suspense. The movie aspires to literary heights but only succeeds at seeming pretentlous. What lively moments it has are thanks to a motley assortment of quirky low-lives: Gary Busey as a good-natured private eye, Holly Hunter as a good-hearted tootsle; David Strathairn as Mitch's droll jailbird brother Ray, and Ed Harris as a bullying, hot-headed FBI agent.

K.WILSON

THE FUGITIVE
★★★

The Fugitive is quintessential Harrison Ford. No one cracks nervous jokes while under fire quite the way Ford does, and since the part of Doctor Kimble, the film's protagonist, calls for a lot of that, it fits Ford like a glove. As the falsely convicted killer of his beloved wife, he wins our sympathy. As the escapee pursuing his wife's killer, he wins our admiration. And as a daredevil fugitive who risks life and limb to evade hard-headed but good-humored lawman Tommy Lee Jones, he wins our attention. Our attention drifts though, as the spectacular action/chase scenes are replaced by dry details of Kimble's investigation. We are too prepared for the ending, which winds down in trite anti-climactic fight scenes.

M.R.D'ENTREMONT

IN THE LINE OF FIRE
★★★★

Wolfgang Peterson directs this exciting, coherent, and often humorous action thriller starring Clint Eastwood as Secret Service Agent Frank Horrigan, a "borderline burnout with questionable social skills" who still feels guilty that he didn't protect JFK that day in Dallas. Frank gets a second chance compliments of rogue CIA operative and would-be-Presidential-assassin Mitch Leary (John Malkovich) who engages Frank in a game of cat and mouse. Renee Russo is good as career Secret Service Agent Lilly Raines and Frank's love interest. Almost over-the-hill Frank is less believable as Lily's love interest even if he does adore jazz, play the piano and grin disarmingly after making chauvinist remarks.

K.WILSON

JURASSIC PARK
★★★

Forget character development. Forget plot. Even the scary parts – and there are many – don't go over the top. The dinosaurs rule *Jurassic Park*, and they are amazing. They look real. The only entertaining humans are Dennis (Wayne Knight), a treacherous, whiny computer genius responsible for the dinosaurs running amuck in Jurassic Park and a greedy, cowardly lawyer (Martin Ferraro) who deserves to be turned into dinosaur food. If you wish lawyers were an extinct species, you'll enjoy director Steven Spielberg's visual lawyer joke. The talents of Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum as scientists are utterly wasted.

K.WILSON

ORLANDO
★

Virginia Woolf's *Orlando*, about the time-traveling adventures of a man, who awakens transformed into a woman, is more engaging than its original readers would concede. *Orlando* the movie is empty, empty, despite the poetic passages and ethereal cinematography and the heaps of devotees who find Consequence and Importance just at the places where Woolf's readers found all style and no content. Potter can't direct and, worse for the high humor of Woolf's *Orlando*, she certainly can't direct comedy. On the other hand, Quentin Crisp, pioneering gay activist for *The Naked Civil Servant*, makes a prim and perfectly rouged Queen Elizabeth I.

G. PEARY

SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE
★★

No trouble sleeping here. A young boy from Seattle, Jonah Baldwin (Ross Malinger), phones a radlo talk show and says his widowed dad needs a new wife. A woman in Baltimore, Annie Reed (Meg Ryan), becomes obsessed with the young caller and his father Sam (Tom Hanks) and realizes that she and her fiancé are mismatched. The premise is clever but the plot is rehashed. We get two hours of amusing, but all-too-familiar, "Will they (meet) or won't they?" Annie loses interest in her fiancé because there are no surprises in their relatlonship. Ditto our reaction to this movie. Still, Hanks and Ryan are great. Maybe next time they could do *two* scenes together.

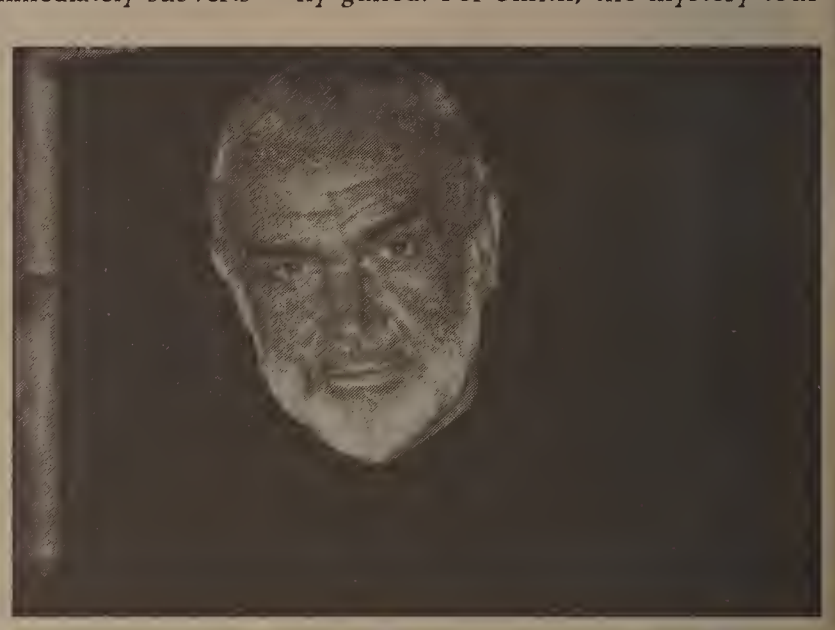
M.R.D'ENTREMONT

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

SEAN ALSO RISES

"...Far from indulging in Japan bashing, the movie portrays the Japanese as worthy adversaries..."

Rising Sun opens definitively with a warrior's cry, a drum beat, and bold, red *Kanji* characters. A declaration of war? No, director Philip Kaufman is playing with us. He indulges our expectations that the movie version of Michael Crichton's novel will be a white hat versus black belt, U.S.-Japanese knockdown-dragout fight, then immediately subverts them with a jumble of East-meets-Western video images that recall Akira Kurosawa's *Yojimbo* (about a sword-slinging samurai for hire) and Sergio Leone's spaghetti Western *Fistful of Dollars* (which was based on *Yojimbo*). We're in a karaoke bar and a cool young Japanese man, and his two cool, back-up thugs sing *Don't Fence Me In*, the lyrics "Give me land, lots of land..." an ironic commentary on our own past and Japan's present Eastward Ho economic expansion. To the mix, Kaufman adds a beautiful, slinky woman in a black, strapless dress who resembles the ravishing Rita Hayworth from *Gilda*. The woman walks out on the young man. He follows and threatens her. The two drive off in his expensive red sports car.



Sempai-Fi: *Sean Connery asLAPD Special Services Liason and self proclaimed* sempai *(teacher / elder) John Connor.*

The scene is fast, slick, confusing, and intriguing. It's riddled with clues about who's who and what's to come. Remarkably Kaufman keeps it up for the rest of the movie, engaging us while he confounds us.

IF YOU GO

RISING SUN

★★★

DIRECTED BY: Philip Kaufman.
SCREENPLAY BY: Philip Kaufman, Michael Crichton and Michael Backes.
Based on the book by Michael Crichton.

Soon the beautiful blonde is sprawled on the Nakamoto Corporation's boardroom table. Is her death an accident (kinky sex gone awry) or murder? Does it have anything to do with Japanese attempts to acquire the U.S.-based MicroCon Corporation? Is she a victim of Japanese gang warfare? (Figuring out the gang relationships is nearly impossible.) Nothing is as it appears. Advanced Japanese laser disk technology holds the key to the so-called truth, even as it conceals it.

The movie is less a whodunit than a Japanese mystery tour set in L.A. with semi-retired LAPD special services liaison officer John Connor (Sean Connery) as guide. A self-proclaimed *sempai* (teacher/elder), Connor teaches by example and interprets the meaning and nuances of Japanese behavior and protocol for fellow-officer and *kohai* (acolyte) Web Smith (Wesley Snipes). Smith is bright and reluctantly accepts Connor's wisdom. He's also one of us: ignorant, confused and easily gulled. For Smith, the mystery tour turns into an inner journey.

Far from indulging in Japan bashing, the movie portrays the Japanese as worthy adversaries. If they are winning, it's because they play the game better and because their history and tradition give them a competitive edge.

Rising Sun also explores corporate culture, which is, above all, a man's world. The movie offers gleaming skyscrapers, kung fu face-offs, and artful, fantasy sex. Kaufman portrays Japanese business as an ancient, old-boy network that uses tradition to support expediency and perquisites such as fast cars, hot tubs, and secret sex houses. Japanese and American men aren't so different after all. They all want the same things.

Most of the women in the movie are prostitutes. Tia Carrere as a half-Japanese, half-black computer guru (Carrere is Hawaiian and Philippine) is an exception. She's an active truth seeker and the love interest in a triangle which includes Connor and Smith. Yet she's a mystery. Is she a trap? Or is she Smith's guide to self-knowledge, his escape from that all-American, red, white and blue, me-first freedom that fences so many of us in? ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

FROM HOLLYWOOD TO HANOI

"...Tiana is more a seeker than a probing analytical, photojournalist..."

Filmmaker Tiana Thi Thianh Nga ("Tiana") rarely conformed to the wishes of her Vietnamese-American parents. Their version of the American Dream included the hope that she'd be a scientist or computer analyst, choosing as respectable a profession as had her two brothers, who are San José, California cops. Instead, Tiana stormed Hollywood and made her mark starring in cheap Karate movies as a high-kicking, female Bruce Lee.

But for any Asian American, there's the knowledge that there's more to life than Asian stereotypes in crude "B" or "C" movies. In 1988, flying in the face of her family's resolute embargo of their former country, Tiana decided to make a documentary in post-war Communist Vietnam.

Once privileged and wealthy in Saigon (her father was director of press relations for the South Vietnamese government), the Nga family left for America in 1968, a step ahead of Ho Chi Minh. Today, they remain intractable. With the Communists in power in Vietnam, they'll never stray from San José.

Except for Tiana, who ventured off to make *From Hollywood to Hanoi.*

The film's first stop is in Saigon, where her ex-childhood home has been taken over by a family with Lenin posters on the wall. Despite Communist rule, the city seems genuinely buoyant, with western-style things to do. Tiana attends a histrionic stage performance of *The Glass Menagerie*, and then ventures to a hot disco where two of Saigon's most revered aging movie stars — the "Vietnamese Elizabeth Taylor" and the "Vietnamese Clark Gable"— dance the night away.

Tiana's documentary picks up emotion during a meeting with a group of ragamuffin, half-breed "Amerasians:" illegitimate, illiterate, and begging to come to the U.S.A. and search down their GI dads. And on the road to Hanoi, Tiana stops at what was once My Lai, and listens as the forever traumatized survivors (all two of them) describe again that day in 1968 when Lieutenant Calley and his band of American "liberators" came to town and massacred 370 civilian men, women, and children.

Finally, Tiana reaches Hanoi — Hades, as far as her family is concerned. She meets with once-enemy Vietnamese leaders, they trade poems, and she returns home, strangely hopeful, with plans for more visits to Vietnam. Since returning from her still-ravaged former homeland, she's started the Indochina Film Arts Foundation to encourage cinematic exchange between the two countries.

In her own film, Tiana is more a seeker than a probing, analytical photojournalist. What she reveals is mostly anecdotal, lightly personal, and the cinematography for her first-time feature is quite pedestrian. Nevertheless, we must be pleased that Tiana has braved such an ambitious Vietnamese trip. What more irresistible an experience for viewers than to be taken along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, marching towards mysterious Hanoi, sharing the experiences of someone who is returning to a land that must be at once familiar and utterly foreign?



Writer, Director, Producer, Tiana Thi Thianh Nga

THE SECRET GARDEN

Frances Hodgson Burnett's 1911 children's novel, *The Secret Garden*, has attracted generations of young girl devotees touched by the emotional story of a lonely, grouchy orphan, a child who gains self-esteem in the process of tending and restoring an overgrown secret garden. Spiritual, ecological, with creepy Victorian, Brontëesque trappings (also a ripe Freudian subtext), *The Secret Garden* is a natural for a 1990's movie.

There's much to like about this current adaptation. Roger Deakins (*Barton Fink*) is a master cameraman, and his shots of English moors and Gothic stairwells are truly extraordinary. *The Secret Garden* is a "winner": properly lush, sensual, and genuinely Edenic. And Polish director Agnieszka Holland brings to the film some of the magic and intelligence of her European classics, *Europa Europa* and *Olivier Olivier.*

The children are the problem with the film. Presumably, they read well and looked right when cast, but Kate Maberly (Mary), Heydon Prowse (Colin), and Andrew Knott (Dickon) lack emotional depth and acting range, keeping *The Secret Garden* from being little more than a good children's art movie. ❑

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for Boston Review, the Real Paper, has authored six books on cinema and is currently teaching film at B.U.

IF YOU GO

FROM HOLLYWOOD TO HANOI

★★★

DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY: Tiana Thi Thianh Nga.

PLAYING AT: THE HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE, AUGUST 13-26.

THE SECRET GARDEN

★★★

DIRECTED BY: Agnieszka Holland.

WRITTEN BY: Caroline Thompson.

PLAYING AT: Lowes' Copley Place, August 23.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Dennis the Menace	★	★	★	★	★★	★	
The Firm	★★	★★	★	★	★★★	★	★★
In the Line of Fire	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
Rookie of the Year	★★★	★★★	★	★	★	★★	★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★
Snow White	★★★	★★★			★★★	★★★	
Son-in-Law	★	★	★	★	★		
Weekend at Bernie's II	★	★	★	★★	★		
What's Love Got to Do With It	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★



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Something Useful. (Maybe) / Anthony Tedesco

Waking Up To Your Dream Job

How to recognize the perfect career – or perfect career change – for you.

Landing your dream job is a three-step process: (1) Figure out which activities interest you the most; (2) Figure out if there's an employer who actually pays people to do these activities; and (3) Noogie that employer until he or she offers you the job, benefits, company car, company yacht (tighten headlock), and the shiny new shoes he or she is wearing. It's that easy. You almost don't need 630 more words of HELPFUL SUB-STEPS, but my editor said "No way."

Figuring Out Interests

- Ask yourself, "Whose job do I most desire?" suggests Richard Bolles in his perennial best-seller What Color Is Your Parachute? And what is it about that job? The malleable schedule? The power to make George Weeter cry for his job? These questions serve as shortcuts to your career interests in that they translate general inklings into a tangible job-title.

- Tap into childhood dreams. This tip comes from Edward Colozzi, a nationally-practiced career counselor based in the Boston area. Ed admits that this tip sounds syrupy sweet but insists "You can learn a lot about your interests from the way you used to answer the classic question 'What do you want to be when you grow up?'" If you aspired to sing for a band, then perhaps you'd flourish in a job that kept you in the spotlight, or allowed you to communicate with large numbers of people. If you always wanted to be a lawyer, then perhaps you'd (insert favorite lawyer joke).

- Visualize your dream job. Are you in a three-piece power suit, seated behind an expansive desk, with lots of people groveling around you? Or are you in a skin-tight wet suit, diving into the clear Caribbean water, with lots of people groveling around you?

- How would you spend your days if... you were independently wealthy, you couldn't fail at whatever you chose to do, and both your family and friends would always support you in your decision. "Finally you get to decide what you want to do and not what you feel pressured into doing," beams Ed. Think about activities that you've enjoyed doing in the past. Rock climbing? Perusing through art museums in Paris? You don't have to give these interests order and purpose yet; just let them come.

Finding Out a Career for Interests

Time for order and purpose. Now that you've tallied your basic interests, the next step is to apply these interests to a salaried career. Granted, this step seems like a doozy, but there's a myriad of careers out there – approximately 22,000 according to Ed, who counted. Here are some resources:

- Your local library can help focus your career choices through reference books such as The Encyclopedia of Careers and Vocational Guidance and Offbeat Careers: The Directory of Unusual Work.

- Your college career center has addresses of working grads who pant at the opportunity to explain the career they've chosen, why they've chosen it, why they should've been chosen Senior "Class King," how they dropped the touchdown pass during the homecoming game, why they....

- The United States Employment Services has branches statewide which offer, by appointment, free services not only including career counseling and interest testing, but also job training, interview assistance and access to the Interstate Job Bank, a database boasting 45,000 job opportunities nationwide, ranging from entry-level ($7.50 per hour, or higher) to senior executive (you don't want to know).

- Career counselors are chock full of job-search catalysts. The "Myers-Briggs Type Indicator" test logs your interests through personality-related questions (i.e. Do you make decisions based on logic or feeling?) while the Strong Vocational Interest Inventory assesses your work-related interests, and then aligns you with careers being enjoyed by people with similar interests. Some counselors even have access to "Sigi Plus" software which translates your eclectic interests right down to the daily tasks of a specific job-title. Not bad for something named "Sigi Plus."

- Short-term temping affords you an inside glance at your career possibility without the full-time commitment. As does an internship, which shouldn't be mocked just because it lacks a bullet and bold-type – some pay over $400 a week. See the book Internships 1993 for listings.

Getting the Job Offer

Trust me: The Noogie works. ❑

Linda Ventura

Hearts Aflame

DIFFA lights up Boston with a message of hope and awareness.

Design Industries Foundation for AIDS (DIFFA) second *Light up the Night* event delivered a powerful message of hope for a world living with AIDS. Last Saturday people from all walks of life gathered to "light up the night" with candles, houselights, flashlights, etc., in support and awareness for the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The events included an afternoon radio broadcast on 94.5 FM from Tower Records and a candlelight stroll down Newbury St. Restaurants in the area, such as Biba and Isabella's, served desserts whose proceeds were donated to DIFFA.

Additionally, Avalon hosted a concert sponsored by Absolut Vodka. Bands Maelstrom, Chucklehead, and Chuck contributed their energy in a display of groove, funk, and rap.

At a party at the Boston Design Center, DIFFA awarded a grant for $5,000 to the Foundation for Children with AIDS. Two other grants, one a $10,000 to the Boston's Children's AIDS project and another $5,000 to Boston Pediatric AIDS project, were awarded at a rally at Copley Square Park. Here hundreds of people gathered to listen to a candlelight concert that included several moving vocal performances by the member of Today's Youth Tomorrow's World, the New Hope Baptist Church Choir, and the all-girl, teen rap group ED'E.



At 9:00 PM, Marilyn Stahl, founder of *Light up the Night*, began the lighting ceremony at Copley, passing the flame from one candle to another as a unifying symbol of her message that "we are all affected even if we are not all infected." All present joined in song to such heart-felt pieces as "We Dream a Brighter Day" and "You're not Alone." The brilliant candle of hope formed by the Prudential Building lights created an inspiring back-drop for those nestled together at the Square, as well as for all of Boston.



Sharyn Fireman

Boston's Best Buys

Heads Up

Find great buys for everything from head to toe at this discount beauty supply boutique. Mason Pearson brushes selling elsewhere for $50, are here at $41.95. Fancy hair accessories showcased at upscale specialty stores like headbands, bows, clips, and special occasion pieces with prices usually from $20-$75, here $11.95 to $30. Many make-up lines and skin care products from lines like Ultima II and Lancome are discounted. For applying all your favorite products, the Grumbacher Cosmetic Brushes are great and are available in sable, red fox and other natural materials. There are exceptional buys on fragrances; new selections from Krizia, Balmain, Guerlain, Byblos, Carolina Herrera, and old stand-bys that have been discontinued by more promotional stores, such as Halston, Oscar de la Renta, Opium and L'Air du Temps, are discounted at 15 to 20% off. Men's fragrances, soaps, and club brushes are also popular. Bath products like brushes and sponges, and products from Perlier, Vitabath, Caswell Massey, and Kniepp are all marked down. Need something to put your stuff in? Try a Christian Dior or Nipon cosmetic bag. The sister location of this beauty supply store is a salon in Brookline called Tresses, etc. where you can get discounted exceptional hair products: Nexus, Sorbe, Framesi, Joico, Sebastian, Redken Le Coupe, and Rene Furterer. Tints, hennas, perms, and straighteners from Clairol and L'Oréal are available in both stores and are all discounted. Best buys of all are the house brands by Charisma (very popular with models).

The Beauty Connection
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Tresses Salon at the Beauty Connection
326 Harvard Street, Coolidge Corner, Brookline
734-2114
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Visa, MC, AMEX, Diners Club, Carte Blanche, Discover, checks.

Hearth and Home

Abode, the brain child of Maureen Daly and Ron Roesch, gives us a wonderful eclectic selection of furniture and bric-a-brac. A fabulous, lightly-stained mahogany pier cabinet in the French style, including lighting, is $2,950, while a mirrored-door armoire with space large enough for a TV, and storage in the four small drawers, is $1,795. Blown glass contemporary urns in black wrought iron stands of varying sizes run $49-$95. Check out the glassware, new and old: delicately etched pieces from France to large hand-blown glass vessels. A drop-leaf table with Jacobean legs was elegant and priced well at $450. A fanciful pine game table with a game board carved in the center is substantial enough to hold court in a big room with a large sofa, and is priced at $495. A set of armless Queen Anne chairs for $855 were a great buy. Also in the chair department, look for the cherry lyre-back dining chairs with needlepoint seats; set of six for $595. Carved country animals abound in the store, well-priced from $30-$150. The store has a great selection of candlesticks in glass, pewter, brass, copper, and wrought iron, lamps from $59, ornamental boxes from $8-$95. The owners also offer a selection of hand-painted furniture and will do custom work. Selection is always changing, as pieces are hand-selected by the owners, with a majority of items being sought out in England.

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Designly Inspired
33 Sleeper Street, Boston
350-7821
Mon-Fri 9 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Sharyn Fireman is an interior designer and owner of Buy Design, a service providing access to National Design Centers and purchasing of fine home furnishings, fabrics and accessories at designer prices. She can be reached at the Buy Design office, 494-0303. ❑



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SECRETS OF THE SELLER

Having trouble deciding on just the right wine for your soireé? Look no further, it's the knowledgeable sommelier to the rescue!

In our incessant striving to bring you, the wine consumer, the benefit of the most advanced scientific research techniques, a crack team of Improper Bostonian field workers recently initiated a week-long foray into the city's seven most renowned restaurants. The goal: to report on the vaunted new breed of professional sommelier and explain, if at all possible, how they arrive at the daring wine recommendations which dazzle their clientele. Our hope was to unlock once and for all the arcane secrets of how to match wine and food. Brief excerpts of the most salient points which emerged during this gastronomic odyssey follow:

Sunday. "Yes, I'm at a total loss. I'll be having the Spit Roasted Mogolian Yak Flank with Filbert Chutney, and my guest the Barbados Jerk Tuna Balls in Basil Chantilly. I'm in your hands completely. What would you recommend?"

"Chardonnay. Definitely." Succinct and to the point, I thought. His was the decisive voice of a true professional.

"And which one is your very best?"

"Ah, 'the best'," he laughed. "We're out of stock; also of the second, third, fourth, and fifth. But I might still be able to find a bottle of the one tied for sixth if you place your order now."

Who could help but admire his forthrightness?

Monday. "I've got a real challenge for you. What do you suggest that goes with the Baccala Alla Carbonera as well as the Porchenoi Ciccolatto?"

"Chardonnay. The Skippy."

This puzzled me. "But I've had that. Isn't it a tad soft and creamy?"

"They make two. I'm recommending the Cuvee Chunky which is a lot more...crunchy."

Tuesday. "Which wine do you..."

"Chardonnay. Pardon my abruptness, but it's busy tonight."

He brought a bottle of the Quik Stop Modesto, Holding Tank Number 23. I later learned that this acclaimed master of the corkscrew had once championed his squad to victory in the G.E. College Bowl.

Wednesday. "Would you recommend a good Gewurztraminer to complement the Curried Garlic Relish en Croute, perhaps this vintage of the Fershtunkeneh Dumkopf?"

"Oh, no! You must have the Chardonnay. It's absolutely..." He broke off and kissed his fingers.

This time it was a bottle of the Dejá Vu Grande Reserve. The sage of the cellar was right. It was "absolutely..."

Thursday. By now I was beginning to catch on. A subtle pattern had begun to emerge from the disparate bits of information I had gleaned.

"Which Chardonnay would you recommend?"

"The Chardonnay de la Treize de la Maze, Nouvelle-Nouveau Vat Numero One."

"And why?"

"It's hedonic and gooey with Raphael-esque globs of opulent layers on the lewd finish. And so expensively yummy."

"Is there something a bit less sexy?"

"The Powerhouse. It's big and complicated. And, of course, it's the fullest-bodied wine on our list. And it's good. Real good. And dry."

Friday. "I think I know what the answer will be. I'm having Hare Shanks with the Blueberry Rhubarb Risotto. Is there a wine that will stand up?"

"Personally, I'd recommend a Chardonnay. Formula Mountain, Dirty Ridge, Stage 12, they're all excellent. But if you'd like to try something a bit unusual and delightfully different, there's this new wine we just got in from, I think it's France, the Macon-Lugny."

Saturday. "I'm having a Chardonnay. Is there any dish, in your professional opinion, that I shouldn't order with it?"

"The Chicken Chardonnay. There's simply no affinity; the chef uses Golden Chablis in the sauce."

And since it was date night, why not cap off the week with a dessert wine? When challenged to produce a complement to the signature Cochon À la Mode, the sommelier responded without hesitation by suggesting our versatile favorite. I was taken aback.

"A Chardonnay? Even for dessert?"

"Well, first, it's the driest dessert wine we have." He put his hand on my shoulder and lowered his voice so as not to cause me further embarrassment. "But most important," he continued, "it's the coldest."

How do they do it? Like an artist who cannot put into words the sources of his creative inspiration, the sommelier can never fully explain his secrets. The skills are acquired and honed over decades of familiarity not only with the evolution of cuisine but also with the world's premier wine producing districts. As one proud proprietor confided, "I've been in business forty years and I'll tell you, you can't teach this at all. It's a talent that only the great ones are born with." Audacious, daring, unfettered by tradition; bravo the new breed of sommelier!

Sandy Block was awarded the title Master of Wine *in 1992 by the prestigious British Institute of* Masters of Wine. *Of the 162 people worldwide who hold this title, only five are Americans. Sandy is also the on-premise wine manager of The* Branded-New England Company *in Norwood.*

Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

Rib Festivals, Seaport Festivals and a unique new restaurant find.

THEY'RE BACK!

Last year, if you braved the rain and the Bundy look-alike contest, chances are you sampled some excellent ribs at the **Great Yankee Rib Cook-Off.** Now they're back! Over 30 restaurants and barbeque pitmasters will be serving up a variety of ribs, pulled pork, smoked beef brisket, and more as the Cook-Off returns to City Hall Plaza on August 26-29. The restaurants will be competing for the "Best Ribs" title and $10,000 in prize money. The cook-off also offers a music festival featuring Buster Poindexter, Lesley Gore, and the Heavy Metal Horns, as well as a nightly laser show (every night except Sunday). Admission tickets are available at the door only, and are $2 afternoons until 4 p.m. and $4 from 4 p.m. until closing. Beer and wine will be available. Call the Rib line at **(617) 267-RIBS** for more information and don't let us catch you licking your fingers.



MICROBREWERY BBQ NIGHT:
Michael Solomon of Silver Restaurant Supply holds a toast with host Michael Gillien of Michael's Waterfront and Sterling Dunn of Branded Whitehall

JUICY DETAILS

Looking for change, **Steve Rose** has left the Commonwealth Brewing Co. and is currently teaming up with the **Village Smokehouse** to enter competition at the **Great Yankee Rib Cook-Off. Don Levy** has sold the **Loading Zone. Marcella's** on Appleton Street in the South End has closed. **Frank Fox**, the owner, was going after a full liquor license and the neighborhood association vowed to fight, so he closed up shop. Gone are the days of a $7.95 steak and a $7 bottle of wine. In the lost and found department, **Penny Dincauze** has been found at the **Blacksmith House Cafe and Bakery** in Cambridge. **Sal Tecci** has opened **Cafe Rubino** at 266 Newbury Street. **Jim Fahey** of **Mexican Cuisine** and the **Porterhouse Cafe** has started to bottle two of his own sauces. One is a very hot sauce called Liquid Sky and the other (we don't have a name yet) is a special barbeque sauce. Jim won Best Sauce at the Rib Cook-Off last year. And a hearty congratulations to Diane and Mark Gallagher on opening the Union Square Bistro on Bow Street in Somerville.

BY THE SEA...

The first annual **Boston Seaport Festival** will take place at Pier 1 in the Charlestown Navy Yard on August 19-22. The festival will highlight Boston's maritime heritage and will feature seafood, live music, and classic sailing vessels. The restaurants offering their best will include **Skipjack's**, **Legal Seafoods**, and **The Blue Room.**

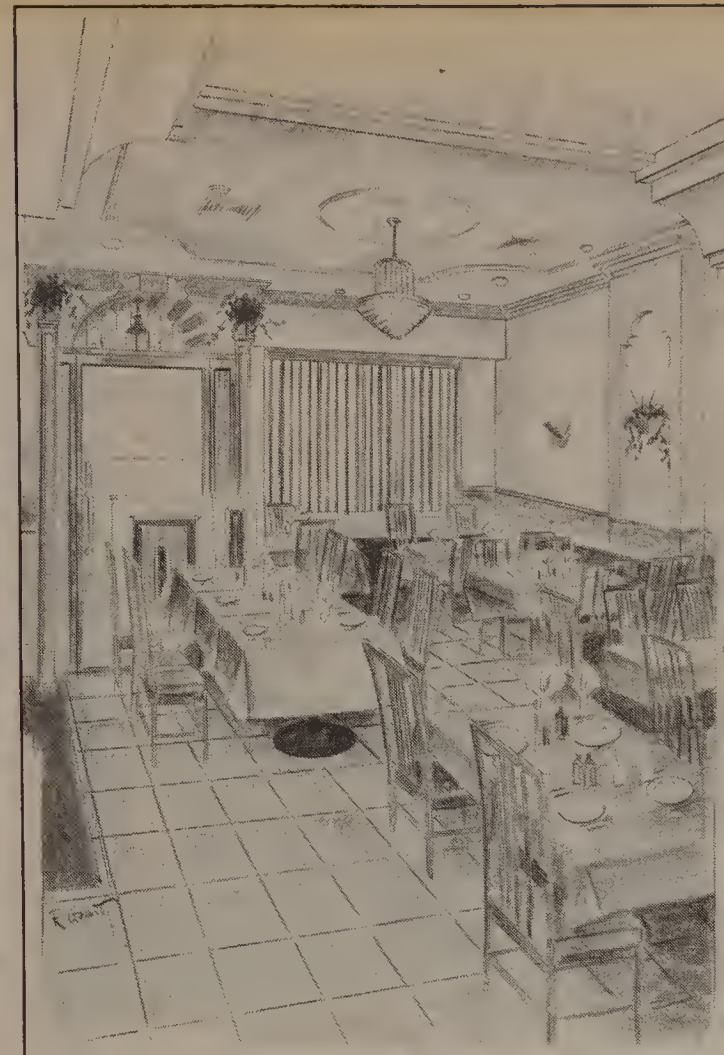
TABLE TALK

Geoffrey's Cafe has just opened their second restaurant in Hamersley's old location on Tremont Street. A new cafe called the **Left Bank** will be replacing Rebecca's Cafe in Harvard Square. The Rebecca's Cafe on Boylston has also closed but will soon reappear in October inside the new Prudential Center. **Il Capriccio** in Waltham is rumored to be looking for a new location. **The Original Sports Saloon** has almost completed its expansion. Meanwhile, **Gyuhama**, home of **Rock 'n Roll Sushi**, will soon have its own expansion on track as they take over the vacant space next door.

Great Day Cafe on Canal Street is currently serving breakfast and lunch in an upscale diner atmosphere. They hope to start serving dinner soon. **Mineo Ristorante** is now serving dinner in the southern Italian style on Prince Street in the North End. **Anthony's Pier 4** now has outdoor dining on the patio so one can catch some rays and enjoy the sea breeze – better hurry before summer ends. And finally, the **Back Bay Restaurant Group** has purchased the **Barnside Restaurant** in Hanover.

POPPA & GOOSE

By chance, we stumbled upon a unique restaurant on First Street in Cambridge, across from the Cambridgeside Galleria. The restaurant is called **Poppa & Goose** and its mission is to promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition. The cuisine is mostly Vietnamese with touches of Japanese, Thai, and Chinese. The food is very fresh and great attention is paid to using healthy ingredients. Poppa & Goose also offers cooking lessons by volunteers and the market inside the restaurant carries all the ingredients necessary to make the dishes at home. There is even a small library filled with cookbooks and culinary magazines for browsing. Call **497-6772** for more information. ❑



MASSIMINO'S
CUCINA•ITALIANA
207 ENDICOTT ST.
NORTH END, BOSTON 617-523-5959

"Consistently about the best Italian Restaurant in the North End."
—Boston Magazine

"For superb food in a family atmosphere try Massimino's."
—Travel & Leisure

"The best value in Italian food."
—WBZ Channel 4

Looking for a New Favorite Restaurant?

DAVIO'S
202 WASHINGTON ST., BROOKLINE - 738-4810

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A STEAK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

39 Dalton St., Boston. In the Sheraton Hotel and Towers. 262-1822.

Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve it up in a relaxed style, set it to music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'til1a.m.daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer of a 12 oz, New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT

1248 Cambridge St. Cambridge 497-6548.

Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting, 7 days/week, 12 p.m.-11 p.m. Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including Thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music (no cover) Thursday through Saturday nights. Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available on premises.

ANTONY'S PIER 4

140 Northern Ave., Boston. 482-6262.

Boston's world-renowned seafood restaurant, Anthony's Pier 4 is bustling with international, national and local clientele. Besides offering one of the finest views of Boston Harbor and the skyline, the restaurant has received numerous awards such as first place in Sales and Marketing magazine's Business Executives Dining Award for 14 years. Specialties: the freshest harvest from the sea, including New England lobster, Boston scrod, as well as a variety of fine meats.

BENNETT ST. CAFE

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.

We invite you to visit Bennett St. Cafe to try our brand new exciting and delicious menu. Chef Peter Davis, formerly of The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills CA has just arrived at The Charles Hotel. He has created a totally new menu, including new Rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit the casual outdoor patio area for drinks and dinner, plus try our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made-to-order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are!

BOB THE CHEF'S

604 Columbus Ave., Bos., 536-6204.

Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's Restaurant is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy Fall Off the Bone Bar-B-Qued Spareribs, Chicken and Dumplings, or Soul Chitterings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7.00 to $9.00 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies.

Winners of the 1993 Zagat Restaurant Survey "Best Buy." The Improper Bostonian voted Bob the Chef's "Best Soul Food." Not only do they serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner, but also Bob the Chef's Restaurant offers catering. So next time you are planning a party, let Bob the Chef's do the work. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. -11.p.m.

CANESTARO PIZZERIA

16 Peterborough At., Bos., 266-8997

Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so stop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer thirty different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, proscuitto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. If you don't feel like going out to dinner, just call Canestaro Pizzeria for free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.

The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY

138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.

Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live music every Fri. and Sat. night, Hours are from noon to 10:00 p.m. on Sundays, 11:30 a.m. to midnight Mon..- Thurs. and until 1:00 a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual dress.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300.

New American / New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are always spectacular here - Cornucopia won the coveted Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for Tastiest Dessert; Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar in Boston". Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served on Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised.

THE DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093. 441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696.

This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a dear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

DAVIO'S

269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.

Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

GREEN BRIAR RESTAURANT

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.

Brighton's best Irish restaurant. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads, burgers, etc. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. Also try our new exciting brunch every Sunday 10-2:30. All of this enjoyed in our casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Call for details.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010.

Words that come to mind when you dine at the Harp include variety, affordability, and great taste! Boneless Buffalo Wings, Grilled Chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, Boston's Biggest & Best Burgers, Irish Beef Stew, Fish & Chips, Corned Beef & Cabbage and gourmet specials that will "knock your socks off!" Summer 2-for-1 dinners served Sat. -Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features Traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch an dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wed.-Sun. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line.

HARVARD STREET GRILL

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.

Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek in a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: Grilled Salmon with Tomato Saffron Essence and Wilted Spinach, Sweet & Sour Chicken with Beet Curry, or the house specialty: Grilled Rack of Lamb with Hoisin Sauce and Scallions. Top off a meal perfectly with luscious deserts such as Chocolate Ganache Flan with Warm Caramel Sauce, Lemon Buttermilk Tart with Blueberry Coulis, or Homemade Fruit Ice. 1992 Wine Spectator Award of Excellence, 1993 Ivy Award. Tues.-Thurs. 5:30-9:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat. 5:30-10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

IL NIDO LOCANDA ITALIANA

257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272.

If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming atmosphere, then Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Only three weeks after opening, this North End restaurant is one of the up and coming hot spots. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrion to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, and abundance of antipasti daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The well-balanced wine list accommodates novices, as well as connoisseurs. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." Dinner nightly. Closed Mondays.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, (off Rindge Ave. in the Fresh Pond area.) 354-0335.

For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am - 4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri. & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

THE LAST HURRAH! BAR AND GRILL

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street Bos. 227-8600.

This popular turn of the century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston Creme Pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Noon -5 p.m. Sat. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Mon- Sat. and 2-11 p.m. Sun. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

LEGAL SEAFOODS

Park Plaza Hotel, 35 Columbus Ave., Bos., 426-4444
5 Cambridge Ctr., Camb.., 864-3400
43 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 270-9700
Copley Place, Bos., 266-7775
27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566
Burlington Mall, Burlington, 270-9700

Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Seafoods has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp and scrod.

LUCIA RISTORANTE

415 Hanover St., North End, Bos., 367-5915

Since 1877 Ristorante Lucia has followed a basic philosophy– to present authentic Cucina Italian as well as innovative dishes with a pledge towards freshness & quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere and offers true European service. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Mon. thru Thur., 4pm to 11pm, Fri. & Sat., 11:30am to 11:30pm, Sun., 1pm to 11pm.

MAMMA MARIA

3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077

Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code

If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA

207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959

You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

MICHAEL'S WATERFRONT

85 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-6425

Step into Michael's Waterfront to check out what's new from under the sea. We've added to our menu Blackened Tuna with Curried shrimp and Jicama Slaw, Seared Salmon with Dalmation Bean cakes and Native Crab, Grilled Lobster with Seafood Summer relish, Wild Mushroom Raviolis with Shrimp, Pancetta, Roasted Peppers and Garlic Olive Oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in The Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended.

MINEO RISTORANTE

69 Prince St., North End, Boston, 248-8814

$7.95-14.50, cash only

This restaurant will take you back to Southern Italy with its cooking style. If you're looking for the right mixture of contemporary and traditional Italian cuisine you found it. Mineo offers you outstanding portions of food such as the Mussels Marinara: mussels in a tasty marinara sauce served over linguini. The Rigatoni Alla Donna is a perfect pasta dish with eggplant and dry ricotta cheese in a plum tomato sauce. Last is the Veal Milanese: Veal cutlet pan-fried and topped with fresh arugula and balsamic vinegar. Mineo is located in the heart of Boston's North End. So come enjoy a different dining experience in Italian cooking. Open Mon.-Thurs., 4p.m.-11p.m., Fri.,-Sun., 11a.m.-11p.m. No dress code, validated parking.

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049

Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

THE ORIGINAL SPORTS SALOON

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904

This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 7 days a week.

SPASSO ITALIA CAFE & BAR

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656

Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

STROMBOLLI'S

187 North Street Newton, 630-0002
12 Green Street, Woburn, 935-0070

Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli, simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function!

TAJ MAHAL AT KENMORE

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266. All major credit cards accepted.

Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as Chicken Tandoori and Thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection of South Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon , served from 12-3p.m. , is for you at just $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights/week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR

290 Congress St., 423-6166

Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best including fresh seafood, poultry, veal and pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to individual order, and one of the best hamburgers in town. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

Dining Review / Sandy Block

A True Classic

A "Riot of Flavors" makes Icarus shine

Fine art always strikes me as effortless, natural, and uncontrived. Through the creator's passion and skill I am transported outside the awareness of the theater and into the drama onstage. While hearing the music, viewing the painting, or following the story, I may lose myself for a moment.

This is the exact context in which I experience dining at Icarus. Leaving the South End's Appleton Street and descending the wide staircase into the restaurant's subterranean dining room is, for me, like entering another realm: at once visually exciting but also dreamlike and warm. What sets this restaurant apart, though, is not just the appeal and comfort of its archetypically urban design, the graceful professionalism of the staff, or the brilliance of the cuisine, but rather how all of these are in harmony. Everything works together. This is a self-assured restaurant which has the class to do what it does so well without even a hint of pretense or glitter.

IF YOU GO

Icarus

3 Appleton Street
Boston
439-3995

This is all well and good, but food is the supreme reason to visit Icarus again and again. Chef Chris Douglass turns out consistently superb dinners true to their largely native ingredients. His creations always express subtleties of texture and flavor and strive for balance rather than razzle-dazzle. My favorite is a deliciously crisp but still-juicy and aromatic grilled shrimp with a cool and aristocratically tart, sweet and bitter mango jalapeno sorbet.

The gorgonzola, escarole, walnut and grape pizzetta also presents a series of texture and flavor juxtapositions which flow seamlessly together. The barely wilted, still-crunchy escarole, fleshy warm fruit and velvety, pungent but unabrasive cheese seem at first an unlikely combination. But Icarus inspires you with trust in its judgment, and when the dish arrives it is so delightful that you wonder why this combination had not been created earlier.

Another appetizer which showed great finesse was the roasted littlenecks in tomato, garlic and oregano with a superb crisp risotto cake. The seafood was cooked just enough to add a toasted note to its mild, delicate flavors while the slightly simmered tomato's sweetness and the crisp risotto added nuance and life.

If Icarus has a signature dish it is Douglass's cake-like polenta with braised exotic mushrooms. Here creamy, crunchy, earthy, pungent, salty and sweet tastes are married in beautiful harmony.

The entrees are no less inspired or inspiring. A roasted chicken breast stuffed with parmesan, artichoke, risotto, and proscuitto presented a visual feast, garnished as it was with sweet roasted red peppers. It was an extraordinary dish, set off to perfection by a cool, minerally Michel Redde Sancerre whose grapefruity acids added another dimension to the riot of flavors.

The duck with tart dried cherries and cracked black pepper was served over a crisp julienne of potatoes. Again, there was a lovely match among the sweetness of the duck, the peppery flavors and the sour cherries.

It is astounding to me that this critically acclaimed restaurant is not jammed every night, but perhaps the local diner prefers to have his palate flambéed by bolder, more exotic and strongly flavored fare. To each his own, but it would be a pity indeed if Bostonians became so jaded in their tastes that an appreciation of subtlety and restraint in dining were lost. Icarus does not blow you away, but then again, a true classic is not supposed to. ❑

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston- Boston, C-2, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun 10::30-2 p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
A, D, MC, V $$, C-5
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omelette. Reservations suggested.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston,
451-2600
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St. , Brookline, 566-1002
A, D, MC, V $$, D-1
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COPLEY PLAZA HOTEL - COPLEY'S RESTAURANT
138 St. James Ave., Back Bay, C-6, 267-5300
Sundays in Copley's Restaurant enjoy an affordable gastronomical event amid the charmingly restored 1912 elegance of Boston's Grande Dame of Hotels - The Copley Plaza. The Sunday Brunch buffet includes live music from 11:30a.m. to 2:00p.m., and is only $19.95 for adults and $8.95 for children under ten. Includes a "to-die-for" buffet of made to order omelettes and waffles, standard American breakfast fare, hot lunch entrees, salads and desserts. Savvy diners call 267-5300 early for a table.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, C-6, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

LIBRARY GRILL AT THE HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., C-6, 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-paneled set serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omelette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., C-6, 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, B-7, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, D-4, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, B-7, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bost., C-6, 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowder" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

LATE NIGHT ERUPTIONS

". . .A Cappuccino and a calzone go a long way towards stabilizing your metabolism in the wee hours. . ."

It's late, 2:00, maybe 2:30 a.m., and you've been out all night at some restless club, last call has been called, you haven't made any big scores, you're bored enough to spit, and you're still so wound up that you couldn't possibly go home now. You can't find any evidence of after hours parties, the guy you've been talking to suddenly leaves with another woman, and you're starving. What to do? You need someplace where the action will continue, at least for a little while, and probably some food and a few cups of espresso in your booze-filled bod wouldn't hurt either.



Under The Volcano:
Late night life in the North End

Caffe Pompeii is the answer. After 2 a.m., when everyone starts trickling out of the bars and clubs, they head over to Pompeii in the North End. The caffe is open till 4 a.m., although they stop serving liquor at 1:30 a.m. or so, a fact which can be both negative and positive. Negative because *drinkus interruptus* sometimes results in frighteningly abrupt sobriety, causing the rosy hue of the evening to dull somewhat. Positive because you now have a chance to minimize the extent of your hangover tomorrow. A cappuccino and a calzone go a long way towards stabilizing your metabolism in the wee hours.

IF YOU GO

CAFFE POMPEII
280 Hanover Street
523-9438
Open 8:00 am - 4:00 am

On a good night, so many people head over to Pompeii *après*-club, that there's a wait outside. You wait and wait, and at random intervals, someone who doesn't exactly look like he works there, but nonetheless seems to be in charge, comes out and asks how many in your party. After getting the answer, he usually wanders off to chat with some of the ever-present neighborhood boys leaning on one of the parked cars out front, leaving you to wonder if you're ever going to get inside. But eventually, you get in, you sit at a teeny cafe table and push the remains of someone else's cannoli out of your way, and settle back to watch the show.

Pompeii attracts a highly arbitrary and unusual mix of people, especially between 3 and 4 a.m. That's when the true die-hards arrive, looking for caffeine and a piece of the parade that streams through. On a recent Saturday night, while I was trying to discourage the attempts of someone who didn't seem at all to mind that he was holding an entirely one-sided conversation, two young ladies came in who, I was informed, had just gotten out of work, said work consisting of taking all their clothes off and doing physically challenging things for the bargain price of a buck.

Seated at another table were three gentlemen who could have been extras in *The Godfather*, muttering darkly to each other and their espressos through a swirl of smoke. Several tables of ultra-chic Euro kids kept having to stand up and repeatedly kiss everyone who came by, a formality that, while aesthetically pleasing, must let your cappuccino get cold awfully fast. Neighborhood Italian kids filed endlessly past, yelling (everyone in the North End is very loud), and I managed to make a late night acquaintance who saved me from the babbler on the other side of me. For tiramisu, cappuccino, and a whole lot more, there's no place like the volcano. ❑

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August 21	Tim Crandall
August 22	Brehen Law
August 25	Tim Crandall
August 26	Heavy Metal Horns
August 27	Fat City Band
August 28	Tim Crandall
August 29	Brehen Law

85 Causeway St., Boston
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Kinvara Pub
On the Allston/Brighton Line

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August 19	Pour Boys
August 20	Memphis Rockabilly Band
August 21	Shoot the Moon
August 22	Coupla & DJ Tom
August 23	Luck of the Draw & Darts
August 24	Free Jukebox
August 25	Grinning Lizards
August 26	Broadcast
August 27	Ben Healy Band
August 28	Lulus in Crisis (formally Response)
August 29	Donegal Corderoys & DJ Tom
August 30	Luck of the Draw & Darts
August 31	Brendan D'Carroll (Irish Comedian)

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
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Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Briar

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August 21	Classic Trax
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August 25	Karaoke
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BAR & CLUB LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

GENERAL

BEACON HILL PUB
49 Charles St., Bos, C-5. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

BULL & FINCH PUB (CHEERS)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, C-6. A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom trail! The TV show Cheers uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

CACTUS CLUB
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, C-5. Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

THE LITTLEST BAR
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

MARKET PLACE CAFE
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, B-7. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Live music nightly during outdoor cafe season. Casual atmosphere and dress.

PROVINCE STREET PUB
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, C-7. Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m.. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Featuring Kareoke, comedy great music and more! When looking for a fun night out, don't miss the Mystery Café Dinner Theater. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Café Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

WARREN TAVERN
241-8142, 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, B-5. A funky little bar whose clientele includes young professionals & athletes. Also claims to attract Boston's most beautiful women (?!) Local celebs don't mind hanging out at the tavern because no one bothers them. TV is always on for sports. Tuesday nights: Susan Tedeschi, 8:30-midnight; Wednesday nights: Inquiring Minds, 8:30-midnight; Thursday nights: Live jazz, rock and blues. No tank tops. Bring ID. Please don't drink and drive.

POP/JAZZ/ BLUES/REGGAE

CANTAB LOUNGE
354-2685, 738 Massachusetts Ave., Camb, B-4. This little hole-in-the-wall in Central Square attracts a wide and surprising mix of clientele. The Cantab's claim to fame is Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers on Fris. and Sats. performing such favorites as "Sexy Lady from the Beauty Shop," a local classic. Other live acts perform throughout the week. Karaoke on Wednesdays. Cover varies. Extremely casual dress.

RATHSKELLER
536-2750, 526 Comm. Ave., Boston, C-5
Affectionately known as the Rat, this is a rock club with staying power. Past headliners have included the Police, 10,000 Maniacs, and R.E.M. The RAt attracts a hard-core alternative crowd - lots of black leather and biker jackets. No cover upstairs. Varies downstairs.

WESTERN FRONT
492-7772, 343 Western Ave., Camb, B-4. A multicultural Reggae and Jazz bar where it's difficult not to get caught up in the Rasta spirit. It's dark and dingy inside, but the place sparks alive when the bands take the stage. Cover varies from moderate to heavy. On Sunday nights, visit the Arts Café and enjoy music, comedy, performance art and poetry for only $5. Casual dress.

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DANCING

AVALON
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, D-5. Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

AVENUE C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, C-6. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

PIANO ROOMS

MONDAY'S PIANO BAR
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, D-3. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

BREWERIES

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, B-7. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this microbrewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

IRISH

BLACK ROSE
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, C-7. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

THE GREEN BRIAR
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "Hi" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

KINVARA PUB
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400, C-2
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2AM and ample parking In rear. Casual dress.

O'LEARY'S
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, D-4. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

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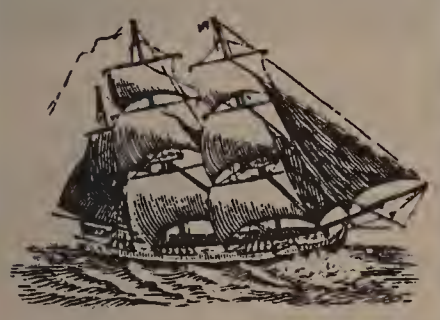


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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

Bim Skala Bim

A Live [Album] and kicking

It's unusual for a Boston band – even on a major label, much less an indie – to release a live album. But Bim Skala Bim is not your usual band. For eight years and five albums on the septet's own BIB label, the group has sealed its reputation as Boston's king of ska – that upbeat precursor to reggae which, not coincidentally, thrives in a live club setting.

Hence, on Aug. 31, *Bim Skala Bim: Live at the Paradise* will be hitting record stores across the country. "We've been talking about it for years, because people ask us, 'Why not put out a live album?'," lead singer Dan Vitale said on the phone last week. "I guess we're better live than we are in the studio."

Not that Bim Skala Bim are slouches in the studio. They deftly incorporate roots rock, R&B, and reggae into a base that's unmistakably ska. "There's so many different elements in there, but it always has the groove and the dance beat," Vitale said of the music's appeal.

Regular favorites at the Paradise, Bim first recorded two full shows for the album, but Vitale said, "We just decided to pick the best one and use a whole one, to make it more like a real show."

Five songs from the set were dropped for the album to fit on one CD, but the 19 remaining tracks appear in the order of their performance on June 5, 1992. The disc includes four songs from the band's first album (out of print for six years) plus "Run Joe" and the slower "Raining and Pouring," live staples which hadn't appeared on record.

Bim Skala Bim has survived leaner years to get to the point where each album sells more than 15,000 copies, enough to roll over the investment into paying for the next project. And when Bim itself isn't busy, band members spend their time with side groups like Santa, the more roots-conscious Steady Ernest, and the non-ska Yo Yo Bookshelf Boys.

Other than a possible Strawberries in-store on the eve of the record release, Bim Skala Bim will be on tour in September and probably won't play Boston again until early October. The Paradise is now being renovated to fuel its Euro-dance club base, but don't be surprised to see Bim Skala Bim return to the scene of the crime. "They've already offered us a date, so you know we'll be in the new Paradise," Vitale said.

Elsewhere

There's no mistaking the summer's hottest show at Great Woods. Everybody seems to be sniffing around for tickets to sold-out nights of Steely Dan on Aug. 20-21. It will be the Dan's first live jaunt in nearly 20 years; the group (which broke up in 1980) was notorious for its finicky studio preference. Pianist-singer Donald Fagan and guitarist Walter Becker will be joined by guitarist Drew Zingg, saxophonists Cornelius Bumpus (ex-Doobie Bros.) and Bob Sheppard, keyboardist Warren Bernhardt, bassist Tom Barney and jazz drummer Peter Erskine (ex-Weather Report). With tickets in the growing $30 range, here's hoping that infamous perfection will yield sure results.

Another big show for Great Woods is Neil Young – not "Unplugged," not with Crazy Horse, but with soul legends the MGs and grunge-rockers Soundgarden and Blind Melon. Hope none of Neil's fans go looking for "Sugar Mountain," only to find Soundgarden's "Jesus Christ Pose." Neil's show is on Aug. 23. Aerosmith blows in for sold-out shows at Great Woods Aug. 26-27, before playing (reportedly for a few songs) at the Concert for Walden Woods at Foxboro Stadium Sept 6, with Sting, Elton John, and Melissa Etheridge also lending Don Henley a hand in saving Thoreau's sanctuary. ❑



BIM SKALA BIM:
New album Bim Skala Bim: Live at the Paradise *due out in record stores August 31.*

Freelance writer/photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe.

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Wish You Were Here

Venice and Hell on Six Dollars a Day

Composers need vacations too; it can't be easy, fretting about the brass section, the tone-deaf xylophonist, and the human condition for eight hours a day. But whereas most of us try to leave our work behind us – the office photocopier makes bulky carry-on luggage – composers often find that even while they're lying sun-draped on the beach or poking through gloomy foreign ruins, their minds are at work, transforming the easy life into art. For those of you desperate for escape, we've worked up a list of astonishingly cheap, gratifyingly good recordings of pieces written by composers on vacation.

If you don't want to leave these shores (because of air-sickness or a highly-demanding sense of patriotism), there's always Antonin Dvorak's famous Symphony No. 9 "From the New World," written during Dvorak's American sojourn in 1892-3. The symphony combines elements of Czech folksong, American spiritual, and classical symphonic design to produce a portrait of a panoramic young nation, a nation of bounding mountain streams and vast, hushed fields of grain. The marvelously-paced, budget-priced Kertesz performance is better than most full-priced discs (London 417 678-2; or as part of his unsurpassed set of all nine Dvorak symphonies, London 430 046-2).

Franz Liszt – you saw him in Impromptu – seems to have gone on holiday for three full years, and has provided posterity with a remarkable musical diary in his stunning compilation of piano sketches entitled "Years of Pilgrimage." Liszt starts in Switzerland, where we enjoy almost Impressionistic views of the alpine waters of the Lac du Wallenstadt. As Liszt wanders through Italy, musing on the country's religious fervor, he becomes increasingly swept up in a strange internal voyage, to the point where the Second Year ends with a sonata on the works of Dante (Dante Went To Hell And All I Got Was This Damn T Shirt.). This is perhaps the most often-heard section of the cycle, an intense, Dore-esque fantasia full of flaming gulfs and chasms and moaning souls, culminating in a tremulous vision of Beatrice in heaven. Try the splendid Jerome Rose recording on VoxBox (Vox CD3X 3004), a steal at four or five dollars a disc. Those longing for Italy should also consider Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony (No. 3).

Finally, a holiday gripe from composer Joseph Haydn, who was dragged off yearly with his orchestra to Prince Esterhazy's remote summer palace. The Prince refused to recognize the orchestra's irritation at being interminably separated from their families. Accordingly, Haydn wrote as a protest his "Farewell" Symphony (No. 45), in which, during the finale, one by one each instrumentalist stops playing, blows out his or her candle, and leaves the room, until finally only the bare orchestral pit remains, with Haydn and one violinist strumming in the dark. The Prince got the message. At mid-price, I'd recommend the Solomons recording (Sony 46507).

So enjoy a brief musical holiday. These happy little bargains should transport anyone sick of sticky suits and office coffee.

THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for the BB's 30th season, which begins with a production of Sleeping Beauty from Oct. 21 to Nov. 7. Call 695-6950 for times and prices.

HERITAGE PLANTATION
Sandwich, MA
The King's Morris, Cantwara and Wantsum Morris Men perform a traditional English dance program Aug. 22 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $7, and allow admission to all other buildings and exhibits on the grounds. Call 1-508-888-3300 for more details.

JACOB'S PILLOW
Becket, MA
The annual Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival is here again – 12 weeks of dancing, workshops, conferences and more. Through Aug. 22, the pillow presents the East Coast premiere of Ballet British Columbia, from Vancouver, and Eiko & Komo, a pair of Japanese-American performers. The Dayton Contemporary Dance Co. performs Aug. 24-28, and the Barcelona-based Mal Pelo trio performs Aug. 27-29. Call (413) 243-0745 for more details.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
Explore the splendor and history of one of Boston's most beautiful spots, the Public Garden, in a 16-year photographic retrospective. Through Aug. 29 in the Boston Room.

N.E. SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Boston
Black & white, color, experimental color, advertising, corporate, editorial, photojournalism and portraiture are all represented in this student exhibition through Sept. 13. Photographers shown were students in the two-year professional photography program.

TOURS

BEN FRANKLIN ALIVE
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston
This summer, you can have Benjamin Franklin give you a walking tour of Boston! It's a three-hour tour that includes a historical performance, tour and lunch at the renowned Maison Robert. Cost is $30, and the tours are given every Tuesday in August. Call 482-6439 for more information or reservations.

BOSTON HELICOPTER COMPANY
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – all seen while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230 for details.

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically-designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th and early 20th century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

ODYSSEY CRUISES
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the Spirit of Boston ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef. Call 654-9700 for reservations.



IMPROPER PICK

SEE THE NEW EXHIBIT ON SWEDISH IMPRESSIONIST ANDERS ZORN, AT THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM THROUGH AUG. 22.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past – this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. For more details, call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400 for more information.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in "Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon." Call 266-5151 for more information. The ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Through Aug. 22, see "Swedish Impressionism's Boston Champion: Anders Zorn and Isabella Stewart Gardner." Call 566-1401 for more information.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. For more information call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. MFA's new textile gallery is now open, featuring "From Arts and Crafts to Art Deco" through Aug. 29. MFA also presents "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Part 2" until September. Now through July 3, 1994, see "African and Oceanic Sculpture," with over 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (25 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle — all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Through Sept. 12. Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. ASL interpreters will be on hand July 10. Call 589-0270.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. Call 522-6547 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious – and dangerous – sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200 for more information.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 - ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has everything that has anything to do with New England sports, including lots of interactive exhibits - like one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338 for more information.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATRE
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Harvard Square
We promise, you'll be able to see it. The ART presents Le Cirque Invisible (that's "The Invisible Circus" for the completely language-deficient)

Continued On Following Page



The Golden Gallery

Richard Diebenkorn
Jim Dine
Helen Frankenthaler
David Hockney
Jasper Johns
Alex Katz
Roy Lichtenstein
Robert Motherwell
Claes Oldenburg
Larry Rivers
Jim Rosenquist
Sean Scully
Frank Stella
Wayne Thiebaud

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WOMAN ON THE STREET

"What is your favorite breakfast cereal?"

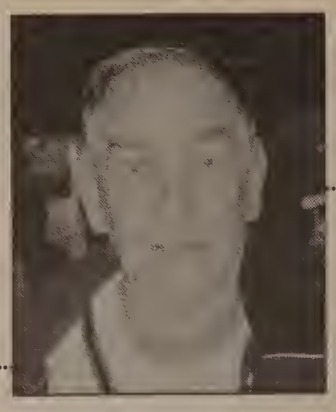
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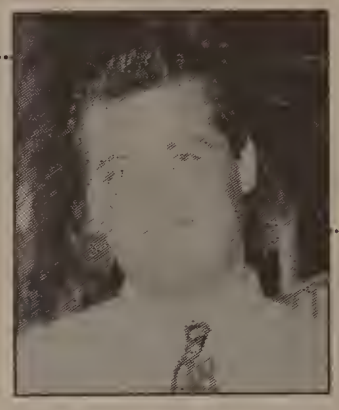
John, 24, Dorchester
"Captain Crunch. It's the only cereal I've had that still stays crunchy in milk after 5 minutes."



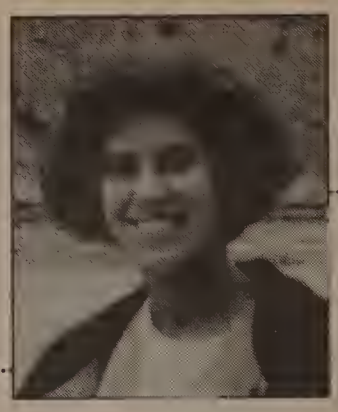
Stacia, 24, S. Boston
"I like Corn Pops. You can eat them out of the box without milk and they usually have good prizes."



Dave, 62, Melrose
"Honey Nut Cheerios. They have good flavor, a lot of fiber and it's a sweet cereal that's good for you."



Eric, 28, Quincy
"Clusters. I like the squirrels running around in the commercials."



Judy, 25, Watertown
"My favorite cereal is Raisin Bran. The chewy raisins provide a nice contrast to the crispy flakes."



Virginia, 30, Peru
"Kellogg's Corn Flakes, but only if mixed with mango yogurt and not milk."

through Sept. 6. It's a mix of comedy, acrobatics, animal acts, magic and sheer theatricality; tickets range from $18-$42, with special discounts for kids under $15. Call 547-8300.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work, with a celebrity guest D.J. every night. A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912 for times and ticket prices.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, Shear Madness is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, Shear Madness allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225 for times and ticket prices.

KENDALL CAFE
233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge
Well, it sounds kinky to us: Steps Theater Company presents The Throb of Life, an ongoing, continuing radio drama for adults only. Admission is $7; call 499-9580 for reservations and information.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900 for times and ticket prices.

M.I.T.
Mass. Ave., Cambridge
M.I.T.'s Gilbert and Sullivan players perform an adaptation of Bram Stoker's Dracula Aug. 27-29 at 8 p.m. in room 54-100 the Green Building (enter from 77 Mass. Ave. and follow the signs). The Musical Theatre Guild presents Chess, Tim Rice's musical, on the same dates and times in the Kresge Little Theatre at 84 Mass. Ave. Set during the Cold War, it features the song "One Night in Bangkok" remember that one? Call 253-4003.

MILTON PLAYERS
Congregational Church
610 Adams St., East Milton
The Milton Players are auditioning actresses for "The Odd Couple" (the female version) on Aug. 22 & 24 at 7:30 p.m. Performance dates are)ct. 28-30; call 698-7469 for more information.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents Murder at Rick's Cafe and Let's Kill the Boss. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Tickets are now on sale for the New Rep's '93-'94 season, which begins with a production of Jar the Floor from Sept. 16-Oct. 24. It's a tender, funny story of four generation of women in an African-American family preparing for the great-grandmother's 90th birthday. Call 332-1646 for more information.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Road, Beverly
Cyd Charisse stars in the musical Grand Hotel through Aug. 21. It's about passion without reservation (yes, pun intended) in a posh, 1928 hotel in Berlin. Call 1-508-922-8500 for times and ticket reservations.

PUBLIC ALLEY 421
at Hill House
74 Joy St., Boston
The humdrum existence of a mother and son is both comically and frighteningly disrupted by a stranger's unexpected visit in the Public Alley 421 Theatre Co.'s one-act play, Pleasing Fate. Aug. 20, 21, 27, 28 at 8 p.m. and Aug. 29 at 3 p.m. Tickets are $5; call 267-2147 for more details.

SHENANDOAH SHAKESPEARE EXPRESS
Boston Center for the Arts
549 Tremont St., Boston
Wherefore art thou if you're not seeing these guys perform? See their innovative interpretations of Romeo and Juliet (Aug. 20 & 22), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Aug. 20, 21, 22) and Antony and Cleopatra (Aug. 21). Tickets are $15; call 931-2000 or the BCA box office for reservations.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from Nunsense have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for Miss Saigon, the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the Vietnamese woman he left in Saigon. It's a must-see, but it's only here until Oct. 9. Call 931-2222 for times and ticket prices.

LECTURES/READINGS

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE
10 Brookline St.
Central Square, Cambridge
T.T.'s presents Stone Soup Poetry every Monday. Call 492-0082. Donation is $3; show begins at 8 p.m.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA GALLERY
154 Newbury St., Boston
This hip gallery presents its annual exhibition of ceramic teapots at its "Tea and Fantasy" show, through Aug. 31. See diner teapots, neon teapots, cow teapots, and more! This show is always a lot of fun.

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
539 Tremont St., Boston
The BCA presents an exhibit celebrating the portrait: "His People, Her People, Their People," portraits of shared friends and acquaintances by Ralph Hamilton and Elsa Dorfman. It runs through Aug. 23 in the Mills Gallery.

CRYSTAL BLUE BEADING CO.
565 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown
An exhibition of Yoruba African Beadwork will be on view until Aug. 21. African beadwork is different from that of the Native Americans, and this display includes beaded crowns, a ceremonial sword, jewelry and clothes. Call 923-2337 for more information.

HOBBS GALLERY
38 Newbury St., Boston
Recent paintings by Alan Bortman are on view through Sept. 30. His unique and meticulous oil painted canvases depict the mixed messages that lie beneath the surface of commercial culture. It's as contemporary as tomorrow's news (at least, that's what we're told).

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
The Factory salutes the "Dog Days" of August with a month-long exhibition of original old advertising - dating from the late 19th century to the early 1970s - featuring canines. Call 236-8754.

VOSE GALLERIES
238 Newbury St., Boston
The oils of French artist Charles Rousselon are on display through September, depicting the life and marvelous scenery of Normandy and the Opal Coast.

SPECIAL EVENTS

N.E. LINX AMATEUR OPEN
Ballymeade CC, Falmouth
This event is open to anybody and everybody, no matter what your ability. In fact, forget winning the actual game, because there is more than $60,000 in raffle prizes to be won, including a 1994 Suzuki 4x4 Sidekick. Hockey greats Bobby Orr and Cam Neely will be on hand to applaud the finalists. Call 1-800-775-LINX.

CLASSICAL

HERITAGE PLANTATION
Sandwich, MA
The Air Force Liberty Band performs a free concert Aug. 21 at 7:30 p.m.; it will be outdoors, so bring a lawn chair and some blankets. Dinner will be available. Call 1-508-888-3300.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

TANGLEWOOD
Lenox, MA
This beautiful outdoor facility is the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The BSO performs Aug. 20 at 8:30 p.m. (Mozart, Brahms, Elgar), 21 and 8:30 p.m. (Verdi, Barber and Dvorak) and 22 at 2:30 p.m. (all Mozart). Call 931-2000 for tickets.

FILMS

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
The BPL presents award-winning documentaries every Thursday at 6 p.m. And then there's a Barbra (yes, it's spelled right) Streisand film screened every Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. through Sept. 7 - this is pre-Bill employment, of course. Finally, on Mondays at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m., you can see movies on the theme "The Last Golden Age: The '60s Musicals." All films are screened in Rabb Lecture Hall.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
GSU Auditorium
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
BU hosts a summer film festival, with a cool movie each week. All films begin at 7 p.m., and if you can believe this, they're free! Call 353-3635 for a program.

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features; each day has a different theme, and they change each month. For a full program, call 876-6837.

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the green "C" line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of a vast array of creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500 for a program.

LASERIUM
At the Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the Lollapalaser show every Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. - a combination of lasers and music from groups like Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other music themes are on other days; call 723-2500 for a program or more details.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The "Early Hitchcock" film series continues Aug. 19 at 6 p.m. with the silent movie Blackmail, about a girl who knifes an artist who tries to rape her and is later blackmailed by the dead man's friend. A pianist will accompany the film. At 8:30 p.m. that same night, see Young and Innocent, a romantic murder mystery. The "Hong Kong Festival" continues Aug. 20 at 5:45 p.m. with A Chinese Ghost Story 3 and at 8 p.m. with Swordsman 2. The former is also shown Aug. 22 at 12:45 p.m.; the latter is shown Aug. 22 at 3 p.m. and Aug. 27 at 5:45 p.m. Tickets are $6.50.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
New to the world of Omnimax is Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets, which runs through Oct. 14. For the more tropically-oriented, Omni treats you to Tropical Rainforest, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Call 723-2500 for show

ATTENTION IMPROPER PARTY PLANNERS



If you are organizing an soiree, party or gala and would like pre-event coverage in the upcoming *Improper Bostonian* Social Calendar, send all pertinent information, three weeks in advance (or more), to:

Editor In Chief
The Improper Bostonian
17 Station Street, Suite 7A
Brookline, MA 02146

Please be sure to include date, time, place, ticket price, and dress code. Coverage is subject to space and time constraints.

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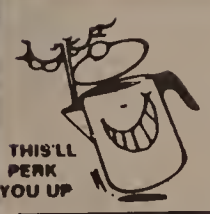
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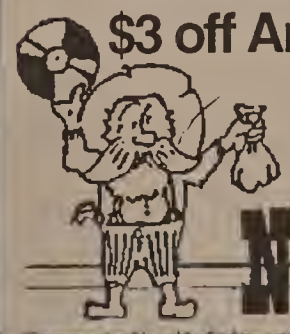
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REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

AGENCY DISCOUNTS: 15%, Call for more information.

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

BOSTON EAST New 1 bdrm ,desirable Jeffries point.. Dw/d, yard w/BBQ,, w/d in building. Walk to T. $525/mo. Also avail. new 3 bdrm $700/mo. & new 2 bdrm. $600/mo (617)569-2347.

BROCKTON 2 and 3 bedroom, remodeled, exc. cond., Sept, util DLD no pets no wash mach. (508)583-8485.

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

CHARLESTOWN Owner-occupied three family brownstone. Nice res. neigh. w/ on-street prkng. Conven. location. $345.00 for rmte. or $690 full rent. Call 1-800-244-2756 ext. 603 or 617-242-9632.

ROSLINDALE 2 bedroom in apt. building with heat and hot water, hardwood floors , laundry facilities on premises, disposal, on bus line. Security Deposit and References Required. $650 Call (617) 364-6585

SOMERVILLE Lg. 6 room-3 bedroom, living room, dining room, eat-in-kitchen, modern bath, laundry. Avail immed. $850+. No fee. 666-4734

APT. SHARES

$29 UNTIL IT WORKS!!!

BACK BAY 1 BR available in 3bed/3bath/3floor PH at Beacon & Berkeley. Fireplace, river view. For non-smoking, non-student M/F $550/mo. Call Charly @ 252-2046

BACK BAY Looking for 1 F roommate to share 2 bdrm apt. Own bdrm, w/w carpet, dw/d. laundry in bldg., A/C, parking avail. 2 mins. walk to Green-line, 10min. walk to BU. $587.50/mo. (neg.) 859-8127 leave message

BEACON HILL F roommate wanted to share 3 bdrm. W/d, dw/d, exposed brick, hardwood floors, roof deck. $500/mo. incl. heat & hot water 523-9471

BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

BOSTON Roommate wanted for 2 bdrm near NU. Avail. 7/1 & 8/1. $500/month, including heat and hot water. Great location, cute apartment. 247-7547

BRIGHTON 1M + 1F seek 1M/1F for private bedroom & one half study. Fully furnished.except bdrm. Hdwd flrs. Antique decor. 2 porches, safe nbrhd. Near Comm. Ave/B-line. Quiet, clean, non-smoking, no pets. Avail 9/1 $400+utils. 782-6808

BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. in 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd flrs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

BROOKLINE VILLAGE 1 bdrm avail.in 4 bdrm apt. in Brookline Village. M/F wanted. Large living room, dining room. Hardwood floors. Fireplace. Great location-near D line. Avail. in Aug. 1st. $250/mo. heat & hot water incl. 277-4872

BROOKLINE/COOLIDGE CORNER Beautiful 3 bdrm 100 yards from C-line. Seeking 1 resp. F for 9/1 or 9/15. Lrg. corner rm. w/ hdwd flrs. $425 incl. heat & hot water. Call anytime 958-1109.

CAMBRIDGE-SOMERVILLE Seeking roommate to share clean & attractive four-bedroom apartment. Walk to Harvard $300. a month. Call Fred 661-0094.

DORCHESTER F student looking for M/F to share clean, mod, 3 bdrm. apt. in safe area. 5 mins. from Red line, JFK/UMASS. Recently renov. w/ w/d. $350. incl. utils. & st. prkg. Pref. student, will consider prof. Judy 265-4838 lv. mes.

FRAMINGHAM/NATICK Great area! Roommate to share 2 bedroom furnished apartment with GWM. Parking, walk to T, non-smoker. $250/mo. + utils. Jack (508)879-1503. Available 4/1.

LOOKING TO SHARE OR RENT OUT AN APARTMENT OR HOUSE?CALL THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN 232-3507 JUST $29 UNTIL IT WORKS!!!!!!!!!!!!

MALDEN Seeking female nonsmoker for 3BR townhouse with 1 1/2 bath. Off street parking, garage, storage, pool, no pets. Walk to T $333 utilities, avl. now Call 321-6996

NEWTON 2M seek 2 M/F to share 4 bedroom. Great yard, garden, w/d. Near Watertown Square & T Avl NOW!!! $350+ Smoking OK 965-7805

NEWTON Seeking 2 M/F's to share 3 bdrm. house. Great yard, w/d, micro/ dw. Walk to T, close to Chestnut Hill. Route 9 & 128. Avail. 6/1. 345+util. (617)244-0988. Gary or leave message.

NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted. Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old. Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utiilties. Steven (508)664-4443

SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END 2 BDRM. APT. near BCH. Seeking non-smoking, prof. to share 1200 sq. ft., htd. w/d, hdwd floors on gentrified street. $550 w/ off street pkg. 236-1917 avail. now.

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WATERTOWN/BELMONT 3rd F wanted for 8 rm. apt. Porch, yard, fireplace,w/d,parking. $467+ No smoking-no pets. Avail.Sept 1st. Please call 926-6261.

WEYMOUTH Nonsmoker female for 2 bedroom apt. includes all utilities . With balcony, parking, a/c $275 call 340-2131

COMMERCIAL SPACE

CHARLESTOWN Non-live-in studio space available. 1,100 square ft. $500/mo. 242-0080

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HYDE PARK 1 bdrm. lux. condo by owner by appt. Sun. 12-2 pm. Near T + shopping. Residential neighborhood. Price $59.900, 5% down & 71/2% financing. Monthly cost $485-incl. heat, hot water & parking. Laundry on premises. Call 522-4889.

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JAMAICA PLAIN 2-car concrete garage for rent. Safe, clean, water and fire proof. Asking $200 Call (508)995-1435 Anytime

HOUSE FOR RENT

BROOKLINE Cleveland Circle, old world charm, elegant Vic. 5 working fireplaces, circular stair, natural woodwork, hdwd flrs, 2 1/2 baths, w/dF, billiard rm, dining rm, 4-6 bdrms, 4 car prkg. Avail. anytime. $2800 unhtd. Call 232-0963

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DORCHESTER Share safe, sunny 6 room apt. w/ WM, dog & parrot. You get your own bedroom, living room for $450.+ Deck & yard, quiet neighborhood. Please call or leave message at (617)265-6566.

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NORTH SHORE 2 roommates wanted to share a large house on Lynnfield Line near Rt. 1. Off-street parking, swimming pool, quiet location, wall to wall carpet, dw/d, w/d. No utilities $110/week 593-2239

SHARE QUIET HOME In Lynn. Prof. GWM seeks housemate, pref. prof. GWM. Must be neat, clean, non-smoker. Off-street parking. Near commuter rail, w/d modern house w/ fireplace. Lots of privacy for renter. 599-1370

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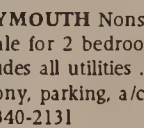
BROOKLINE 4 Prof. clean, quiet, seek female 30+ , veggie, non-smoker. Large house, 2 min. to T, large yard. Rent- $365 includes all util. $395 with parking 731-6959 lv. message

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MUSICIANS

MUSICIANS needed to complete a funk/jazz/soul group. We want to fill THE gap in the Boston music scene. Male singers(good at improv, good intonation), brass players, bassist in Jaco-Pastorius tradition who can play Prince tunes, pianist. We are looking for good musicianship and people who have ideas to contribute. Call Ellie and Ted 266-8628

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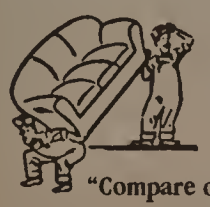
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

VERY ATTRACTIVE & SINCERE white female, 28, seeks white male, with dark hair & eyes, who is honest, romantic, funny, knows what he wants from life, and is not afraid to go after it. Please respond! EXT•6809.

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING black female, 27, with nice sense of humor, loves going to movies & late night walks. Seeks a sincere, caring & romantic male, 25-35, for friendship plus whatever comes naturally. EXT•6863.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 20, 5'4", 118 lbs, blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoys water & outdoor sports. Seeks mature white male, 18-25, who is friendly, easy to talk to, and has similar interests. EXT•6867.

EXTREAMELY PRETTY! White female, great shape, very fit, hard body, outgoing, with a positive attitude & champagne taste. Seeks an extreamly handsome white male, 28-36, big build (bodybuilder/weighttifter), who's outgoing & a genuine nice guy. EXT•6803.

FUN & FIESTY, green-eyed girl next door! White female, 28, sales professional, loves sailing, skiing, rollarblading, movies, museums, traveling, Vermont & The Cape. Seeks like-minded fellow to laugh with & share life! EXT•6814.

I BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF LOVE! Young, sensitive, decadent, eclectic Jewish female, 26, Janet Jackson, Paula Abdul type, petite, dark brown hair & eyes, hard body. Seeks committed 1-1 relationship with an open-minded, well-rounded male, under 40, who can both cook & pump iron. EXT•6897.

WHERE IS MY TOM CRUISE? Very attractive Italian-American female, 30, 5'4", 125 lbs, with medium brown hair, striking blue-green eyes. Seeks Italian-American "Hunk", 28-33, who is built, tall, sexy, clean shaven, handsome & hard working. EXT•6865.

VERMONTER TURNED BOSTONIAN! Attractive female, 34, 5'6", non-smoker, romantic, loves Seinfeld, movies, the beach, dusk & Cabernet Savignon. Seeks man of integrity, 30-39, who is funny, communicative, and wants to be in a relationship. EXT•6838.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable white male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. WANTED: White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relationship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

LISTEN UP! Full-figured, attractive white female, 25, seeks a 1-1 relationship. If you have a great sense of humor, like quiet nights at home & walks along the beach with an old-fashioned girl, give me a call! EXT•6806.

FUN & SEXY! Attractive white female, 43, 5'6", 135 lbs, blonde hair, brown eyes, non-smoker, social drinker. Enjoys music, laughing, walking the beach, working out & traveling. Seeks white male, 38-50, with similar interests. EXT•6807.

METROWEST! White female professional, 27, 5'5", 115 lbs, blonde hair, brown eyes, enjoys sports, reading, Bruins, beaches & music. Seeks white male on the quiet side, 27-34, 5'9"+, with similar interests. Smoker & light drinker Ok! EXT•6832.

FRAMINGHAM! Attractive white female, 26, 5'5", 115 lbs, fit, enjoys sports, friends & quiet times with you. If you are a white male professional, 25-33, with similar interests, who is tired of the dating scene, call me! EXT•6831.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 35, 5'4". enjoys golf, hiking, skiing, sporting events, the beach, gardening, cooking, movies, billiards & travel. Wishes to hear from a white professional male, 35-45, with similar interests. EXT•6731.

PRETTY, BLUE-EYED BLONDE, female professional, 30's, 5'3", physically fit, seeks male, 35-50, for chemistry, compatibility & commitment. I enjoy long walks along the ocean, swimming, skiing, biking & romantic dinners. Please call soon! EXT•6750.

I'M THE LITTLE MERMAID! The girl who has everything: beauty, brains, personality, heart, soul, and integrity. Media personality seeks white male, 41-52, to share the Dreams and the Reality! EXT•6784.

SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 29, 5'5", loves the movies (old & new), music, dancing, dining, walking, bike riding, working out & a great sense of humor. Seeks male, 28-35, with similar interests, for companionship only. Please be drug & smoke free. Social drinker OK. Race unimportant! No games please! EXT•6756.

UPBEAT, multi-cultural, professional businesswoman, sensual, creative, magical & classy. Seeks friendship, partnership & passion with a successful, communicative, wise, witty, evolved male human, 38+, comfortable with evolution of spirit, open heart, & extraordinary liaison with an exotic lady. All races understood! EXT•6705.

DIVORCED WHITE MOM, 40, 5'2", 115 lbs, 13yr old daughter. Seeks white male, 35-45, who enjoys dining, slow dancing, movies, camping, fishing, walks, music (country, rock-n-roll), and all kinds of fun. EXT•6638.

SLIM BLACK FEMALE, 26, 5'3", 102 lbs, with long legs & long arms, enjoys pumping iron at home & the gym, riding bikes, in-line skating, chilling at home with my two toddlers, and dancing up a storm at a nice club every so often. Seeks an honest male, 25-37, smoke-free, drug-free, social drinker, with a good sense of humor, for companionship only. EXT•6755.

LET'S SHARE SUMMER'S JOYS TOGETHER! Adventurous, attractive, humorous Jewish female, late 30's, seeks compatible mate, 38-46. Must be romantic, enjoy wine, fine dining, affection, jazz, long walks, dogs, travel, and ready for a committed relationship. EXT•6763.

UNIQUE, FOXY & SEXY, Divorced Italian/Spanish female, 5'7", blonde hair, brown eyes, attractive, full-figured, classy & affectionate. Seeks male mate for long-term friendship, 1-1 relationship & love. No head games or phoneys! Sincere replies only! All races welcome! I'm real, call me! EXT•6713.

BEAUTIFUL & ELEGANT Jewish female professional, with startling green eyes, brains, heart, humor & depth. Seeks a good man, 38-48, with style & substance, valuing intelligence, loving kindness & creativity, open to growth, joy & a fabulous relationship. EXT•6737.

VIVACIOUS, VERY ATTRACTIVE, successful, business woman, 38, fun, athletic, widely traveled, varied interests, understands the importance of love & loyalty, non-smoker, non-drinker. Enjoys tennis, walking, skiing, dancing, movies, & quiet times at home. Seeks attractive male, 30-45, 5'7"+, who is a business or medical professional, for a monogamous relationship. EXT•6759.

DON'T READ THIS, unless you are an honest, sincere, down to earth, gentleman interested in meeting a 44yr old blue-eyed blonde with a great sense of humor. I enjoy music, movies, good conversation & much more. EXT•6718.

PRETTY, divorced white female, 40 (looks much younger), 5'2", short brown hair, green eyes, nice smile, college educated, great sense of humor, fun-loving, will try almost anything once. Seeks sincere man, age & race unimportant, for friendship first, then who knows! EXT•6774.

PRETTY WOMAN seeks her Richard Gere! 20-something, ash blonde, petite, slender female, loves blues, baseball and Boston. Desires well-built male, 27-33, 5'9"+, who's sharp dressed, established professional, never married, Protestant, non-smoker and social drinker. North of city! EXT•6781.

HAPPY! Attractive white female, 39, 5'4", professional, non-smoker, adventurous, feminine, thoughtful, good friend, slow runner, enjoys beginning tennis, infrequent skiing, the ocean, travel, dining out & movies. Seeks clean-cut white male professional for friendship & dating. EXT•6772.

LIFE'S TOO SHORT! Hi, I'm 45 (but built like an 18yr old), 5'2", 109 lbs, and looking for someone to share life with. I love dancing, walks along the beach, long rides & getaway weekends. Seeks someone to hold, kiss, and be with. EXT•6734.

K.I.S.S.I Caring, sensitive, attractive, athletic white female, 30, 5'7", seeks caring, stable, professional, active, handsome white male, 28-35. Friends of Bill W's preferred. Together we can enjoy each day as it comes! EXT•6702.

ATTRACTIVE, CLASSY, Cape Verde black female, 23, 5'3 1/2", well-built, easygoing, loves the movies, skating, travel, dancing, dining, kids, nights on the beach, and quiet nights alone together. Seeks down to earth, fun, energetic, white or Hispanic male with similar qualities & a great sense of humor. Don't be shy, give me a try! EXT•6773.

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT & CLASSY! White female, 35, fit (emotionally & physically), professional, positive, energetic, diversified, outgoing personality. Seeks secure mature, handsome male who is healthy, charismatic, communicative, straight forward, sociable, affectionate, humorous, monogamous, childless & a non-smoker, for friendship, relationship & possibly marriage. EXT•6711.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, sensuous & petite lady, 35, dark hair & eyes, enjoys the beach, music, bodybuilding, cooking, fun/quiet times together. Seeks very good-looking, romantic, physically fit man, with similar interests, for friendship, possibly more. EXT•6619.

WARM, CARING & ATTRACTIVE divorced white female, 32, 5'5", 136 lbs, school nurse, very fit, enjoys running, biking, hiking, swimming & much more. Has an affinity to tall, warm Jewish males. Seeks attractive, non-smoking, educated, professional male, 30-45, who wears cotton & has a great sense of humor, for a fun-filled, loving relationship. EXT•6695.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 21, 140 lbs, 5'8", seeks tall & handsome, non-smoking white male, 21-25, who is caring, compassionate & trustworthy. Social drinker Ok! EXT•6683.

PULL OVER OFFICER! This tall, blonde, green-eyed woman has an APB on you: White male, 30-50, 5'10"+, physically fit, cleanshaven, non-smoker, enjoys movies, music, dancing, animals & conversation, among other things. EXT•6684.

SINGLE MOM, 25, seeking friendship possibly more! Interests include going to movies, and hanging out at home. Seeks well groomed, educated man. Call and we'll see if we match up. I'll be waiting! EXT•6503.

WHAT CAN I TELL YOU? The truth is I'm gorgeous, slender, voluptuous & passionate. My academic credentials & creative achievements are impeccable. This 37yr old, divorced white female would like to meet you. Your attributes: intelligence, stability, loyalty & looks. White male professional, 38-48, desired. EXT•6671.

SOPHISTICATED, INTELLECTUAL LADY is also wild, passionate & adventuresome. If your tastes range from Biba to The Blue Diner, The MSA to The ICA, The Roxy to Ed Burke's, this 35yr old, sexy, attractive woman would love to meet you. EXT•6574.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 26, 129 lbs, seeks an "all true" man, who is caring, compassionate, devoted & trustworthy! No games! EXT•6525.

BUBBLY 33YR OLD professional lady-anxious to make this a wonderful spring! If you are considerate, sincere and personable, please give me a call! EXT•6501.

CONSIDERABLY ATTRACTIVE white female, 47, 5'5", 129 lbs, green eyes, dark brown hair, seeks sincere, faithful, down to earth male, 47-55, who is fun to be with. If interested, please call soon, I'm waiting! EXT•6507.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

VERY SUCCESSFUL, HANDSOME, professional, caring, funny, divorced Jewish male author, 41, 6'1", 183 lbs, fit, into the outdoors, books, music & friends. I think that Republicans suffer from a serious mental disorder. Seeking attractive, intelligent woman, 24-35. EXT•7370.

SEEKS A TRULY GORGEOUS WOMAN! White male, 27, 6'1", 185 lbs, looking for a beautiful woman, 23-35, who will turn heads when she walks into a room. Seeks someone who enjoys talking about politics, current events & movies. I'm interested in a woman who enjoys quiet, romantic dinners as well as having a good time with a group of people. If you're out there, please give me a call! EXT•7356.

SOPHISTICATED, ACADEMIC Jewish male, 50's, 5'11", slender, a variety of interests & travel experience. Interested in a committed relationship and/or marriage with an attractive, educated, intelligent, caring woman, American or foreign, who is childless but considering starting a family. EXT•7372.

MULTIDIMENSIONAL WHITE MALE with creative mission & accessible heart, spiritual, wise, athletic, musical, vulnerable. Seeks similar, slender, unconventional, compassionate, energetic, curious woman, 30's, for an intimate, playful partnership & mutual growth. Trust your impulses! EXT•7375.

YUPPIE IMAGE, compassionate personality! Attractive young professional, 22, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, healthy, intelligent, articulate, dynamic, honest & such a romantic. Seeking young (22-28), attractive, optimistic, honest, career-oriented woman to enjoy travel, recreation, diversion & to share the special opportunities of a progressive lifestyle. EXT•7377.

HONEST BLACK MALE, 34, 6', 215 lbs, college graduate, enjoys travel, conversation, music, good food, theatre, golf & the outdoors. Seeks friendship with a smoke & drug free, loving, attractive, sincere woman. EXT•7350.

SEEKING THE ROYAL TREATMENT? Professional white male, 30, 5'10", is looking to treat that special someone like a queen. If your looking for romance, friendship & excitement from a true gentleman, pick up the phone if your still alone! I'll set your heart on fire if passion is what you desire! EXT•7407.

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE! Tarzan seeks Jane! White male from Boston, 28, 6'1", 190 lbs, attractive yet modest, brown hair, blue eyes, athletic build, enjoys hockey, football & tennis. Seeks an attractive, sarcastic woman to keep me guessing! Age & race unimportant! EXT•7383.

A REAL MAN! Black male, 28, 6'3", 225 lbs, dark & handsome. This sincere, intelligent, humorous & employed gentleman dares you to take a chance on, who knows?! EXT•7384.

LET'S MEET EACH OTHER! Black male, 27, 5'10", 160 lbs. My godmother said "Boy, you don't need to place no ad! You got a lot going for you; your handsome, funny & got plenty of sense. Let them ladies come to you, or either take your butt to church!" I laughed! True story! Call me ladies! EXT•7399.

CREATIVE GENTLEMAN LEVITATES slender, pretty woman, 35-45! Share the magic with me: athletic, articulate, good-looking white male, 45, 5'10", slim, former Engineer now self-employed kind of guy. Enjoys the country, hiking, canoeing, skiing, culture and values intelligence, communication & humor. A moonlight walk will make our spirits soar! EXT•7404.

WHITE MALE, 52, wishes to meet an active female, 40-52, in great shape, to enjoy the city, country, beaches, hiking, biking & skating together. Don't forget great pizza too! For additional info, kindly call EXT•7381.

LOOKING FOR REAL LOVE! Handsome black male, 25, sweet, caring, very honest, has a great sense of humor & morals, seeks Ms. Right with similar qualities. Race unimportant! EXT•7297.

NERVOUS ABOUT THE PERSONALS, but tired of the bar scene! This white male, 29, 190 lb, Cambridge professional, enjoys biking, photography, ethnic foods, movies & the Plough and Stars. If you have similar interests, why not call? EXT•7256.

THIS WHITE MALE is a young 41 with a touch of gray, successful professional, tall, slender, Ok to look at, leads an active life (indoors & out), and enjoys fine dining as well as simple fare, exercise, beaches, humor, old movies, reading, music, you name it! If you're 30-40, single or divorced, female please, just call...that's all! EXT•7284.

SEXY WHITE MALE, 44, dark hair, green eyes, nice smile, good sense of humor, college grad, self employed, enjoys body building, jogging, fitness, dining out, dancing, walking, music & more. Seeks female body builder to share my gym & work out together. Must be a fun person! EXT•7314.

THE ONE FOR YOU! Handsome Jewish male, 35, tall, slim, intelligent business professional with heart, soul, sensitivity, wit, playfulness, a great sense of humor & many interests. Seeks a classy & pretty Jewish female, 23-34, not overweight, who has style, intelligence, and is ready for a committed relationship. EXT•7258.

LAID-BACK & EASYGOING, 23yr old male, new to Boston, seeks to explore the movies, music & outdoors that Boston has to offer. I'm athletic, educated, good-looking, creative & have a good sense of humor. Seeks down to earth female counterpart for summer fun & possibly more. EXT•7332.

WHITE MALE, 39, 6'3", 195 lbs, cute, fit, athletic, poetic, adventuresome, lovable, funny & intelligent. Seeks a quality woman, 25-35, for a relationship. EXT•7312.

HONEST, EDUCATED & SECURE white male, 25, professional photographer & classical/jazz musician, with many other interests. Seeks content, non-smoking, educated woman, with a healthy, positive self-image, who's slightly embarrassed to be reading these ads. No pressure or expectations of any kind. EXT•7293.

HUMOROUS, ATHLETIC, attractive white male professional, nearing mid-30's, 5'9", 160 lbs, very physically fit, enjoys many sports. Seeks an attractive, athletic woman, 28-37, who sees the tighter side of life, has a lot of energy, but also likes quiet times to share feelings & thoughts. EXT•7342.

READY TO SETTLE DOWN! Tall, dark & handsome white male, 39, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair & eyes, honest, sincere, great sense of humor. Seeks the girl next door, for love, marriage & family. So, what are you waiting for? Serious replies only! EXT•7274.

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, SINCERE, blond, adventurous, honest, down to earth, responsible, caring male, 31, seeks a lady to enjoy life's adventures with. EXT•7321.

WHITE MALE, 34, 5'11", 170 lbs, self employed, homeowner, non-smoker, non-drinker, seeks slim, outdoorsy white female for sincere relationship. I enjoy bicycling, hiking, camping, beaches, travel, concerts, movies, dining & quiet times. EXT•7264.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7279.

ATTRACTIVE, HONEST, WARM, affectionate, caring, giving, black Jewish medical professional, 42, 5'9 1/2", 145 lbs, slim, spontaneous & romantic, loves outdoor life. Seeks white or Jewish female, 35-45, 5'5"+, slim, attractive, down to earth, comfortable with herself, ready to meet a challenge & willing to work on them together. No walking wounded please! EXT•7333.

NOT SUPERMAN, and not looking for super women! Fit white male, 44, 5'11", brown hair & eyes, enjoys music (country, jazz & top 40), the beach, staying home & doing Boston. Would love to meet a fit, non-smoking, buxom, sexy woman for fun & relationship. EXT•7257.

WHITE MALE, 27, 6'8", 250 lbs, enjoys dining out, dancing, walks along the beach & quiet times together. Seeks white female, 23-30, 5'8"+, for possible friendship & romance. EXT•7326.

DIVORCED WHITE MALE, 30's, 5'10", loves women; bound to like you. I can build anything, read everything, and ski. You should be a cut above Mensa, eclectic & sensual. We're adults now-kids are included. Be dangerous! EXT•7282.

KIND, KINKY & CARING! White male, 26, blond hair, blue eyes, works out regularly, enjoys dancing, golfing & having fun. Believes a relationship is based on trust, communication & commitment. Seeks an athletic & outgoing female, 26-30. EXT•7319.

SLEEPLESS IN BOSTON? Here's your chance to come alive! Handsome white male, 36, 6'2", black hair, green eyes, non-smoker/drinker, seeks attractive white female, 25-34, who enjoys life's pleasures. EXT•7325.

OLDER WOMEN ONLY! White male professional, 29, 5'9", brown hair, blue eyes, intelligent, tired of being single, looking for Ms. Right. She is 30-34, petite and enjoys movies, dining out, walks, skiing, snuggling, being pampered & dancing. EXT•7331.

LETS SHARE SOME QUALITY TIME! Divorced white male, 49, 5'9", 172 lbs, Scorpio, considered good-looking, seeks attractive female, age unimportant, for a lasting relationship. Intimacy & communication are very important. EXT•7244.

CLEAN & SOBER WHITE MALE, 39 (looks 38 1/2), 5'10", 165 lbs, hazel eyes, brown hair, down to earth, humorous & emotionally secure, into blues, beaches & books. In search of an honest & open-minded woman to share fun, fantasies & maybe a future. A life & love is better shared! EXT•7248.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

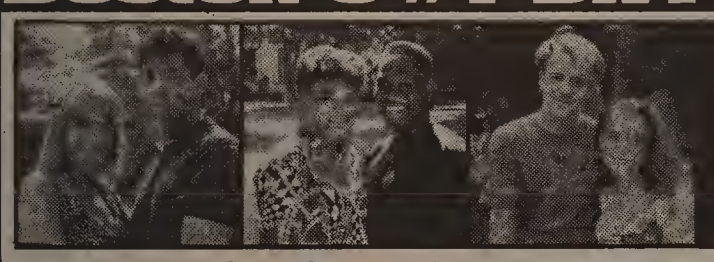
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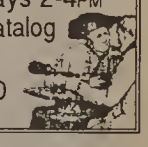
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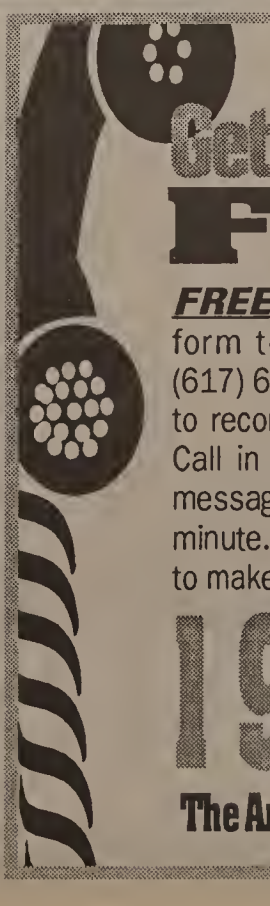
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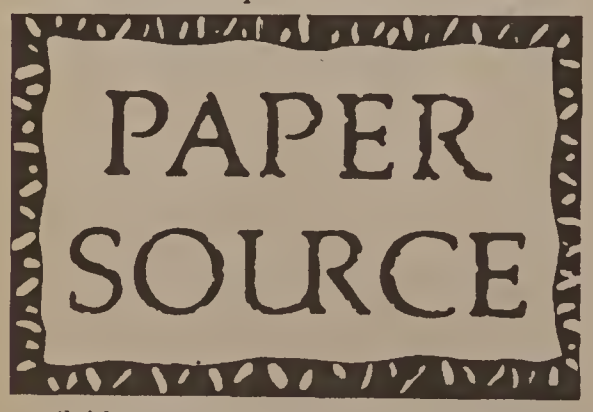
Deconstructing Boston's Construction Boom

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Resourceful Papers

Papers, in this case, include versions of paper you may have never seen or imagined; it might be truer to describe them as a slightly frailer version of fabric. The 1,000 papers they sell here include handmade Oriental, Egyptian, South American, Indian, and European. These styles are thicker and crunchier than ordinary paper and come in an array of colors, designs, and textures. The owners cite the two-fold mission of the store: their products are intended to be both wacky and elegant. The papers cry out for aesthetic projects: bookbinding, original invitations, decorative ventures of all sorts (someone who works here made a wallet out of paper you'd think was skinny leather). Some are sold in sheets in the manner of cloth. But Paper Source also sells interesting handmade smaller papers and stationery sets in government refund-check brown, charcoal, flecked gray, and in marbled styles. Beautiful wrapping papers that might live on to paper a dollhouse wall or stripe the slats in a chair are



available. Twisty ropes of raffia coiling around the store, woven abaca that looks like fine burlap, and other ribbons in a silky mesh make you want to wrap and enfold well, almost anything. Their other major line is rubber stamps, a huge, ever-burgeoning array of them; funny ones, exotic ones, and stamps of animals, including a fascinatingly sinister tabby cat. The intended marriage, of course, is between the tempting stamps and the equally tempting papers, and workshops will be given from time to time in extending that union creatively.

Paper Source
1810 Massachusetts Avenue
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497-1077

Men At Work, Therapeutically Speaking

Following in the format of women's groups, and in fact honoring their spirit, psychologist Jack Sternbach will be offering a series of men's group-retreat weekends on the Vineyard in the fall and winter. Sternbach, who calls himself a "minimalist group leader," has a talent for helping, for letting happen, for simply setting the stage for a remarkably intimate flow among the men in his groups. He is a believer in the idea that men have a need and a capacity for connectedness, a contemporary cry of the women's movement that Sternbach respectfully adapts to what he sees as the particular needs of men. Since, as he believes, modern day men often tilt toward the

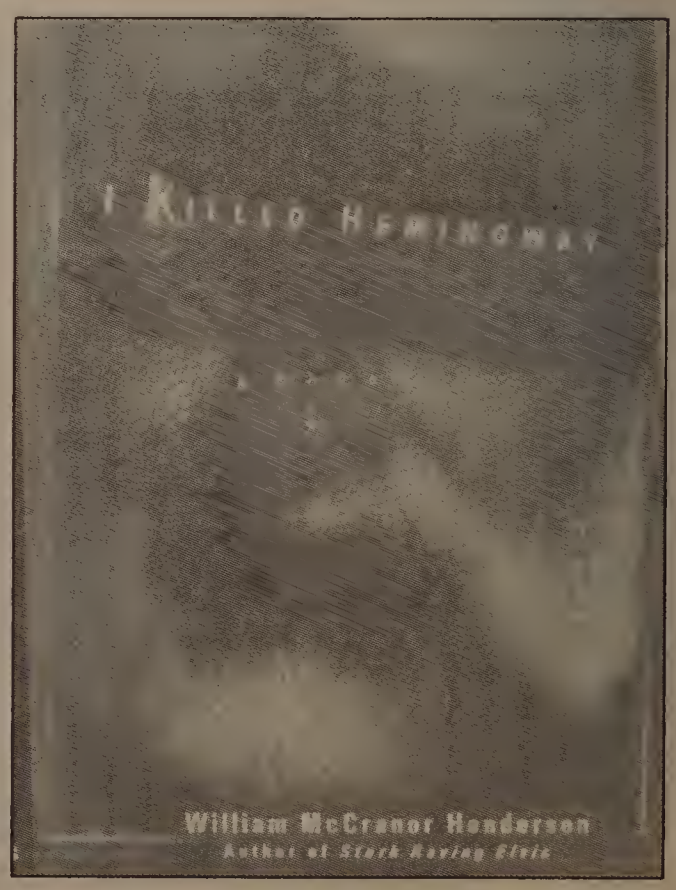


poles of aggression, or else toward a passive, retreatist position, his groups promote, specifically, a less-aggressive, not so character-armored attitude, and one that works against distancing. "Old ways of being masculine don't work," he says, "They make men anxious, and then they can lose themselves, lose their families and even their lives. But I believe men can tap into a deeper potential for caring about each other, into more authenticity, that can carry over to other relationships." Men in crisis, or those simply looking for "growth" can, as he puts it, rise to the challenges being offered them. All walks come to his groups, including men in blue collar jobs (and as there are many stripes of blue collar these days, including academics-become-carpenters, the mix is rich indeed). Other, more specific weekends include fathers-and-sons, men in recovery, and, in October, a weekend for male therapists. Cost is $250 plus $125 for food and lodgings. Call for more information.

Jack Sternbach: The Men's Seminar
RFD Box 607
Vineyard Haven
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508-693-7613

The Importance Of Writing Ernest

Amid the slavish Hemingway-ites of Key West – academics, biographers, latter-day Lost Generation drifters, would-be writers in the mode of terse, nostalgic toughness – there is one especially salty loon who calls himself not Poppa, but Pappy. In the extremely witty, though underlyingly tormented novel *I Killed Hemingway*, by William McCranor Henderson, the Pappy character not only alleges to have been the person who wrote Hemingway's works but also makes the claim to have eventually murdered him, driven to it by betrayal and bitterness. The narrator of the story, Elliott McGuire, a played-out Hemingway scholar himself, takes on the task of ghostwriting Pappy's memoirs in a scammy deal which becomes ever more convoluted, riotous and ruinous, as the wheezing geezer reveals himself to be seriously cooked. Themes of authenticity versus plagiarism, of the real truth chafing against various slippery fictive versions of the "truth," are played out extravagantly; the 20s come to a seedy, boozy, highly entertaining redux in the present. Henderson (author of *Stark Raving Elvis*) conjures up a cast of wild characters that he views askance through a long skinny 30 degree angle of irony. The writing is lusciously funny and, as in a mystery, the tension of what-finally-happened stays springy to the last page.



I Killed Hemingway
By William McCranor Henderson
St. Martin's Press

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for *The Atlantic*, *NY Times Book Review and Magazine*, *Parent's Choice*, *RedBook*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, *Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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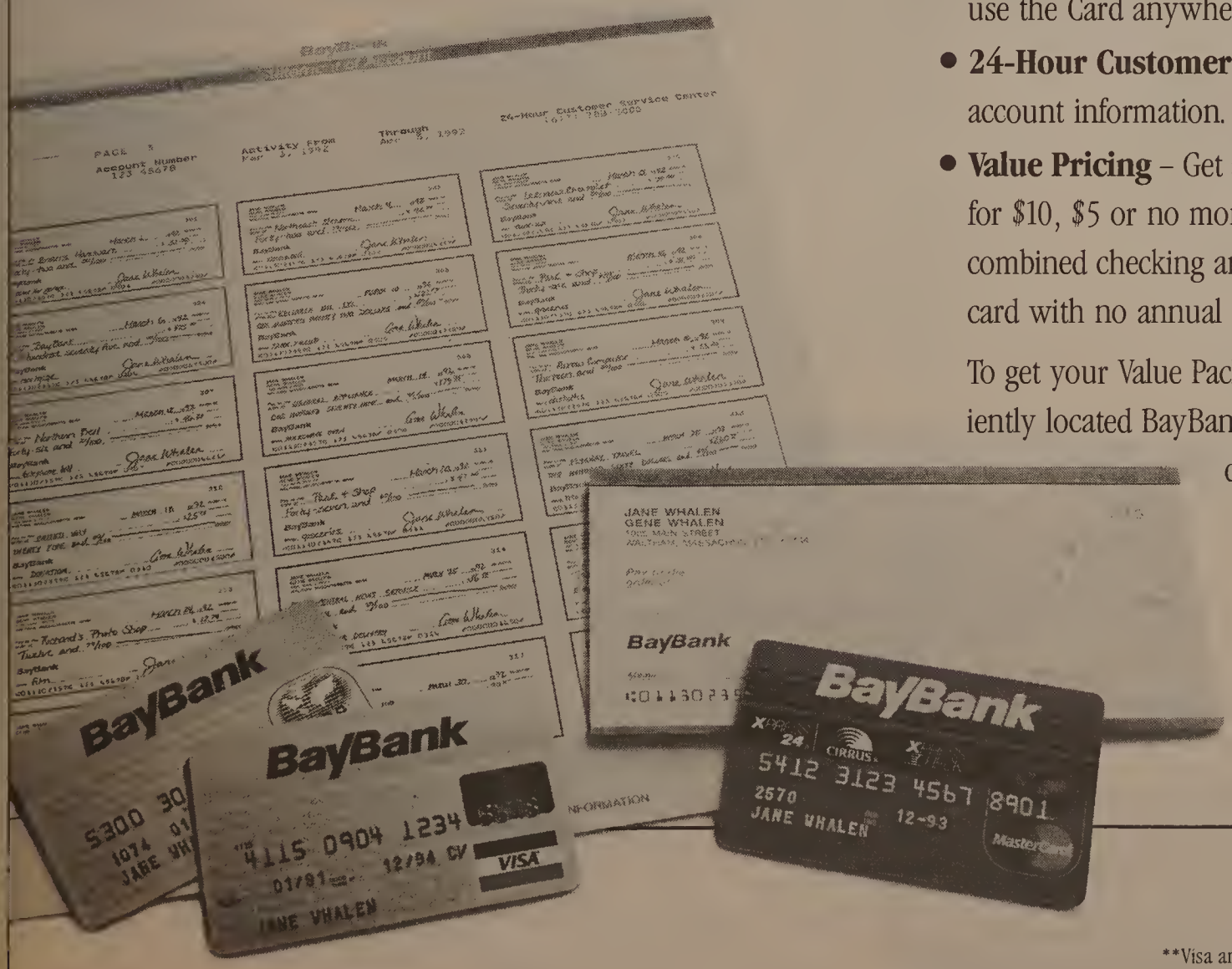
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10 Constructive Criticism

The bad news: the boom busted We're broke. The good? So are the developers. Fred Atherton surveys the wreckage deposited on Boston's skyline by the Trumpian '80's and concludes there's hope for the future as the Hub builds up its image.

By Fred Atherton



16 Outside Joke

For comedian Greg Roman, being gay is just a routine part of his profession. "I don't want to play gay clubs because my material is really geared toward straight audiences."

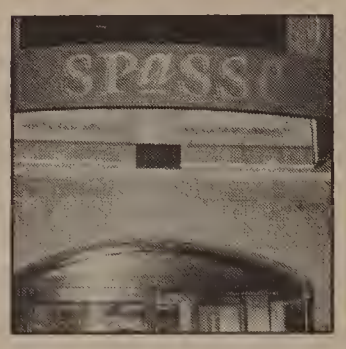
By John Hall



25 Last Call of the Wild at Spasso

The Queen of the Night, ventures into the quiet-eatery-by-day, raging-scammery-by-night Spasso to reveal a top secret: Thursday nights. " On Thursday nights, the hordes descend on Spasso like sharks on bait." Find out why.

By Lauren Dare





On The Cover

Photographed by: Paul Pilcher

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photo by Tracy Aiguier

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HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

1 Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Come to a free sampling of **King Richard's Faire** at the Hatch Shell today from 5-7 p.m. See a full-dress joust, jugglers, lions, magicians, stiltwalkers, fire-eaters and more. The real Faire runs from Sept. 4-Oct. 24 in South Carver; call 492-6944 for details



AFFAIR OF THE CENTURY
Elizabeth Walsh and George Dvorsky, stars of New York City Opera, as Fiona MacLaren and Tommy Albright in Brigadoon, *on September 2-18.*

THURSDAY

2 Tonight is opening night for the North Shore Music Theatre's production of the musical ***Brigadoon,*** a classic love story about a magical town that emerges from the mists of Scotland just one day each century. Tickets are $35.50. Call (508) 922-8500.

FRIDAY

3 The 2nd annual **International Festival of Short Films** begins tonight at the Somerville Theater and runs through Sept. 12. It's a two-hour collection of 11 live-action short films from five countries, including Oscar winner *Work Experience* from England and Gus Van Sant's and William Burroughs's masterful *Thanksgiving Prayer.* Tickets are $7, $5 for the 4 p.m. shows. Call 1-800-925-CINE.

SATURDAY

4 The whining tourists have all departed, so Newport can revel in an untainted party atmosphere. **Chunky Productions** presents another Viking bash, the **Last Action Party, at the Viking Hotel on Bellevue Ave.** Four D.J.s will help you send your summer out with a bang with five hours of dancing and non-stop fun. Advance tickets $15. Call 983-2232.

SUNDAY

5 Nagging wives, whining children, mothers-in-law, and food will be the main topics in the award-winning *Catskills on Broadway,* four comedians on the Catskills circuit who perform their unique brand of Jewish humor **today only** at 3 & 8 p.m. at the North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly. Call (508) 922-8500. Tickets are $35.50.

MONDAY

6 You won't be working on Labor Day if you can get tickets to this **WaldenWoods benefit** at Foxboro Stadium. **Don Henley, Elton John, Sting, Aerosmith, Bonnie Raitt, Melissa Etheridge** and others will perform to benefit Thoreau's favorite place. The music begins at 5 p.m.; tickets begin at $35. Call 367-3787.

TUESDAY

7 Beat the back-to-school blues...Check out the opening of **"New Paintings of Boston" by Ed Stitt**, a young realist painter whose depictions of Boston buildings - both famous and mundane - would make you swear it was a photograph. Also on view are works by Elizabeth Rosenblum on the theme "Pathologizing Desire." From Sept. 7 to Oct. 2, at Gallery Naga, 67 Newbury Street.

WEDNESDAY

8 Got a case of the mid-week empty wallet? Head over to **The Middle East Club's Cheap Date Night.** For $3 you can catch a hot new performer, and mingle with other mid-week adventurers. Call 492-4515.

THURSDAY

9 **Saltimbanco/Cirque du Soleil** opens its Boston stint tonight under the blue-and-yellow Big Top on Northern Avenue, near the World Trade Center. Magic, mystery, acrobatics, theater and special effects - it's sure to knock your socks off. Call 426-0611 for times and tickets.

FRIDAY

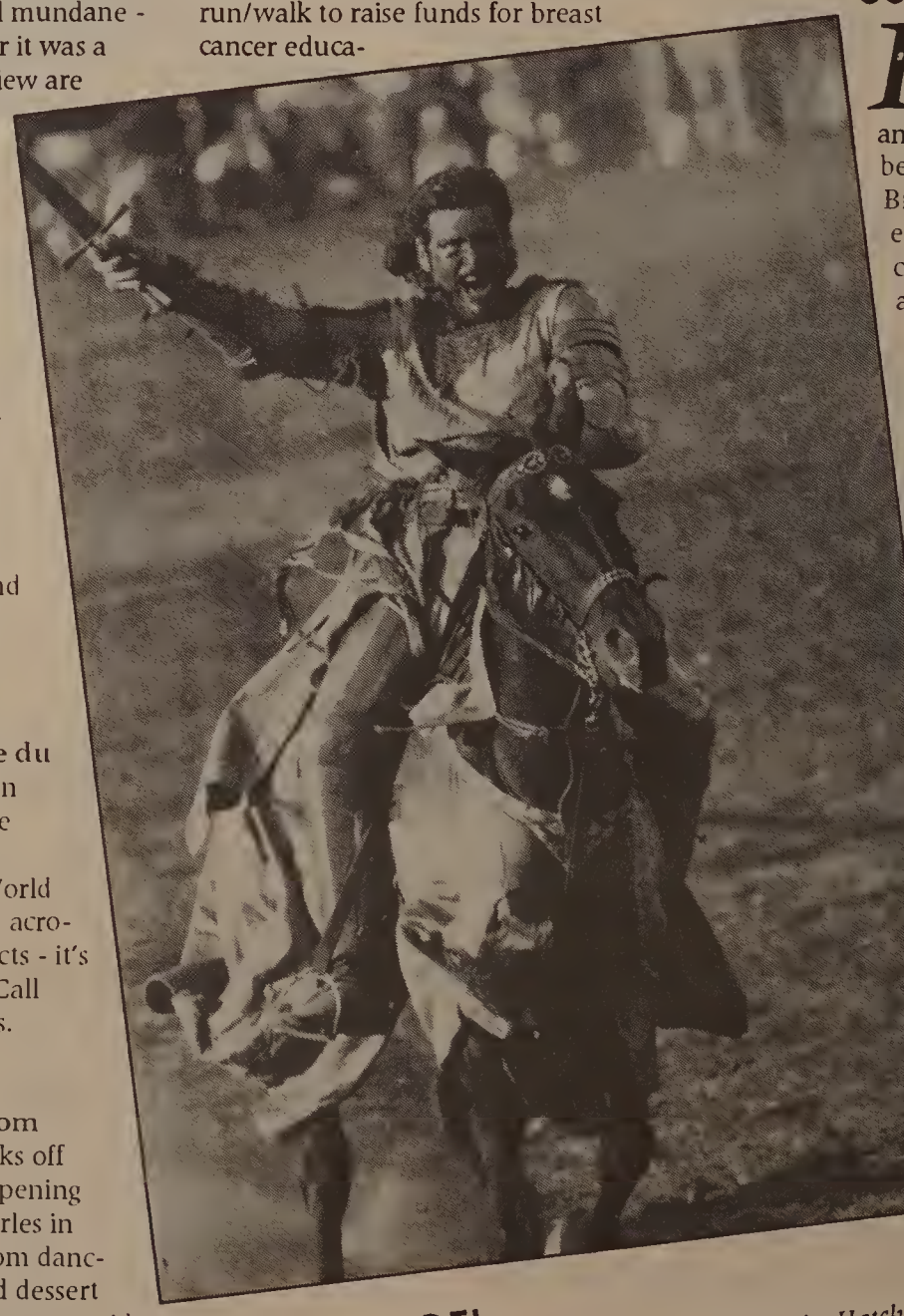
10 **National Ballroom Dance Week** kicks off tonight with an opening gala at Moseley's-on-the-Charles in Dedham. There will be ballroom dancing, a championship show and dessert buffet; the event lasts from 8 p.m. to midnight. Call 491-7153 for tickets and reservations.



THANKSGIVING IN SEPTEMBER
William Burroughs in Gus Van Sant's Thanksgiving Prayer. *September 3 at the 2nd annual Festival of Short Films.*

SATURDAY

11 Put on your running shoes and join Kiss 108's Billy Costa, Channel 7's Margie Reedy, and many others in the **1993 Boston Race for the Cure**, a 5K run/walk to raise funds for breast cancer education, mammogram screening, and research. The race will be held at Daly Field along the Charles River. Please call the New Balance Hotline at 783-4000, x. 2862.



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SUNDAY

12 More than 50 juried craftspeople will be on hand at the 7th annual **Festival in the Park**, at beautiful Larz Anderson Park in Brookline. There will be live entertainment, food, arts & crafts, and more. From 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 887-3291.

MONDAY

13 **The 9th Annual Boston Film Festival** begins today at the Loews Copley Place and runs through Sept. 23. There are sure to be some real gems; call 333-FILM for a daily schedule.

TUESDAY

14 After a long day at school or work, join the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands for a **Sunset Picnic Cruise to Gallops Island.** Bring a picnic; snacks and beverages available on the boat. Board at 6:15, depart 6:30 from Bay State Cruises, Long Wharf, Boston (near Aquarium). Call 740-4290.

CITY RAVE

COMPILED BY JON KOOKER

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

CIRCUS

Cirque Du Soleil, "Saltimbanco." Sept. 9 through 19. The internationally acclaimed French Canadian theatrical circus, Cirque Du Soleil, is arriving in Boston for the first time this fall to raise the big-top on the Fan Pier next to the World Trade Center Boston Thousands are sure to be thrilled by diverse performances such as the "Elastics" aerial act, a combination of bungee-jumping and ballet, and the world famous contortion performances of the Tchelnokov family. For tickets call the Cirque du Soleil box office at (617) 426-0611, or Ticketmaster at 931-2000.



MOVIES

The Man Without a Face. Directed by Mel Gibson. Based on the novel by Isabelle Holland, Mel Gibson stepped behind the camera for the first time to direct this Warner Bros. release that charts the growth of an extraordinary friendship. Newcomer Nick Stahl is a solitary student attempting



to pass the entrance exam to his recently deceased father's alma mater and enlists the help of an equally reclusive ex-teacher portrayed by Gibson. Both characters share tragic pasts that eventually work to bring them together.

RECORDINGS

John Mellencamp Human Wheels. The first single release, "What If I Came Knocking?", is already in the top ten and, though everyone in the Mellen camp is surely hoping for the album to follow, some fans may wonder if Mellencamp has fallen into a lack luster rut. Due in stores early September.

Stone Temple Pilots EP Even if they do sound too much like Pearl Jam, their debut album remains near the top of the charts and shows no signs of losing steam. Though shorter than a full length release, the follow-up effort, tentatively titled, "EP", is sure to draw thousands of fans to their local record stores. Due in stores September 7.

CONCERT

Rod Stewart Great Woods, September 17/18. For two nights only, Great Woods hosts another of rock's inscrutable artists. Having betrayed his talent for years, Rod Stewart has come back into the spotlight with a top selling MTV "Unplugged" CD, a happy marriage, and a future that's brighter than ever. Like many of his contemporaries, Stewart will perform hits from the past and present. Call 931-2000 to get your tickets well in advance.

BOOKS

Streets of Laredo. Larry McMurtry. (Simon and Shuster, $25.00) From the author of *The Last Picture Show* and *Terms of Endearment* comes the sequel to his 1985 epic *Lonesome Dove.* Captain Woodrow F. Call is back as an aging bounty hunter contracted to bring in one of the last true outlaws of the American Frontier, who in the course of his travels, meets up with the likes of true life criminals such as John Wesley Hardin (the guy who "once shot a man, just for snorin' too loud!) Fans of the first novel or the mini-series also get the further adventures of Lorena Wood and the wily corporal Pea-Eye.

VIDEO

Mad Dog and Glory. Directed by John McNaughton. Martin Scorsese produced this first rate comedy that is currently drawing more attention as a home video release than its first run at the theaters. Conventional casting trends seem inverted as De Niro plays the introverted cop and Bill Murray portrays the manipulative hoodlum. The pair become fast friends through a series of misadventures but soon head for eventual conflict when a young woman enters the picture.

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Ritz-Carlton Boston Jumper Classic. Sept. 12. Riding enthusiasts won't want to miss the world famous Temple Lippizans performing the elegant art of



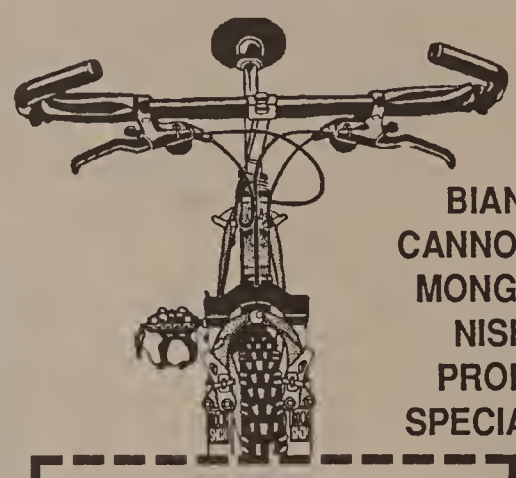
Classical Dressage at the opening ceremonies and intermission of the 1993 Jumper Classic, at the Fox Hollow Farm in Hamilton, MA. The main attraction will turn heads as well as top riders compete on a specially designed course of challenging jumps. Children under five watch for free while general admission is only $15.00 for adults. Order in advance and call Ticket Pro at 1-800-828-7080.



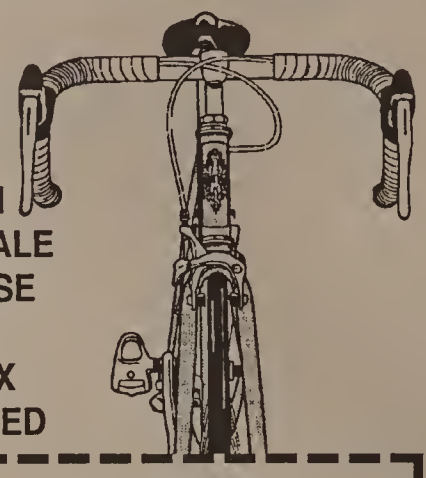
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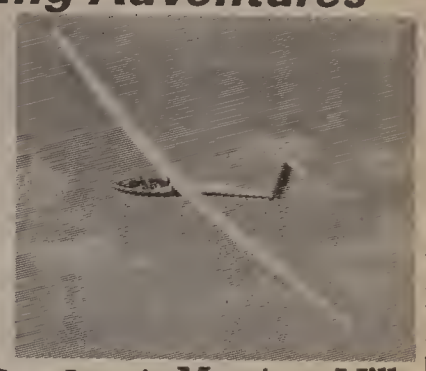
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Constructive Criticism

After watching their skyline go boom, Bostonians can (finally) look up to a better future.

By Fred Atherton

So, we don't have jobs. So, the Armani's getting a bit threadbare and the last sushi we had was wrestled from a sea gull. The market crashed, the boom busted. We're broke. But look on the bright side: the *developers* are too. The conventional wisdom of American developers has long been that the vital city pushes ever upward and outward, and nowhere was this more true than in the Boston of the 1980s. Victorian low-rises and rolling pastures were simply obsolete—nothing got the Reagan-era Bostonian's adrenaline pumping like the thought of a few hundred-thousand new square feet of office or retail space rising in their stead. Healthy vitality? For a tumor, certainly.



ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE: *"I want it tall like a lipstick and pink like a powder puff."*

There was a time when Boston had the unkempt congeniality of an eccentric but sporadically brilliant maiden aunt: one who pulled rare gifts from the mysterious depths of her tweeds—things you never knew you wanted until they glittered in your hand. Rising out of a uniform landscape of low red brick and brownstone, gilt domes and granite pinnacles danced across the skyline, and tiny green parks nestled in the bosom of countless neighborhoods. Boston basked in apparently eternal Indian summer: the literary and architectural triumphs of the past century reigned unchallenged well into the second half of this one. Henry James's proper Bostonian would recognize Cleveland Amory's in an instant.

Boston had languished in genteel poverty for decades, making Yankee virtue out of an inability to afford large new buildings in that the old ones suited quite as well, *thank you* . Various rich suitors, the Prudential, and the federal urban-renewal types, came bearing gaudy trinkets, but these were so soon seen as embarrassing that they remain to this day moldering where they were dropped. Our heads remained unturned, although the irritating consequences of these one-night stands persist like herpes. Through the seventies, when Bostonians built for themselves, the results were predictably conservative: functional black or brown filing cabinets in which to conduct business — so nondescript, they practically disappear.

The great rule-proving exception is the shimmering mirage of the Hancock tower. For all the trouble its construction caused, this building has earned its place on our skyline by virtue of its self-effacing grace and perfect, paradoxical form. No one who has watched its moods shift with the weather— witnessing the sunbeams it focuses and bends over Back Bay at dawn or seen the lights it shines through an evening fog like a Whistler nocturne—can deny that a Boston without the Hancock would now be unthinkable. It is extravagant in its restraint, slightly mystical, even transcendent. What could be more fitting for the city of Emerson and Santayana, Gibran, and Mrs. Gardner?

But then, close on the heels of this great success, the old girl jumped the rails. In a move unprecedented in 300 years, our beloved maiden aunt went out on a bender like a Revere housewife who just won Megabucks. Today, slumped amid the wreckage, we can begin to assess the damage.

The first major sign of trouble rose in a Band-Aid-colored blob between the Copley Plaza Hotel and Huntington Avenue. Copley Place was a tentative step down the slippery slope to Trumpian abandon: a facade as bland and tasteless as yesterday's porridge concealed Boston's first marble-lined galleria mall à la Houston.

Copley Place is not entirely without virtue. The surface application of glitz cannot quite conceal the admirable planning and engineering that allows the complex to straddle the Pike extension, rail lines, and busy city streets. High above the clamoring mall, the office atrium even has a clean futurist charm reminiscent of the old sci-fi film *The Shape of Things to Come.*



THE GENZYME FACTORY: *The best new building in Boston, no matter what the* Globe *says.*

What is unforgivable, however, given Copley Place's proximity to H.H. Richardson's Trinity Church and McKim, Mead & White's Public Library, is that this thoroughly banal building repeats the fatal mistake of the Prudential Center in an infinitely more sensitive position. The building denies the street. ALL the action is hermetically sealed inside, an interminable flight up from ground level. Unlike the boutique mecca of Newbury Street, which provides an endless lively pageant of shoppers and strollers in public space, Copley Place sucks tourists and consumers off the street into a removed, rigidly controlled, private domain without giving back so much as a handsome front or a bit of public sculpture to the square (the *Horses of Famine* on Dartmouth Street most decidedly does *not* count).

Because the complex is ringed by six-lane roads and highway ramps, it would have been difficult to ask the developers and architects to provide retail or restaurant space opening directly onto Huntington or Dartmouth. Something with a bit more curb appeal, however, could certainly have been offered: smaller curtain-wall elements (bricks or tiles rather than slabs the size of a tractor-trailer) and a finer pattern of windows or even blind niches would give some link to the scale of Copley Square's other buildings. The building is as antiurban and unfriendly as a space station or its close cousin, the suburban mall.

Copley Place was but the thin end of the wedge. Two other placeless "Places" went up in its wake that haven't a single redeeming feature between them: Lafayette Place and International Place. It has already been publicly suggested, with some degree of gravity, that the only solution to Campeau's spectacular failure at Lafayette Place is demolition. Offensive without (dumb expanses of flyspecked gray brick), depressing within (Buck Rogers's version of the 25th century was more convincing), and tawdry overall, one can only hope the end comes soon. A parking lot would be a refreshing change (probably more lucrative, too).

Surprisingly enough, International Place isn't a mall but that other great joy of the '80s developer: speculative office space. A gift from Mr. Chiofaro to the city: International Place is hundreds of thousands of square feet of nothing at all wrapped in paper-thin mauve granite and tied with a shiny pink bow. Gee, thanks.

The wild excess and crashing illiteracy of this building are all but unrivaled—it resembles nothing so much as the building that Eva Gabor, playing a cosmetics mogul, commissioned from Mike Brady in a particularly incisive episode of *The Brady Bunch:* "I want it *tall*, like a lip-stick, and *pink* like a powder puff!" Every surface is covered in something glossy and hard and riotously colored—most of it less than an inch thick. In this case, ugliness is skin-deep, although the dominant circular form is equally inexplicable. While it eliminates corporate infighting about who gets the corner office, almost everyone is saddled with awkward angles and disturbing perspective tricks. Its bizarre form also assures that the building stands aloof from the urban fabric, readily identifiable amid the thicket of downtown buildings.

This, of course, is the key to the game of speculative building: the product has to provide exactly the same caliber of raw space as its competition in a given price range, while at the same time positioning itself as something (ha, ha) completely different. All the, uh, excitement comes from a bit of window-dressing, cheap relative to structure and systems. If this little ruse works, the developer gets out with a quick profit, the tenants get pretty much what they wanted — just what everybody else has — and the rest of us are left with a disjointed city of clamoring, obnoxious facades.

What makes International Place particularly offensive is the fact that its architect was not some untrained hick who started off working for Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker, but Philip Johnson (in partnership with John Burgee), the excruciatingly well-educated dean of fashionable American architects. This is a man who knows that to place 500 palladian (Lord Burlington spins in his grave) windows into a grid robs them of any meaning, stripping them of their proper role as indicators of primary spaces in a classical building. An architect capable of exquisite restraint and well-versed in the workings of proportion (as the famous Glass House and attendant structures on his Connecticut estate will attest), Johnson gleefully passed out architectural wooden nickels throughout the eighties, Boston being one of his biggest dupes. Johnson is such a charming trickster, so obviously brilliant and bored, that it's really very hard to hate him properly. But then, International Place hovers into view on the Expressway.

Actually, Johnson also has the honor of being the architect of the building that was so awful, so unspeakably crass, that Bostonians began to snap out of their trance and realize they were being had. 500 Boylston Street, an homage to Houston crude as they come, rises over Back Bay like a pink-and-silver tombstone. Decked out in finial balls and obelisks and trimmed with clunky aluminum spandrels, this elephantine pink cortege was thought an appropriate backdrop for Trinity Church by no less august a body than the directors of New England Life (now The New England). In fact, they liked it so much initially that they were going to build *two* of them, side by side. A regular graveyard.

Something, perhaps a combination of public outcry (remember the red-slash buttons with a silhouette of the building?) and the dawning horror of the sacrilege they had committed, eventually convinced The New England to fire Johnson from doing the second part of the building and to hire Robert A.M. Stern to build what is now the much-scaled-down 222 Berkeley Street. Perhaps not so coincidentally, this was about the time the boom was running down, and flashy, spec office space was beginning to back up on the market like the contents of an unhappy septic system.

The red-brick 222 Berkeley, while constrained by the same market economies as its trampy sister, manages to weave itself both into the scale and color palette of Back Bay and into the larger fabric of Boston architecture in the classical tradition. Where 500 Boylston snorts, "I've got columns, they's classykul!," 222 Berkeley has columns and pilasters with fully modeled (if a bit too obviously off-the-rack) Ionic capitals, whose finer detail provides the necessary mitigation of scale between the size of the individual human and the mass of the structure.

Stern's 222 Berkeley is actually more convincingly playful than its clownish neighbor: The tiny, gilt-domed State House housing the revolving door and the overt references to the downtown Jordan Marsh store should delight any observant Bostonian. More than anything, one can be thankful for the tasteful choice and interrelation of materials Although the lobby is lined in marble, its satiny beige slabs are just lightly



222 BERKELEY (LEFT) & 500 BOYLSTON (RIGHT) : *Lady and the Tramp.*

Arts Review / Ruth C. Morss

Lunch With Art

Sink your teeth into these visual feasts

Downtown Boston boasts a number of rewarding excursions for those who take art with their brie. All of the following sights are free and open at lunch.

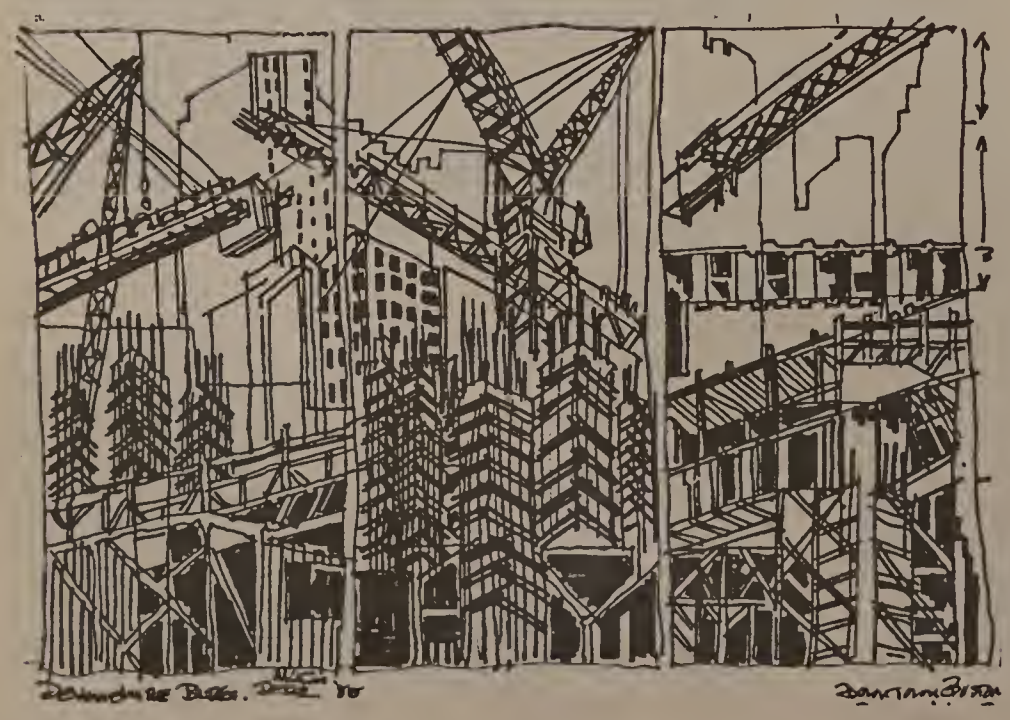
Three exhibit spaces stand within 100 yards of each other in the Financial District. The Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) has recently opened a first floor gallery in its renovated historic building at 62 Summer Street. Here, hanging signs, life-size photographs, and a bathroom built entirely of plastic gallon jugs bring the workings of Boston's water and sewer system up close and very personal. Take home a package of fertilizer pellets and examine the samples of "sludge" and "scum" collected from Boston Harbor. Was CLF thinking of Victor Hugo when it designed this exhibit? We'll never know.

Just down the street, the Society of Arts and Crafts (101 Arch St. Enter at 34 Summer St.) offers a selection of contemporary American crafts, most by local artists. Your arts reviewer lives for jewelry, but it is the furniture, stoneware, ceramics, glass, clay, and fiber art that make this gallery so unusual in Boston. The non-profit Society mounts exhibits and educational events to advance the careers of talented craftspeople.

The Neworld Bank Corporate Gallery (Bank Lobby, 55 Summer St.) has evolved into an important showcase for New England and Boston-area artists. Since 1989, the gallery has featured diverse works by local artists, some emerging and others more established. What other bank has happily installed sculpture, tapestry, mobiles, quilts and water colors in its corporate space? The present show, *City Sizzle* (until September 30), includes six Massachusetts painters who depict the local scene in summer. Bryan Davagian's *Sculling on the Charles* is a super-realistic rendition of an athlete pausing on the water and makes an interesting contrast to Geoff Chalmers's atmospheric *Boston Harbor at Twilight*, which is ablaze with fuschia and purple. Jean Cain's *Money to Loan* brings Edward Hopper softly to mind.

A five-minute walk brings you to The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. If you've been run over on the way, collect yourself by the delightful interior fountain in the lobby before proceeding to the gallery. The Fed owns an important collection of post-1950 American art and puts much of it on public view or in office space. The Fed not only thinks big, it buys big too: witness Frank Stella's *Damascus Gate III*, at 10 x 50 feet one of the largest and most exciting works in the collection. The complex color scheme and precise geometry hypnotize – especially if you've been at a computer terminal all morning. Jack Youngerman's *Black Totem* (tiny at 10 x 7 feet) offers more organic forms and simple color schemes. Best of all, the Fed sponsors a free lunch-time arts/music series in its auditorium. The fall program starts September 16 with an Argentine Tango performance (hotline 973-3453). Exhibits here and at Neworld Bank change about every six weeks.

Don't let the Boston Athenaeum's strange address (10 1/2 Beacon St.) discourage you from visiting. The primary cultural and artistic institution in 19th-century Boston, the Athenaeum retains every inch of its splendor. A sumptuous interior, important works of art, and a view out over the graveyard all bid us to take advantage of this resource while we still have time. Stop in to look around, and make a mental note to visit the show opening September 22 which will showcase the fine and decorative arts acquired in the past 20 years. For guided tours, call 227-0270. ❑



BUILDING AN APPETITE: *Milton Derr's Construction Site, downtown building*

Construction cont.

accented with pink and yellow and not the lethally slick, parti-colored riot that prevails next door. The building displays a clear sense of hierarchy in its massing and fenestration, an admirable restraint in its materials, and a convincing hushed grandeur in its luxury—a sure sign that Boston is coming back to itself.



RICCIARDI RUIN: *Boston's first Post Modern ruin.*

Indeed, in these latter years, the omens have boded well for Boston's aesthetic future, although they've been grim on the economic front. Speculation is all but at a halt; if people build, it is to some definite end, and the results, on balance, are much the better for it. In the blackest years of the '80s glitz storm, a number of Boston architects turned out work of high caliber only to find that their best efforts were often eclipsed in the public eye by the showboat creations of hacks. Happily, those days seem to be over, the dollar signs have been plucked from our eyes, and the business of building Boston has returned to the hands of those who see more solid profit investing in the city and endowing it with substantial, dignified structures than in making a fast buck in a garish shell game.

Mr. Campbell's predictable knee-jerk opinion aside, the most exciting new Bostonian building by far is the Genzyme biotech factory on the banks of the Charles. A beautifully articulated framework of brick-clad steel that will cradle vast bioreactor tanks, this structure adheres to the cardinal rule of intelligibility in building: the purpose of the edifice must be evident in its external form, on second glance, at least. This, most clearly, is a factory—by no means a new thing on these shores: Riverside Press stood opposite for well over a century. Echoing the Beaux Arts steam plant directly across the river, Genzyme's lofty arched windows reveal mammoth steel tendons encircling great open spaces, although the belching smokestacks of heavy industry have given way to a laboratory's neat ranks of ventilation louvers.

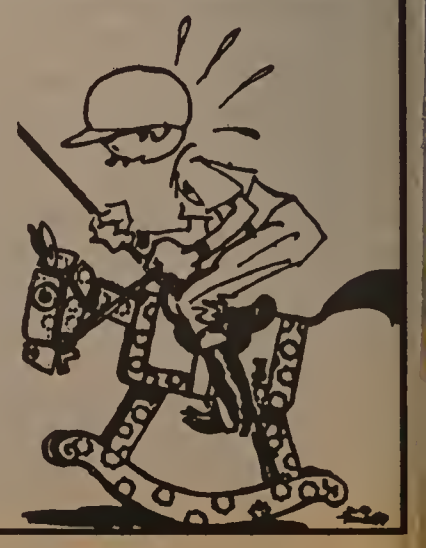
The confident ensemble shares an inevitable clarity and material solidity with the best of H.H.. Richardson's work. Alas, there will be no new gems from this source: the design flowed from the hand of the late Joseph Maybank, of Architectural Resources Cambridge, who did not live to see the completion of his masterpiece. We can only hope that this fine building gives direction to others living in its shadow and represents the form of a reborn Boston-based style.

To close on a cautionary note, any Bostonian who feels some lingering remorse for the end of the boom should take a trip to the Neponset marshes some early evening to reflect upon the city's first Postmodern ruin. Hulking in the crook of Route 3 at the Ashmont exit stands the gaunt skeleton of a typical strip-windowed suburban office block, left high and dry when the green speculative tide ran back out to sea. The steel has begun to rust and the wind whistles through gap-toothed wafers of granite hanging in space. Unwanted and unlovable, it will doubtless stand for decades as a mute reminder of the untold damage the boom wrought not only on Boston's inner core, but upon almost every suburb within the 495 belt. Forested hillsides and farms disappeared , fragile wetlands were plowed under, and the history of small towns were razed for strip malls, office parks, and tracts of greasy asphalt that look much the same wherever one goes. Take a moment, in the bilious pulsating glow of the sodium-arc lamps, to think if the half-empty conveniences gained were really worth losing such vital places to bulldozers. Now trudge back to your clapped-out Pacer and wend your quiet way home.

Ever Feel Like You're Going Nowhere Fast?

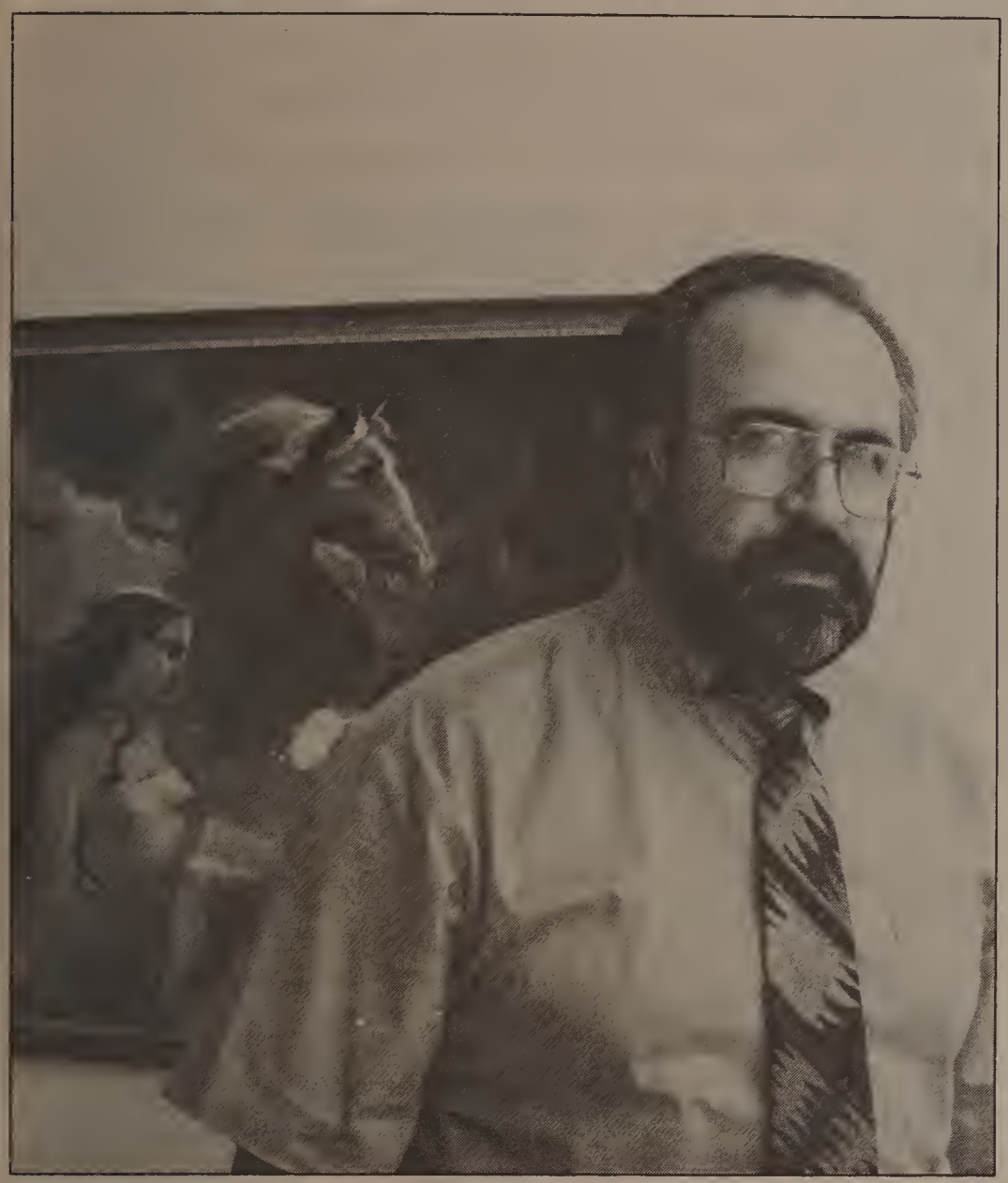
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Daniel Varoujan Hejinian

BY NICOLE L. MILLS

Colors of Contrast and Mystery

Daniel Varoujan Hejinian is a big, burly, bear of a man, presenting a physical image strikingly different from the ethereal, mysterious feminine figures who people his sweeping canvasses. But if you tune up your sensory perceptions, and look again at one of his paintings, you'll start to feel the strength and power and passion that swirl through his works. The dreamy, slight form of a girl moves out of a surface of highly-charged color and vibrancy that lends a distinct power to the composition. A willowy and frail-seeming woman stands coolly before a charging, vivid, boldly-colored horse. "The strong colors," says the artist, gazing at one of his pieces hanging at the Brenda Taylor Gallery on Newbury Street, where he recently held a one night show, "give contrast and mystery. Sometimes the colors don't like each other, but the dominant color creates harmony."

The harmony and integration of the components of the "feminine mystique" is exactly what Varoujan, as he signs his pieces, sets out to convey with his works. The women in his life, his wife, his daughter, his mother, have all been inspirations. "Your mother is your first love," he smiles. But don't read some Oedipally-obsessed sub-context into his works; Varoujan creates his art in an effort to achieve empathy with women, rather than simply slavishly adoring femininity from afar.

Born in Aleppo, Syria, Varoujan left home at 19 to study art in Armenia; he came to the United States 13 years ago and has been working as the art director for Ackerley Communications. His job necessarily entails steeping himself in graphic art in all its commercialized splendor. But, he says, working in this capacity keeps him from letting his own art get too commercial. "My job is my job, and my art is my art. They are two separate things. Having my job supports me and allows me to make my art." While not paying heed to this seeming dichotomy in his own life (many artists seem to believe that commercial success is the ultimate vindication of their art), Varoujan does recognize the duality present in the bold, contrasting strokes and elusive themes present in his work. He reconciles his motifs easily, however: "Womanhood is my inspiration in art, in its power and fullness," he says in his soft, heavily accented voice. One look at his beautiful, powerful, and mysterious figures and landscapes, and you'll understand just what he means.

John Inman

BY JOHN S. HALL

A Free Moment

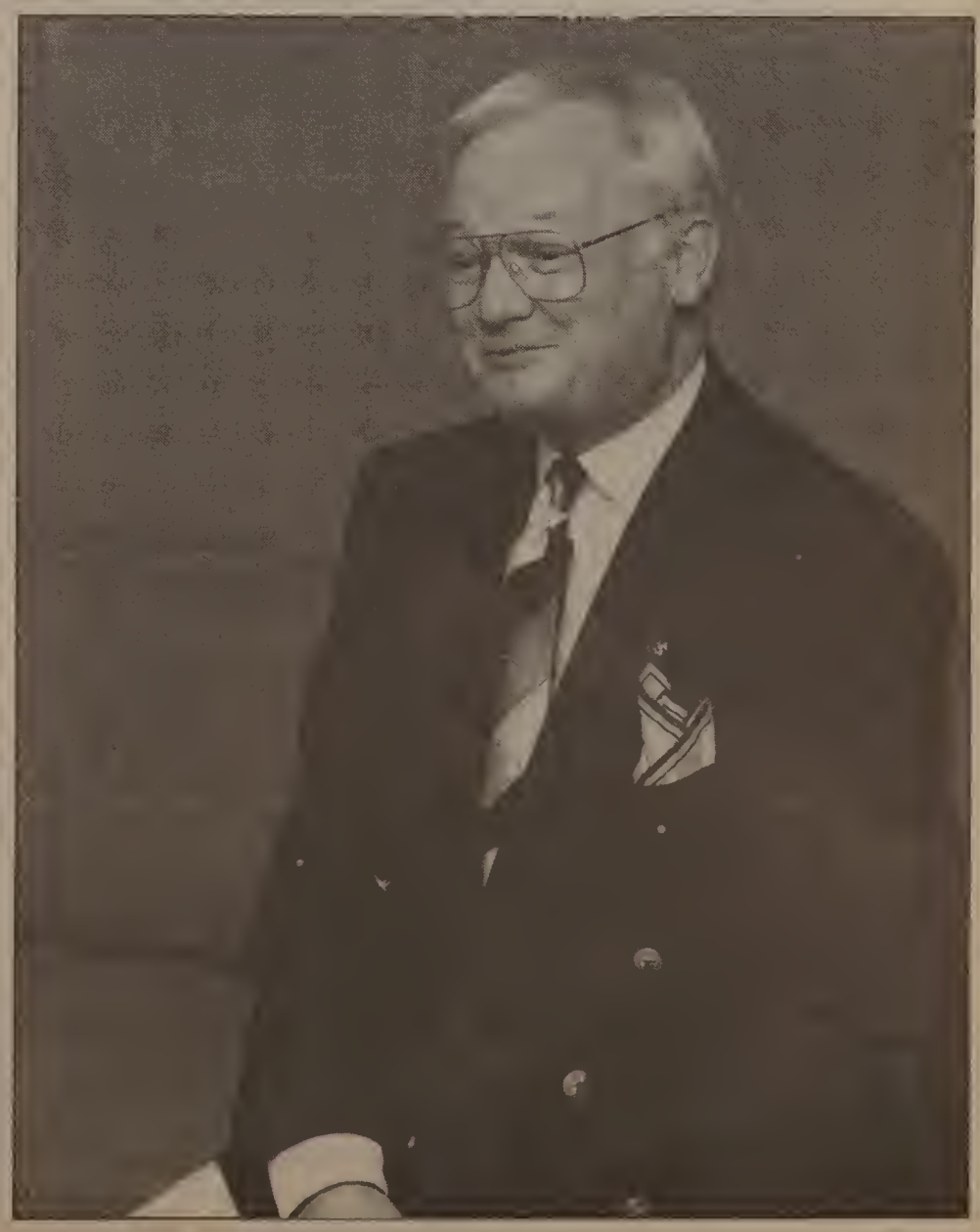
With such catch phrases as "I'm freeee!" and "Menswear," John Inman has entertained audiences around the world as the ever-swishy salesclerk Mr. Humphries in the campy sitcom "Are You Being Served?" Having once worked in a department store much like the show's Grace Brothers, "I did actually know someone that walked a bit like [Mr. Humphries would]," Inman explains. "And one day, to make the cast laugh, I did it at rehearsals, mincing 'round the corner. The director said, 'Oh, John, we'll have that...' I did it in a couple shows, and then I didn't – and the letters came flooding in, so I had to keep doing it!"

This role – which Inman has re-created in the stage, film, and Australian versions of "Are You Being Served?" as well as its sequel series, "Are You Being Served? Again!" – netted him both the Variety Club's BBC Television Personality of the Year Award and the *TV Times*'s "Funniest Man on Television" in 1976.

In Britain, the fair-haired, 58 year-old actor is known for far more than just Mr. Humphries. He's starred in the TV shows "Odd Man Out" and "Take A Letter, Mr. Jones," where he played a high-powered businesswoman's male secretary. However, he's most famous as one of Britain's premiere "pantomime Dames" (matronly characters traditionally played by men), playing to sold-out audiences in such pantomimes as *Mother Goose*, *Aladdin*, and *Jack and the Beanstalk*. Over here, "pantomime" brings to mind people like Marcel Marceau, but Britain's pantomimes are glitzy musical presentations of fairy tales, geared towards children, but containing innuendo to amuse adults as well. As an actor, Inman prefers the theater's "Immediacy," and says that "To hear huge laughter coming at you ... it's like a drug!"

Asked what he does in his spare time, Inman jokes "My stock answer to that is, I drink gin and watch television! I'm very boring inasmuch as I haven't got a hobby... I'm a member of the Grand Order of Water Rats, a 104-year-old charity organization made up of gentlemen from the theater. In fact, I'm 'King Rat' this year."

With "Are You Being Served? Again!" canceled in Britain, his next project is a Christmas-time production of his favorite pantomime, *Mother Goose*, once he recuperates from his appearances at PBS stations across America. "Although it's very hard work," Inman notes, "I'm looked after royally!"



FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

AMERICAN HEART
★★

This low-budget, independent feature restores to cinema the off-beat, gritty Seattle of yore before the city became synonymous with single, sleepless yuppies crying into their Starbuck's cappuccino. Unfortunately it turns Seattle's unhappy street life into a freak show. Jack Kelson (Jeff Bridges), a stringy-haired and tattooed ex-con who's out on parole tries to walk the straight line in Seattle so he can make it to Alaska. But he's stuck with a job washing windows, a not very helpful ex-partner, and a round-the-clock conscience: his 15-year-old son. While there's something ever-potent in the story of a motherless, wise-before-his-time boy trying to domesticate his erratic, irresponsible dad, the film alternates between having no plot or suddenly, too much plot and a stupid one at that.

G. Peary

AMONGST FRIENDS
★★★

Goodfellas meets "Beverly Hills 90210." Juiced-up tale of Jewish gangster life on Long Island, with three young wannabes, once close friends, going their separate ways. The dumb one's trying to keep up a good show, the nasty one's getting more violent by the day and the one who did time is trying to figure out life. Natch, an old girlfriend creates conflict. Testosterone level runs very high here, with lots of macho posturing, guns and expensive haircuts. Style definitely overwhelms content and characterization – some very flashy camera work but the movie is awfully shallow. Question is, why does writer/director Rob Weiss glamorize this bunch of louts so much? Great score and soundtrack by Mick Jones, of Clash/B.A.D. fame.

J. Hall

CONEHEADS
★★★

Producer Lorne Michaels recruits almost the entire cast of "Saturday Night Live" for this extended comedy sketch. As with the NBC show, the scenes range from riotous to bland. After a crash landing, the Coneheads, Beldar (Dan Aykroyd) and Prymaat (Jane Curtin), make the best of suburbia among the "bluntskulls" in Paramus, NJ. Life is surprisingly human: they run the family business, face marital problems, and help their teenage daughter through school and dating. On Saturdays they relax and "consume mass quantities" at the backyard barbecue. Curiously, no one seems to mind their cone heads: the community accepts them as the ideal family. If only people in real life could be so open-minded.

M.R. D'Entremont

THE FUGITIVE
★★★

The Fugitive is quintessential Harrison Ford. No one cracks nervous jokes while under fire quite the way Ford does, and since the part of Doctor Kimble, the film's protagonist, calls for a lot of that, it fits Ford like a glove. As the falsely convicted killer of his beloved wife, he wins our sympathy. As the escapee pursuing his wife's killer, he wins our admiration. And as a daredevil fugitive who risks life and limb to evade hardheaded but good-humored lawman Tommy Lee Jones, he wins our attention. Our attention drifts though, as the spectacular action/chase scenes are replaced by dry details of Kimble's investigation. We are too prepared for the ending, which winds down in trite anti-climactic fight scenes.

M.R. D'Entremont

IN THE LINE OF FIRE
★★★★

Wolfgang Peterson directs this exciting, coherent, and often humorous action thriller starring Clint Eastwood as Secret Service Agent Frank Horrigan, a "borderline burnout with questionable social skills" who still feels guilty that he didn't protect JFK that day in Dallas. Frank gets a second chance compliments of rogue CIA operative and would-be-Presidential-assassin Mitch Leary (John Malkovich), who engages Frank in a game of cat and mouse. Renee Russo is good as career Secret Service Agent Lilly Raines and Frank's love interest. Almost over-the-hill Frank is less believable as Lily's love interest even if he does adore jazz, play the piano and grin disarmingly after making chauvinist remarks.

K. Wilson

JASON GOES TO HELL
★★★

Death toll: 90 plus. Jeffrey Dahmer eat your heart out. This movie provides background info on the other Jason movies as well as an answer to that biting question: Why won't he die? Here the demented, disfigured serial killer takes on a supernatural side. Jason is no longer human; he's a slimy, grotesque bodily organ which evades death by slithering into person after person. The cast is killed in wonderfully horrible ways, usually involving a sharp instrument. But the two hero/sweethearts survive and walk into the sunset. Jason is finally dead. It's finally safe to go back to Crystal Lake. Yeah, right.

M.R. D'Entremont

RISING SUN
★★★

Director Philip Kaufman's elegant and confounding film based on Michael Crichton's novel is a Japanese mystery tour set in L.A. that begins when a prostitute is found dead on the Nakamoto Corporation's boardroom table. The two L.A.P.D. Special Services liaison officers assigned to the case (Sean Connery and Wesley Snipes) complement each other. Connery is wise; Snipes is an everyman who has much to learn – about the Japanese and about himself. Kaufman flashes ideas at us like lightning, but doesn't always develop them. His exploration of corporate culture is disturbing: big business is, above all, a man's world. Girls, there's room for you at the top, too, provided you're a gorgeous prostitute.

K. Wilson

ORLANDO
★

Virginia Woolf's *Orlando*, about the time-traveling adventures of a man who awakens transformed into a woman, is more engaging than its original readers would concede. *Orlando* the movie is empty, empty, despite the poetic passages and ethereal cinematography and the heaps of devotees who find Consequence and Importance just at the places where Woolf's readers found all style and no content. Potter can't direct and, worse for the high humor of Woolf's *Orlando*, she certainly can't direct comedy. On the other hand, Quentin Crisp, pioneering gay activist for *The Naked Civil Servant*, makes a prim and perfectly rouged Queen Elizabeth I.

G. Peary

SEARCHING FOR BOBBY FISCHER
★★★★

A genuinely heartwarming tearjerker that doesn't wholly sacrifice complexity and intelligence when it's yanking your strings. Josh Waitzkin (Max Pomeranc) is a seven-year-old whiz at chess, described in the loaded chess phrase as a "young Bobby Fischer." The film captures the excitement and dangers of having such gifts, and makes no demand that viewers necessarily understand or care about chess. The most prominent theme is the battle between the father (the excellent Joe Mantegna) and Josh's two wildly different chess teachers, played by Ben Kingsley and Larry Fishburne, over Josh's upbringing and his inhibiting decency. Pomeranc is terrific, avoiding smarmy precociousness – and you can't help but love those big eyes.

J. Hall

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

DEAD FROM NEW YORK

"...[Keaton and Allen's] addled babbling, frantic pacing and neurotic silliness is as funny as ever..."

Manhattan Murder Mystery is a meringue: light, insubstantial, and such a treat. It's a funny mystery *and* a suspenseful comedy. But best of all, it reunites Diane Keaton and Woody Allen. After a hiatus of more than ten years, the two fall comfortably into their old shtick – Keaton as the Ditz, Allen as the Nebbish – and their addled babbling, frantic pacing, and neurotic silliness is as funny as ever and still recalls the Marx Brothers. Together Keaton and Allen, unlike Mia Farrow and Allen, are greater than the sum of their parts.



MAMA MIA: *Diane Keaton, a last minute replacement for Mia Farrow and Woody Allen.*

They play Carol and Larry Lipton, a bright, tweedy Manhattan couple. One night they return home after dinner and a movie – *Double Indemnity* (hint, hint) – to find medics wheeling their neighbor out of her apartment on a stretcher. She's dead of a heart attack. Carol, who barely knew the woman or her spouse, is sure she's been murdered and that the husband did it. With fearless, looney determination, she sets out to prove she's right.

Manhattan Murder Mystery pays tribute to several movie classics, but it most resembles *Rear Window*. Hitchcock's great Manhattan murder mystery demonstrates just how sexy murder can be: it proves a tonic for Grace Kelly and Jimmy Stewart's ailing relationship. Murder also livens up Carol and Larry's twenty-year, comfortable old-shoe marriage: "I'm just vibrating from this," gushes Carol.

IF YOU GO

Manhattan Murder Mystery

★★★

Directed by: Woody Allen.
Written by: Woody Allen and Marshall Brickman

2nd International Festival of Short Films

★★★

Murder isn't the only marriage pick-me-up. A rival works wonders, too. Ted (Alan Alda), a divorced friend, has a crush on Carol and shares her lurid imagination and enthusiasm for cracking the mystery. Larry is worried, but he has a wild card to play: Marcia Fox (Anjelica Houston), an artsy, street-smart writer who has a crush on him and whom he fixes up with Ted. Alda is very good, but Houston, as always, dominates the screen.

As light and cheerful as *Manhattan Murder Mystery* is, it has a nostalgic, "September Song" feel. The story takes place during the fall, and the city, as well as the interiors, give off a golden, autumnal glow. The movie is another Allen love song to a Manhattan that in real life increasingly resembles the city in *Blade Runner*. Manhattan isn't the only thing that's decaying. In the opening scene, Carol makes a crack about Larry's failing eyesight. While Allen doesn't so much explore middle-age as exploit it for laughs, he does face the condition head-on. The actors are photographed to look their age or older: in a couple of shots Keaton's face looks positively furrowed. There's hope though: the impassive and seemingly dull ("Let me show you my stamp collection") murder suspect, a man in his sixties, lives by far the most exciting life of all the characters.

The nostalgia seeps in from the outside, too. Keaton is on screen out of friendship and loyalty to Allen: she replaced Mia Farrow at the last minute. (The only hint of Allen's off-screen troubles comes when Larry announces, for no discernible reason, that Ted's ex-wife "...thought I was a wimp, a lowlife, vermin, a roach."). But so what if all good things must end, that we're all getting older but no wiser. Just rent *Play It Again Sam*, *Sleeper*, *Annie Hall*, or *Manhattan* and for a little while, time will stand still.

THE 2ND INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF SHORT FILMS

★★★

The 2nd International Festival of Short Films will play from September 3 through September 12 at the Somerville Theater. This 2 hour collection of 11 live-action short films is presented by Andalusian Pictures, Ltd. and includes Alison Maclean's disturbing, erotic, and humorous *Kitchen Sink* (New Zealand), the Academy Award winning *Work Experience* (Great Britain), Gus Van Sant and William Burroughs's powerful and subversive *Thanksgiving Prayer* (USA), and Ted (nephew of Jonathan) Demme's directing debut in *The Bet* (USA). The festival is worth seeing and worth supporting. ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

Heart of Cold

"...*Un Coeur en Hiver* is a film to respect, but alas, not really to enjoy..."

If *Un Coeur en Hiver* feels as logical, insular, and dispassionate as a biology laboratory test, that's because of the way director Claude Sautet approached his film: the camera as microscope peering onto a controlled experiment in human behavior. According to Sautet's pre-plan, "There would be one character who seemed 'modern' in the negative sense, completely impenetrable to emotion. Immediately, the world of musicians came to mind – the music profession. We would keep one central idea intact: to make a woman fall in love with him so he would have the perverse pleasure of telling her 'I do not love you.'"



TWO HEARTS: *Daniel Auteuil and Emanuelle Beart in* Un Coeur en Hiver.

The "modern" character, Stéphane (Daniel Auteuil), became a violin repairman maestro, capable of the ultra-ultra fine tuning required when his boss, Maxim (André Dussollier), complains of "A lack of brilliance on the E String!"

At night, Maxim opts for genial restaurants and pleasant women, and soon he announces his engagement to a gorgeous young violinist (Emmanuelle Béart). Meanwhile, Stéphane spends evenings alone, joylessly repairing marionettes.

One can ask, "what attracts Camille to Stéphane?" Sautet has commented about his film. "Why does she find charm in his behavior? Truthfully, I don't know."

Whatever the weird reason, Camille switches her attention from her extroverted fiancé, Maxim, to his stone-faced employee, Stéphane, a man incapable of even faking emotion. While she chases him madly ("You should have fucked me!"), Stéphane looks on her with dead eyes and deader body. And remember, this is actress Emmanuelle Béart, the sensual star of *Manon of the Spring*!

Credit Sautet with maintaining his cool "lab experiment" atmosphere, allowing his characters to act out their lives without directorial manipulation. But Sautet's integrity is also what damages *Un Coeur en Hiver*. Ultimately, there's no place for the audience to breathe in this oxygenless movie, never mind having someone to root for among his dour cast.

Un Coeur en Hiver is a film to respect, but, alas, not really to enjoy.

Black to the Promised Land

Searching for cross-cultural harmony

What everyone needs now is this sweet, ecumenical, back-to-school, "feel-good" documentary.

In 1989, eleven African-American teenagers from deep, deep in Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant traveled across the world to spend two months living and working on an Israeli kibbutz. Despite gripes about rugged, rigid kibbutznik life (some legitimate), and cross-cultural grumbles (far less than you'd expect), the valiant kids stuck it out.

Most went home to Brooklyn with tears in their eyes, sad to leave Israeli pals. The Israelis sobbed too, fearing that the kibbutz would be socially dead without their partying, wild-and-crazy American friends.

On both sides? Knowledge that common ground exists, and that Jews and African-Americans can be friends. If that's not heartening enough, *Black to the Promised Land* presents a splendid case for the Bedford-Stuyvesant Eleven in its interviews. Although forgotten minority students at an alternative high school for "problem" kids, they are every one of them bright, articulate, energetic, and good-natured. Maybe Rousseau and his followers really are correct: within every so-called "bad" kid there's a very good one trying to crawl out.

It's possible to accuse director Madeleine Ali, who is a French-Haitian-East Indian-African-American convert to Judaism, of soft-pedaling "serious" politics. Hard-boiled racism between American Jews and African-Americans isn't even mentioned, and the Arab-Israeli conflict is reduced to a desire, by one of the African-American kids, that "Both sides should get together and make peace."

Still, this could be one time that heavy ideology is put aside. Probably it's far more important to see Jews and African-Americans dancing together at a kibbutz Purim party, or an African-American girl with her arms draped around an Israeli girl, whom she calls "my little sister."

Gerald Peary has been a film critic for **Boston Review**, *the* **Real Paper**, *has authored six books on cinema, and is currently teaching film at B.U.* ❑

IF YOU GO

Un Coeur en Hiver (A Heart in Winter)

★★

Directed by: Claude Sautet
Written by: Yves Ulmann, Jacques Fieschi, Jérome Tonnerre
Playing at: Loew's Theaters

Black to The Promised Land

★★★★

Directed and Written by: Madeline Ali
Playing at: The Museum of Fine Arts, Sept. 2,9,12,23

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Free Willy	★★★	★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
The Firm	★★	★★	★	★	★★★	★	★★
In the Line of Fire	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Fugitive	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Manhattan Murder Mystery	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★		★★
Meteor Man	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★		★★
Rising Sun	★★★	★★★	★	★	★	★★★	★★
Robin Hood: Men in Tights	★★	★★	★	★★	★		
Secret Garden	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★		★★★



Comedy / John Hall

"Out" Rageous

"...My whole thing is showing that gay comics don't have to be flamboyant or feminine..."

With his spiky blonde hair and bright blue eyes, Greg Roman looks as wholesome and all-American as baseball and apple pie. Which makes it all the more surprising when, several minutes into his routine, he nonchalantly asks, "So, are there any gay people in the audience tonight?"

A few strained chuckles greet this unexpected query.

"I only ask that question to hear all those sphincter muscles contract," Roman says with a blank expression that quickly turns to a sly grin. At this point, the crowd laughs in relief and begins clapping. Usually. "One of my last crowds just didn't get it," he explains. "I think 80% of them didn't even know what the word 'sphincter' meant."

Roman also received an unexpected response when he recently played at Caroline's in New York. "The audience got very protective at first; they thought I might have been a gay-basher, which was kind of refreshing."

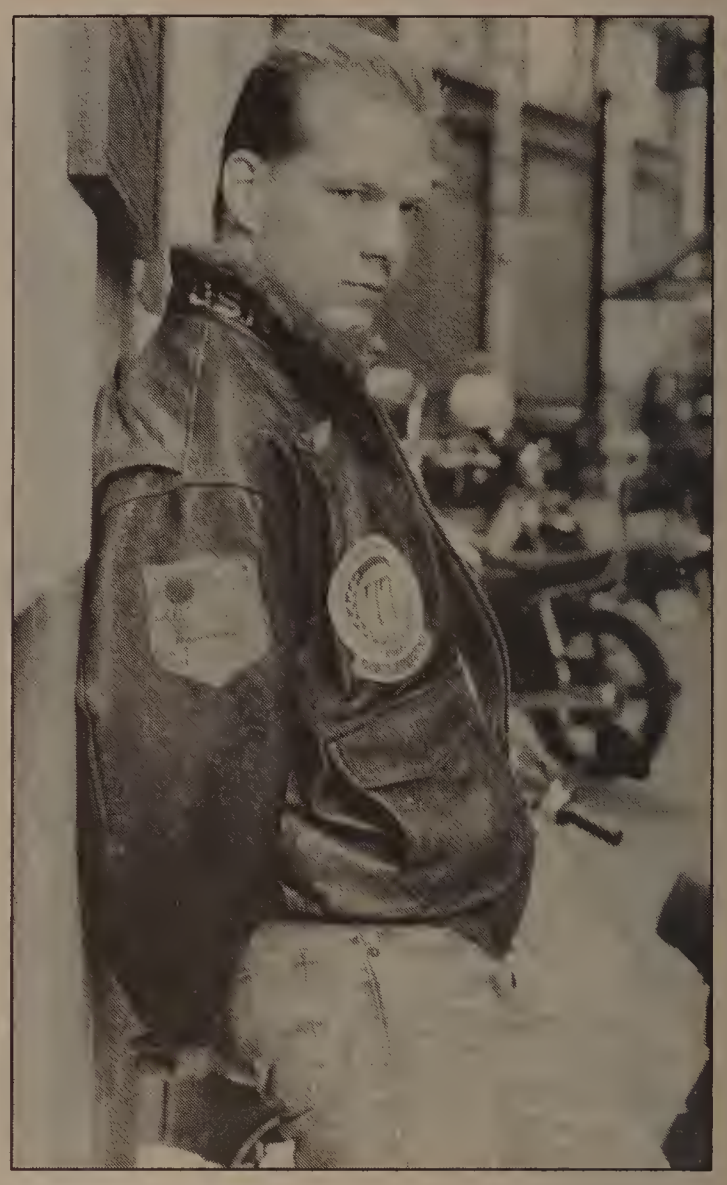
Roman, who fits none of the usual gay stereotypes, emphasizes that he's just a regular guy who happens to be gay. "My whole thing is showing that gay comics don't have to be flamboyant or feminine," he says. "Just a regular guy, no different from them. I don't want to play gay clubs, because my material is really geared to straight audiences, to show them that their stereotypical views of gays are wrong."

As an employee of Boston's largest ad agency, Hill, Holliday, Connors, and Cosmopulous, Roman has been "out" at work for years, and says it's no big deal. "I feel that gay people shouldn't have to 'explode' when they come out." However, his comedy career has certainly exploded in a very short time. "I've only been doing true stand-up for three months," he explains. "It's one of the toughest things you can do; you have no back-up, so if things go poorly, you can't blame the band, only yourself."

Roman started at clubs like Stitches and Dick Doherty's Rooms – "Way out in the boonies; those people didn't get me at all. I scared 'em" – and went on to Nick's Comedy Stop and Comedy Connection at Fanueil Hall. He recently returned from a successful appearance at Caroline's in New York City. "I did very well there," he says. "They want me back, and might even tape me for 'Caroline's Comedy Hour' on A&E."

As an openly gay comedian, Roman can broach gay issues which concern and affect his heterosexual audiences. Mention of gays in the military brings a tense silence, which he quickly deflates with an over-the-top caricature of a gay soldier trying to break up a mob: "Thargeant, they won't dithperthe!" But most of the time he's content to make satirical observations about life and toy with being gay on stage: "Am I the only guy who likes bananas for the shape? You girls know what I mean..." and "I ran the Boston Marathon for the first time this year. Boy, let me tell you, it's *murder* trying to skip for 26 miles..." Roman used to accompany his routine with physical examples of what he was describing, but is now content to "let [the audience] think of the visuals – it's funnier for them."

For the future, Greg Roman has two goals: appearing on either "Arsenio" or "David Letterman," and "Breaking the barrier to Middle America," by trying to make people more comfortable with gay people. "With all this gay stuff in the news," he says, "straight people are almost waiting for someone like me." ❑



Comedian Greg Roman.

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Thurs. 9/2- The Comedy Lab. Fri. 9/3-& Sat. 9/4- D.J. Hazard, Rick Jenkins, Michael McCue. Sun. 9/5- The Magic Show w/ Mike Bent. Thurs. 9/9- The Comedy Lab. Fri. 9/10- & Sat. 9/11- Linda Smith, TBA &TBA. Sun. 9/12- Bill Braudis's Graduation Class.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall
B7, 248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall. There is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Every Sun at 9:30: Black Comedy Showcase. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 9/1- Jim Lauletta. Thurs. 9/2- Frank Santos. Fri. 9/3- Paul Provenza. Sat. 9/4- Anthony Clark Sun. 9/5- Anthony Clark. Mon. 9/6- Kevin Knox. Tues. 9/7- Dana Gould. Wed. 9/8- Dana Gould. Thurs. 9/9- Dana Gould, Frank Santos. Fri. 9/10- Dana Gould, Greg Fitzsimmons. Sat. 9/11- Dana Gould, Greg Fitzsimmons. Sun. 9/12- Dana Gould, Black Comedy Showcase. Mon. 9/13- Kevin Knox, Dave Fitzgerald. Tues. 9/14- DJ Hazard, Dave Fitzgerald.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $8. Always packed and second hand smoky.
Fri. 9/3 & Sat. 9/4- Don Fig, John Steiner, Nick Costas. Fri. 9/10 & Sat. 9/11- Dick Doherty.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's
C6, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. & Sat. at 9:30p.m. Admission $10.
Fri. 9/3 & Sat. 9/4- Steve Dacri, Comedy Magic Show. Fri. 9/10 &Sat. 9/11- John David, Comedy Showcase.

Nick's Comedy Stop
C6, 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.
Wed. 9/1- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Nardizi. Thurs. 9/2- Paul DiAngelo, Mike Royce, Paul Nardizi, Eddie Brill. Fri. 9/3- Tony V., Paul Nardizi, Steve Sweeney. Sat. 9/4- Tony V., Paul Nardizl, Steve Sweeney. Sun. 9/5- Kevin Knox.

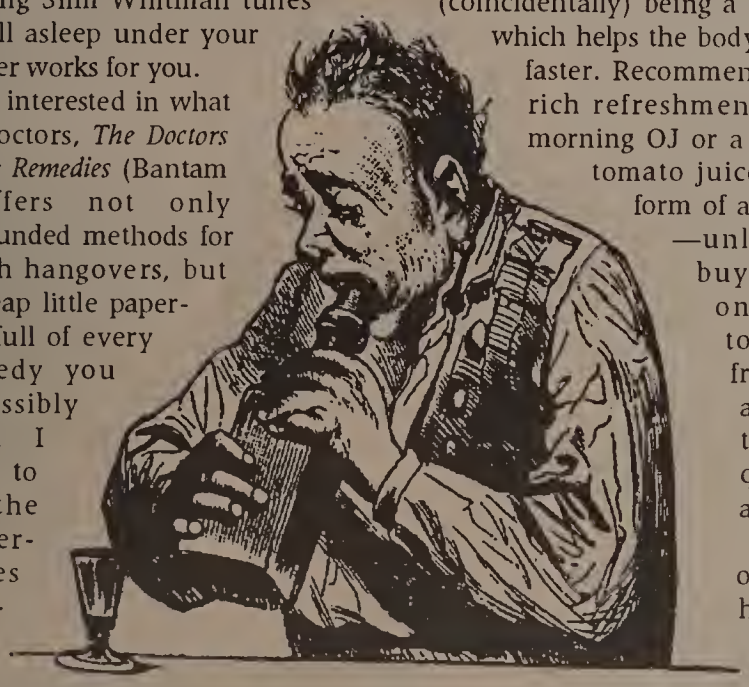
Stitches
D4, 835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995.
Stitches is closed for renovations. It will reopen with a bang after Labor Day.

Something Useful. (Maybe.) / Anthony Tedesco

HANGOVER HELPERS

When drunken bliss sobers to dreadful morning after; try these proven remedies for relief.

Everyone has their own "should-probably-be-patented" hangover helper, a personal concoction part medical study twice-removed, part self-tested standby, and part coincidence that you felt "pretty darn good" the morning after you drank tequila with your *left* hand and then sang Slim Whitman tunes until you fell asleep under your bed. Whatever works for you.



If you're interested in what works for doctors, *The Doctors Book of Home Remedies* (Bantam Books) offers not only medically founded methods for dealing with hangovers, but also 702 cheap little paperback pages full of every home remedy you could possibly need, and I wouldn't lie to you for the mere 10 percent of sales they're giving me. These hangover helpers are more effective if you remember to use them the night before, after brushing, flossing, doing sit-ups, taking out the garbage, and getting a little headstart on next year's tax return. They're still effective, however, if taken the morning after. But what's best is that only a few of these home remedies are as freaky as this first one...

Willow bark, according to doctors who have apparently eaten willow bark of their own free will, is an excellent hangover helper because the salicylate (big word also contained in aspirin) works to ease your headache and general discomfort. You can gnaw on willow bark in most woodland areas (Nova Scotia being renowned for its "Willow bark cooked just right.") or you can get it at any health food store, though that would be the easy way out.

Aspirin and Water combine for the most commonly practiced home hangover remedy (aside from the Slim Whitman thing). The salicylate in aspirin still (since the last paragraph) quells headaches and general discomfort, but it's the influx of water that really makes a difference to your dehydrated bodily symptoms. I recommend 25 or 60 big glasses of water for relief, as well as leaving the faucet running. (Water company commission: eight percent.)

B-complex vitamins can help shorten the duration of your hangover because your body counts on B-complex to cope with stress. Next.

Bouillon broth, when it's not busy curing everything, can help your hangover by replenishing the salt and potassium your body has lost to alcohol.

The following hangover helpers come from a recent *Men's Health* newsletter, in accordance with the Four Tips Per Source Maximum, You Lazy Writer pact I have with my editor ("Good writer, sit, sit – *good* writer.")

Fructose is your friend, as well as (coincidentally) being a form of sugar which helps the body burn alcohol faster. Recommended fructose-rich refreshments are early-morning OJ or a large glass of tomato juice (not in the form of a Bloody Mary —unless you're buying). Honey on crackers or toast provides fructose as well as something to settle your queasy stomach.

Coffee offers ample headache relief because the caffeine acts as a vasoconstrictor, which isn't easy to act like without looking up the word vasoconstrictor ("An agent that narrows the interior diameter of blood vessels."). This "narrowing" reduces the swelling of blood vessels which cause headaches.

If you're a steadfast believer that commercial remedies must be more effective than home remedies because you have to pay for them, then you're absolutely correct. Or you're absolutely incorrect. But either way we've made the transition to commercial remedies. (Smoo-ooth, Anthony, real smooooth - *Editor's interjection.*)

Dr. Seltzer's "Hangover Helper" (no relation to the extremely innovative title of this article) provides the entire cavalry of pain reliever, antacid and stimulant. For under a buck you can sample two capsules available at convenience stores or your *favorite* bar-bathroom vending machine.

"XS" is a relatively new hangover relief product, in the sense I actually had to do some research to find it, research that had best be reflected in my upcoming paycheck. ("Extra whipped cream on his mediùm sundae, please."). Even though "XS" is a tad more expensive than "Hangover Helper," I'm pretty sure it's more effective because its list of helpful 18-letter word ingredients was much longer. As to whether "XS" is truly more effective, there was no way I was going to subject myself to its "Refreshing Peppermint / Chalky Fax-Paper-Gone-Bad" taste. ("Not even for extra walnuts?... Good writer, good...") ❑

Newport's LAST ACTION PARTY

This party is in a league of its own!

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, September 4th • 8:00pm to 1:00am
Hotel Viking • One Bellevue Avenue • Newport, RI

LAST ACTION PARTY features:

- Five hours of non-stop dancing entertainment
- Four DJs: Mike Lynch, DJ Xtra Large, DJ Bells and Izzy V.
- Choreographer: Erik B
- Eight dancers (Chunky's Chicks)
- 10,000 watts of sound, light, music video and photo images
- Plus, register to win one of four great prizes, like a free ski weekend for two

Presented by Newport's All-Star Team

Chunky Productions

Ticket Information

Advance Tickets: $15 • After 12:00 noon or at the door on Sept. 4th: $20

Advanced tickets may be purchased by sending a *self-addressed, stamped envelope* and check made payable to:

Chunky Productions
17 Union Avenue, Boston, MA 02130

For more information call:
In Newport: Izzy Varella (401) 848-2240
Hotel Viking-(401) 847-3300
In Boston: John Fabiani (617) 983-2232

Advanced tickets can also be purchased between 9:30am and 12:00 noon Sat., Sept 4th at Hotel Viking.
For checks received after Aug. 28, tickets will be held at the door.

Boston Lightship — Serious Light Beer — 90 Calories

Captain Morgan — Original Coconut Rum

The Improper Bostonian

CAMBRIDGE Graphics Inc. — The Design Studio for Chunky Productions

REVO

Ring of Fire Travel Agency





Iceland is surrounded by endless miles of seething ocean. It is pummeled by Arctic winds and perilous storms. Its latitude and longitude converge in as desolate a place as any on the planet. And while no one can say for certain what could have possessed the Vikings to come to this place we call Iceland over a hundred centuries ago, we do know what they found once they got here.

The Vikings braved 50-foot seas, gale winds and sea monsters to discover our water. Surely you can manage a trip to the corner market.

A valley. A mountain. And a spring surging up from a place deep beneath the surface of the earth. Forcing its way upward, through ice, solidified layers of lava, and rock. Until, finally, it burst through into the sunlight. A water of such improbable purity, there are those among us who, even now, fervently believe that it surely must have sprung up from the very gods themselves.



The same Icelandic spring of life that continues to flow as clean and clear now as it has since the Ice Age. Indeed, from the very beginning of time itself. Thousands upon thousands of miles from anywhere. Untainted. Untouched. Unspoiled by civilization.

We call it Akva. A spring water unlike any other on earth. And if we seem a bit confident in this, rest assured it is not without good reason.

No other spring water, after all, comes from a place so completely and utterly removed from the compromising influences of civilization. To put it mildly, Iceland is as far off the beaten path as any place on earth.

As a result, our Akva spring water is remarkably soft. Clear. Without so much as a trace of sodium or other impurities. We hope you will try Akva.

You will find that it's available now on the shelves of your favorite corner market or delicatessen.

We know the Vikings had an almost insatiable thirst for adventure. Perhaps now we know how they quenched it.

Akva spring water. The pure soul of Iceland.™

THE MS ODYSSEY CRUISE

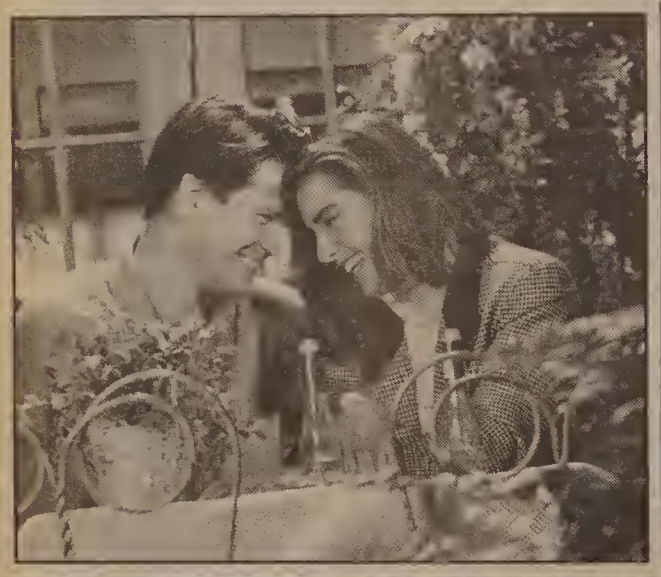


Join the MS Society on
Friday, October 15th for a
Champagne Reception at the
Boston Harbor Hotel
and cruise aboard the luxurious
Odyssey Yacht with open bar,
gourmet dinner and dancing

Individual Ticket $125
Two Tickets $200

Call the MS Society (617) 890-4990
Proceeds to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Massachusetts Chapter

Hiding Your Smile?

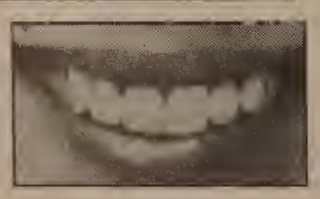


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John D. Meola, Jr., DDS • Damian D. Meola, DMD

Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

ENHANCING YOUR PURCHASING POWER

"...To get the most from whatever shop you patronize, you need a basic strategy..."

Overpopulation, crime in the streets, the advance of the killer bees, man's inhumanity to man. The truth is, people have enough on their minds without having to worry about wine.

Not surprisingly, most consumers just want to know: "What should I buy?" This is exactly the information I need when shopping for something I haven't had time to extensively research. Unfortunately, there is no simple answer.

On the one hand, the overwhelming majority of bottles you will find on retail shelves are without noticeable wine-making flaws. This was far from true as recently as a decade ago, so the good news is that now virtually nothing you buy will smell of rotten eggs or taste like lighter fluid.

But simply presuming that the soundness of what is available automatically implies interesting flavors, good values, or even a bottle whose style fits your specific needs, is quite a leap of faith. It might happen but don't bet the whole hacienda on it. Your odds will improve dramatically, though, if you locate a retail merchant committed to finding quality wine and getting it onto your table at a price you feel comfortable paying.

Times have never been better to develop this type of mutually beneficial relationship. Simply put, there is too much wine being produced worldwide, and too many people trying to sell it to too few consumers. In the long term the resulting squeeze on profits in the industry actually bodes poorly for the consumer, but the immediate result is that your business now should be more highly valued by the local retailer than ever before. Savvy store owners understand that survival in this gladiatorial arena requires increased levels of service and expertise. However, to get the most from whatever shop you patronize, you need a basic strategy.

While it may sound absurd at first reading, the single most crucial fact you need to establish wherever you contemplate shopping is whether the person helping you really loves wine. A retailer's eagerness to share his passion for wine should loom larger in your deliberations than his apparent knowledge. Why? Because real passion cannot be faked (I think), whereas superficial acquaintance with trade jargon, displays of pseudo-science and references to other people's published opinions may all sound good but are cheaply acquired.

Asking the right questions is your key to discovering if whoever selects products for the store feels genuine enthusiasm for wine. This does not mean trying to stump the retailer with annoying trivia. It entails measuring his credibility by finding out whether he cares about his selections or if they just represent interchangeable merchandise.

Be persistent and pay close attention to how the salesperson handles your inquiry. Is his response skillful, bombastic or derisive? Does he fumble or display impatience? Does he answer the question adequately?

An example: "Beringer makes a Fumé Blanc I've enjoyed at a reasonable price. What else can you recommend in that range to accompany grilled shellfish?"

You have offered the retailer a world of information (cost, style, the purpose for which you want the wine, the latitude to recommend based on his palate) and any professional should take this cue to describe a number of interesting choices. Take heed though if all you hear are the names of a few other mainstream brands or a litany of newsletter ratings.

Worst-case scenarios: "Beringer? Who makes that, Gallo?"

"Good question, let me look that up in this wine-buying guide."

"Beringer. That swill – I won't carry it."

"You really don't want California Fumé with shellfish. I was in Bordeaux last summer having lunch with Jean-Michel Froufrou, and let me tell you something, the only wine to have is Chateau Le Dreque, which we happen to have on sale while it lasts at $79.99 a case. You should know: the price is a joke. These local distributors don't have a clue how to sell stuff like this at a profit."

Don't put up with anything like this, but don't expect there to be any short-cuts either. Keep trying until you connect up with a retailer who respects your business as much as he seems to love his own. After that it should be easy. ❑

BOB THE CHEF'S RESTAURANT
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Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

New Celebrity on Stage

TABLE TALK

Walter Zuromski has left his position as executive chef at the **Mill Falls** restaurant in Newton. The new owners of the **Loading Zone** on Kneeland Street have changed the name of the restaurant to the **Art Zone**. **Celebrity Roast** will be opening at the location of the old **Stage Deli** in Brookline and a new **Fajitas 'n Ritas** has opened in the old **Open Sesame** spot on Boylston Street near Brookline Village. Look for a new addition to the Park Square area — more info soon.

ENCORE! ENCORE!

One of our favorite restaurants in Providence is **New Rivers** on Steeple street. Bruce and Pat, the chefs/owners of the restaurant, were in New York City last week cooking at the **James Beard House** as a part of the foundation's "Discovery Series". The menu was filled with Moroccan influences...chilled fava bean and almond soup, slices of beef tenderloin stuffed with spinach and saffron rice, and swordfish with harissa rub and Moroccan honey-spiced butter. For those that missed the New York dinner, Bruce and Pat will soon have an "encore" dinner at New Rivers where they will repeat the Moroccan menu. Call the restaurant for the date and directions. **New Rivers** - (401) 751-0350.



RITZ-Y AFFAIR: *Dr. Warren and Kathy Becker, center and right, are two of the well wishers who joined Cafe Budapest owner Dr. Rev Kury, left, at the Ritz Carlton's Boston Evening Medical Center Benefit*

Salem Street in the North End has been abuzz with activity this summer with restaurants popping up everywhere. **L'Osteria** moved across the street to a new location and before one could say *arrivederci* a new restaurant called **Al Dente** appeared in its former spot. Less than a block away, a new restaurant named **Terramia** opened last week. **Mineo Ristorante**, just steps away from Salem on Prince, re-opened recently serving dinner, and a new cafe called **Caffe LaStrada** should be opening in the next week or so across from **La Famiglia**. Meanwhile, construction is in process at two other locations just down the street. And not to forget the individual entrepreneur, an Italian grandmother has been doing a healthy business selling homemade lemonade from her stand on the corner of Salem and Prince streets.

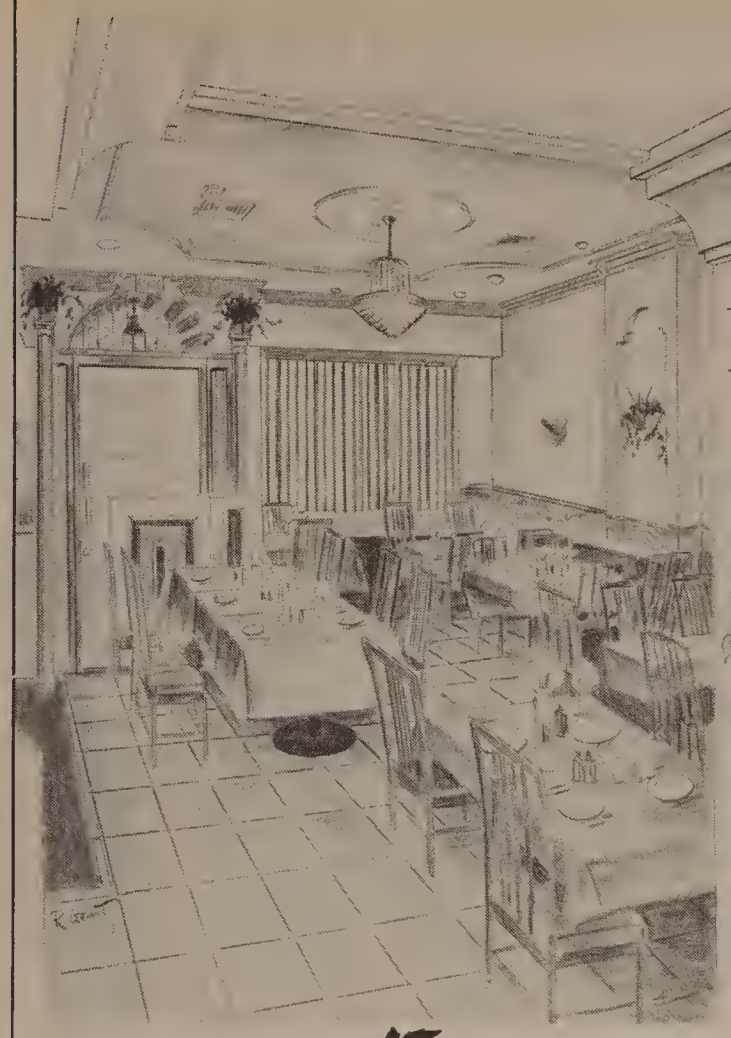
ENTERTAINING AT HOME?

Le Chef Mobile is a service for people who would love to entertain at home but just don't have the time to whip up a five course meal. The chef/owner is **Pierre Jenatton**, a French native, who has been in the U.S. for ten years practicing his culinary arts at hotels and restaurants throughout the country. Here in Boston, Pierre decided to venture out on his own. Le Chef Mobile will consult with the client on the menu, do the shopping, bring in any needed kitchen equipment, select the wine, prepare the food, and then clean up the kitchen. Also included is a staff of servers who will provide 4-star quality service. Parties range from 4 people up with menus priced from $25 - $250 per person. Transform your home into your favorite restaurant. **Le Chef Mobile** - 734-5385.

SAVE THESE DATES

On Sunday, September 26th, the Improper writers of this column will be on the **Food Hour Show, WBZ - 1030 AM**, to talk about career waitstaff and the service part of the food industry. The show will run from **4 - 5pm** and accompanying us will be several waitpersons who will talk about the industry. Our readers and the general public will be invited to call in and voice an opinion. Good service in a restaurant is a really important part of the complete dining experience, so please let us know how you feel!

If you are curious about the new restaurants in the new **Prudential Center**, come to a preview of the menus called A Taste of the Prudential Center, Wednesday, September 8th, 5:30 - 7:30pm. The preview will be held on the Boylston Street plaza and all proceeds will benefit the **Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay**. Tickets are $20 per person and please call 247-3961 for information. ❑



MASSIMINO'S
CUCINA • ITALIANA

"Consistently about the best Italian Restaurant in the North End."
—Boston Magazine

"For superb food in a family atmosphere try Massimino's."
—Travel & Leisure

"The best value in Italian food."
—WBZ Channel 4

MASSIMINO'S
CUCINA•ITALIANA

207 ENDICOTT ST.
NORTH END, BOSTON 617-523-5959

Looking for a New Favorite Restaurant?

DAVIO'S

202 WASHINGTON ST., BROOKLINE - 738-4810

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A STEAK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

39 Dalton St., Boston. In the Sheraton Hotel and Towers. 262-1822.

Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve it up in a relaxed style, set it to music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'till a.m.daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer or a 12 oz, New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT

1248 Cambridge St. Cambridge 497-6548.

Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting, 7 days/week, 12 p.m.-11 p.m. Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including Thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music (no cover) Thursday through Saturday nights. Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available on premises.

ANTONY'S PIER 4

140 Northern Ave., Boston. 482-6262.

Boston's world-renowned seafood restaurant, Anthony's Pier 4 is bustling with international, national and local clientele. Besides offering one of the finest views of Boston Harbor and the skyline, the restaurant has received numerous awards such as first place in Sales and Marketing magazine's Business Executives Dining Award for 14 years. Specialties: the freshest harvest from the sea, including New England lobster, Boston scrod, as well as a variety of fine meats.

BENNETT ST. CAFE

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.

We invite you to visit Bennett St. Cafe to try our brand new exciting and delicious menu. Chef Peter Davis, formerly of The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills CA has just arrived at The Charles Hotel. He has created a totally new menu, including new Rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit the casual outdoor patio area for drinks and dinner, plus try our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made-to-order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are!

BLUE WAVE

142 Berkeley Street, Boston, 424-6711

The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

BOB THE CHEF'S

604 Columbus Ave., Bos., 536-6204.

Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's Restaurant is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy Fall Off the Bone Bar-B-Qued Spareribs, Chicken and Dumplings, or Soul Chitterlings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7.00 to $9.00 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. -11.p.m.

CACTUS CLUB

939 Boylston St., Boston, 236-0200

Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors." Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, and prarie oysters are just a sampling of the traditional staples that are served daily. Call to reserve for parties or eight or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CANESTARO PIZZERIA

16 Peterborough At., Bos., 266-8997

Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so stop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones In Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer thirty different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. If you don't feel like going out to dinner, just call Canestaro Pizzeria for free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.

The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY

138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.

Boston's Original Restaurant/Brewery. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, great BBQ and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. All enjoyed in an atmosphere that feels like a brewery. Its big and bold, with copper everything - four huge copper brewing kettles, copper tabletops, copper bar and even copper ventilation ducts overhead. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand pumped and brewed right on the premises. Live music every Fri. and Sat. night, Hours are from noon to 10:00 p.m. on Sundays, 11:30 a.m. to midnight Mon..- Thurs. and until 1:00 a.m. Fri. & Sat. Casual dress.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300.

New American / New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are always spectacular here - Cornucopia won the coveted Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for Tastiest Dessert; Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar in Boston". Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served on Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised.

THE DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093. 441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696.

This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

DAVIO'S

269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.

Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

GREEN BRIAR RESTAURANT

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.

Brighton's best Irish restaurant. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads, burgers, etc. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. Also try our new exciting brunch every Sunday 10-2:30. All of this enjoyed in our casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Call for details.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010,

Words that come to mind when you dine at the Harp include variety, affordability, and great taste! Boneless Buffalo Wings, Grilled Chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, Boston's Biggest & Best Burgers, Irish Beef Stew, Fish & Chips, Corned Beef & Cabbage and gourmet specials that will "knock your socks off!" Summer 2-for-1 dinners served Sat. -Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features Traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wed.-Sun. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line.

IL NIDO LOCANDA ITALIANA

257 North Street, Boston, 742-4272.

If your taste buds crave fresh, traditional Italian cuisine and your soul craves a welcoming atmosphere, then Il Nido Locanda Italiana should be your destination for dinner. Owner Pino Irano, former manager of Paparazzi's, teams up with chef John Geoffrion to serve you the freshest, most authentic pastas, fish, veal, and abundance of antipasto daily specials and the North End's only brick oven pizza. The menu is a history lesson in Italian cuisine, replicating century-old recipes, prepared fresh while you wait. The well-balanced wine list accommodates novices, as well as connoisseurs. The cozy atmosphere and reasonable prices welcome everyone, in the tradition of the Italian inn or "locanda." In the words of one regular client, "Il Nido, the North End's newest hot spot, offers a fine dining experience and a warm, friendly atmosphere. Dinner nightly. Closed Mondays.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, (off Rindge Ave. in the Fresh Pond area.) 354-0335.

For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am - 4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri. & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

THE LAST HURRAH! BAR AND GRILL

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street Bos. 227-8600.

This popular turn of the century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston Creme Pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Noon -5 p.m. Sat. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Mon- Sat. and 2-11 p.m. Sun. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

LUCIA RISTORANTE

415 Hanover St., North End, Bos., 367-5915

Since 1877 Ristorante Lucia has followed a basic philosophy– to present authentic Cucina Italian as well as innovative dishes with a pledge towards freshness & quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere and offers true European service. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Mon. thru Thur., 4pm to 11pm, Fri. & Sat., 11:30am to 11:30pm, Sun., 1pm to 11pm.

MAMMA MARIA

3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077

Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code

If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA

207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959

You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

MICHAEL'S WATERFRONT

85 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-6425

Step into Michael's Waterfront to check out what's new from under the sea. We've added to our menu Blackened Tuna with Curried shrimp and Jicama Slaw, Seared Salmon with Dalmation Bean cakes and Native Crab, Grilled Lobster with Seafood Summer relish, Wild Mushroom Raviolis with Shrimp, Pancetta, Roasted Peppers and Garlic Olive Oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in The Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended.

MINEO RISTORANTE

69 Prince St., North End, Boston, 248-8814

$7.95-14.50, cash only

This restaurant will take you back to Southern Italy with its cooking style. If you're looking for the right mixture of contemporary and traditional Italian cuisine you found it. Mineo offers you outstanding portions of food such as the Mussels Marinara: mussels in a tasty marinara sauce served over linguini. The Rigatoni Alla Donna is a perfect pasta dish with eggplant and dry ricotta cheese in a plum tomato sauce. Last is the Veal Milanese: Veal cutlet pan-fried and topped with fresh arugula and balsamic vinegar. Mineo is located in the heart of Boston's North End. So come enjoy a different dining experience in Italian cooking. Open Mon.-Thurs., 4p.m.-11p.m., Fri.,-Sun., 11a.m.-11p.m. No dress code, validated parking.

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049

Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m Lunch from 11-4.

THE ORIGINAL SPORTS SALOON

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904

This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 7 days a week.

RUBINO CAFFE

226 Newbury St., Bos., 247-2080

Caffe Rubino were there is something for everyone. Specializing in authentic Italian food caffe style. The menu includes 8 different pasta dishes daily., 8 grande sandwiches, including New Orleans Italian favorite 'MuffeLatta.' Caffe Rubino also offers a wide variety of salads and Sicilian pizza. Stop in and enjoy an expresso or cappuccino. If you don't feel like cooking—stop in on your way home and pick up dinner to go. Call ahead for large orders.

Mon & Tues, 8am-10pm, Wed-Sat, 8am-11pm, Sun, 10am-8pm.

SEASONS AT THE BOSTONIAN HOTEL

Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 536-3600

Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Season's features traditional American cuisine and daily specials, like duckling with sesame and ginger, Mahi-Mahi smoked to order and sautéed American sirloin with baked potato and capers. Season's also offers the ultimate combination– Season's dining and the Bostonian's personalized service with private dining suites for special occasions and gatherings for 20 - 150 persons. Open 6pm-10pm. Reservations accepted. Valet parking available.

SPASSO ITALIA CAFE & BAR

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656

Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

STROMBOLLI'S

187 North Street Newton, 630-0002
12 Green Street, Woburn, 935-0070

Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli, simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function!

TAJ MAHAL AT KENMORE

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266. All major credit cards accepted.

Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as Chicken Tandoori and Thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection of South Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon , served from 12-3p.m. , is for you at just $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights/week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR

290 Congress St., 423-6166

Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best including fresh seafood, poultry, veal and pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to individual order, and one of the best hamburgers in town. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

Dining Review / Ed and Ruth Feldman

Worlds Away. . . Just Across the River

". . [Papa and Goose] hopes to 'promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition'. . ."

Next time you find yourself over the river at the Cambridgeside Galleria and you are in need of some sustenance, give yourself a treat and venture just outside the mall, where you'll find a delightful respite from the shopping frenzy. This new Cambridge restaurant, whimsically named Poppa & Goose, offers an experience, not just a meal.

Created by alumni from Harvard, MIT, and Tufts Universities, Poppa & Goose's mission is to create a link between Cambridge and its diverse international student population. They hope to "promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition."

IF YOU GO

Poppa & Goose

369 First Street
Cambridge, MA
497-6772

The interior of the restaurant is spacious, stylish, and airy, with various ethnic nuances which reflect the pan-Asian cuisine. The space itself is divided into three areas: the front dining area, a display kitchen where cooking lessons take place, and a grocery area. Individual pepper mills, crocks of chili-garlic paste, and soy sauce adorn each table. Fork, knife and Asian soup spoon are set at each table, but chopsticks are gladly supplied by the helpful servers upon request.

We began our meal with an appetizer sampler: fresh Vietnamese spring roll with peanut sauce, fried spring roll with *nuoc mam*, shrimp paste on baguette, fried *gyoza* with dipping sauce, and shrimp on sugar cane. All were very delicious and authentically prepared.

We then sampled a large *hu tieu* soup, which was packed full with rice noodles, shrimp, pork, and lovely fresh vegetables and cilantro. A typical accompaniment of bean sprouts, lemon and cilantro were provided for us to add into the light, rich broth as we ate.

Entrees were served in wide ceramic bowls and came with a huge bowl of aromatic jasmine rice to share family style. The salmon special for the evening was prepared in a spicy tomato Thai sauce. This consisted of at least 8 full oz. of Atlantic salmon, fresh plum tomatoes, asparagus and other fresh vegetables.

Szechuan seafood was another plentiful dish consisting of squid and shrimp. Gently simmered in a light oyster sauce broth, it was brimming with what must be their standard house mix of vegetables. Both entrees were beautifully presented, plentiful and very fresh. Apparently, the dishes are created for the Western palate, so if you are hoping to find the food spicy, you should request that the kitchen "turn up the heat," and they will gladly accommodate you.

We topped off our meal by sharing the flan au caramel. One of the best we've sampled in a long time, this flan was decadent with a thin wafer of coconut forming a crisp, sweet bottom layer. A refreshing mango shake served as a delightful palate cleanser throughout the meal. Vietnamese style coffee, dripped from an individual strainer into a glass with a perfect amount of sweetened condensed milk measured into it, could be addictive. There are no alcoholic beverages available on premises, but you are welcome to BYOB.

Poppa & Goose is a delightful restaurant and an intriguing community concept. Lunch specials are abundant and seem to be in line with the rest of the very reasonably priced menu. Take out is available and lessons on Saturday are informal and by request. It is worth the trip and worth requesting the food spiced to your preference. ❑

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Alison Arnett, Boston Globe

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ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston-Boston, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

THE BAY TOWER ROOM
33rd Floor- 60 State Street- Boston, 723-1666
This great restaurant has an unsurpassed, breath-taking view of the Waterfront and Boston Harbor. The Bay Tower's new chef Raoul Jean-Richard will delight the senses with a buffet of salads, raw bar, terrine cheeses, and fruits. Diners receive a complimentary flute of Moet and Chandon. You then decide between 12 sumptuous entrees to be served at your table. Delightfully tempting desserts include tiramisu, creme caramel, Black Forest kirsch cake, and crepes filled with your desired ingredients.
$32 per person/$16 for children under 12
10:30 to 2:00 Sundays, reservations recommended.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun 10::30-2 p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omelette. Reservations suggested.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

LIBRARY GRILL AT THE HAMPSHIRE HOUSE
84 Beacon St., Bos., 227-9600
Overlooking the Public Gardens, this oak-paneled set serves dishes as rich in diversity as the homemade sauces that accompany them. The Eggs Ellington is a lovely combination of a tender fillet, poached eggs and Bernaise sauce, though well portioned, still leaves space for their Creme Caramel or Magnolia Pie. The Creole Omelette is another entree that is sure to tempt your palate. New Orleans Jazz Brunch served 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m., $12 - $16.

HUNGRY I
71 1/2 Charles St., Bos., 227-3524
Voted Boston's Most Romantic Restaurant, Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sun. 11a.m.-2p.m.

MARKETPLACE GRILL AND OAR BAR
300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 227-1272
Located above the Marketplace Cafe at the end of the North Market building. We feature Regional American Cuisine in an old Bostonian Sports Club setting. Please try our Sunday Live Jazz Brunch. All the traditional brunch items offered plus interesting additions. Something special for the kids, too! Enjoy the live soft jazz. Serving Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bos., 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowder" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

THE TRIDENT BOOKSTORE AND CAFÉ
338 Newbury St., Bos., C-5, 267-8688
Don't dribble on the tables as you sip café au lait from a bowl and play your favorite parlor games. Chess and backgammon boards courtesy of your hosts. If you're not into games, grab a mag from the racks and kick back to New Age music while feasting on one of the many vegetarian specials. Sun. 12-9p.m.

WARREN TAVERN,
2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 241-8142
Take a step back into history this Sunday, 212 years. The Warren Tavern is the oldest tavern in the country and the first place to be rebuilt after Charlestown burned down in the Battle of Bunker Hill. The Tavern features an original decor of low beamed ceilings, church pew benches and a 25 ft. oak bar. Cuisine is straight forward American with a little international flair. Brunch from noon to 3:30 p.m. $4.95 - $6.95.

About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

SPASTIC SPASSO

"...Thursday night is the big night for *Spasso:* Every yuppie, tuppy, buppy and skip within a six block radius is either at the granite topped bar or out on Spasso's lovely brick patio..."

Whoa, where did all these people come from? I mean, don't they have to work tomorrow too? It is Thursday, after all. In the world of corporate combustion and fireworks, most people are still expected to make an appearance at the office before noon, even if it is Friday. But at 11:00 p.m. on a Thursday night, the elbow to elbow crowd at Spasso, on the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Dartmouth Street, is happily sweating up a storm, tossing back liquid delights like there's no tomorrow (or at least no tomorrow where an alarm clock is set to 7:00 a.m.), and doing what is commonly referred to in the vernacular as scamming. There's a sociologist's wet dream's worth of human behavioral studies going on here tonight, boys and girls. There's more Back Bay bonafides on the make in the far corner of the bar than you can shake a stick at.

IF YOU GO

SPASSO

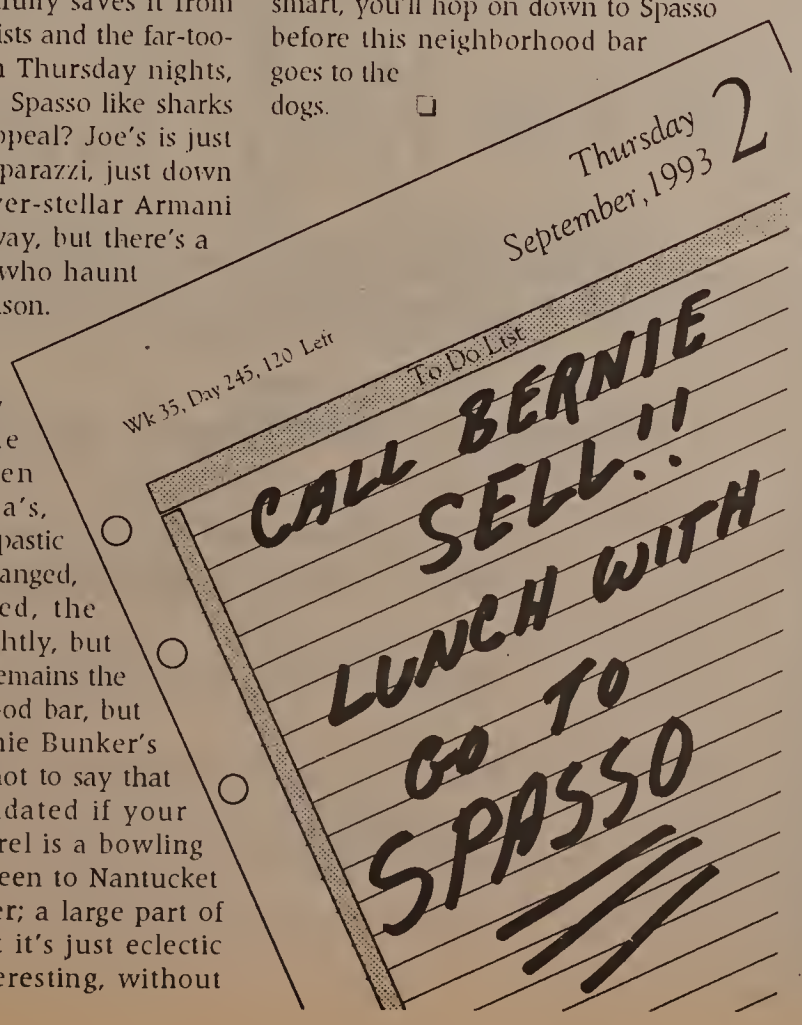
160 Commonwealth Ave.
536-8656
Last Call: 1a.m.

Thursday night is The Big Night for Spasso; every yuppy, tuppy, buppy and Skip within a six block radius is either at the granite-topped bar, or out on Spasso's lovely brick patio. By day, this little gussied-up Italian eatery masquerades as a perfectly normal restaurant. Its location on the block of Dartmouth that's away from Newbury Street mercifully saves it from being over-run by tourists and the far-too-common man. But on Thursday nights, the hordes descend on Spasso like sharks on bait. What's the appeal? Joe's is just around the corner, Paparazzi, just down the street, and the ever-stellar Armani Express just a block away, but there's a strong core of people who haunt Spasso, and for good reason.

Spasso has gone through several incarnations in the past few years. It has, over the course of its life, been Corey's, Montana's, Pearson's, and finally, spastic Spasso. The food has changed, the name has changed, the decor has changed slightly, but the essential character remains the same. It's a neighborhood bar, but it's definitely not Archie Bunker's neighborhood. This is not to say that you should be intimidated if your favorite piece of apparel is a bowling shirt, or you haven't been to Nantucket even once this summer; a large part of Spasso's charm is that it's just eclectic enough to keep it interesting, without becoming cloyingly trendy or excruciatingly individualistic. In other words, like, a wicked lotta different people go there, ya know?

This past Thursday, there was quite an impressive amount of talent at the bar. To the left and to the right, the shiny, happy faces blurred into a comforting vision of late night escapades. There was an overwhelming majority of late-twenties, materialistically inclined, fellow bar-goers. There was one guy in particular that I see absolutely *everywhere*. This mystery man must go out as much as I do, and believe me, that's no mean feat. I've exchanged glances with him in bars from here to Newport, but so far, no dialogue. Hmmm. I guess I hadn't had enough White Russians last night to get up the fortitude to introduce myself, but one of these days...

Anyway, as soon I walked into the bar, the crowd parted like the Red Sea before Moses, a nice refreshing drink was placed in my hand, and I settled in to watch the action. The nice thing about Spasso is that the action is available if you want it, but there's very little pressure. Of course, now that I've written this column and blown the lid off the neighborhood secret, the charm will probably fade. So, if you're smart, you'll hop on down to Spasso before this neighborhood bar goes to the dogs. ❑



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Sept. 7	Free Jukebox
Sept. 8	Grinning Lizards
Sept. 9	Devil's Avocado
Sept. 10	McQueens
Sept. 11	Shoot the Moon
Sept. 12	Donegal Corderoys & D.J. Tom
Sept. 13	Luck of the Draw
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Sept. 11	TBA
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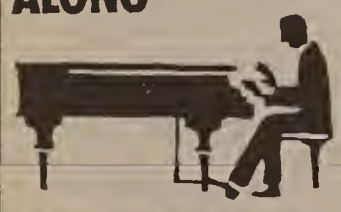
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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Bull & Finch Pub (Cheers)
227-8665, 84 Beacon St., Bos, A recent study confirmed what many Bostonians have assumed for years: The Bull & Finch actually attracts more tourists than most of the sights on the Freedom Trail! The TV show *Cheers* uses the doorway of the Bull & Finch for their opening shot, but nothing else. Still, it offers a comfortable and boisterous neighborhood atmosphere. Try it at least once. No cover. Casual dress.

Cactus Club
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Live music nightly during outdoor cafe season. Casual atmosphere and dress.

Province Street Pub
227-2992, 18 Province St., Bos, Located near downtown crossing, around the corner from the Parker House Hotel, is the new Province Street Pub. The pub has a lively atmosphere featuring a long U-shaped bar and loft dining room. Its central location attracts a mixed crowd of professionals, tourists and locals drawn by a varied live entertainment schedule. The pub is open 7 days a week till 2 a.m. and offers a brunch on weekends. $3 validated parking available. Open 11:30 to 2 a.m. Appetizers served until 1 a.m..

The Rowes Wharf Bar, Boston Harbor Hotel
439-3995. 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." *The Improper Bostonian*. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Also, lunch is served from 11:30am to 4pm.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Featuring Karaoke, comedy great music and more! When looking for a fun night out, don't miss the Mystery Café Dinner Theater. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Café Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m..

Dancing

Avalon
262-2424, 15 Lansdowne St., Bos, Boogie to Hip Hop, Funk, House, Progressive and Top 40 music at this colossal dance club. Music varies nightly. Take advantage of the enormous dance floor, placid lounge, and intimate booths. Avalon also boasts having the best light show in town. The crowd here is a good mix; anyone in the mood for dancing should feel comfortable. Cover charge varies. Dressy slacks, collared shirts, and dark dress shoes required. Great place to see live shows. Sun. night is gay night.

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline. Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "HI" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Session - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400,
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2am and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

End of Summer Festivities

Don Henley & Co., Cajun and Bluegrass Festival, Decordova Jazz and more.

The summer's only show at Foxboro Stadium boasts quite a lineup to help save threatened woodlands once frequented by naturalist Henry David Thoreau. The Concert for Walden Woods, taking place on Labor Day, features hour-long sets by Elton John, Sting and benefit organizer Don Henley, as well as a cameo performance by Boston's own Aerosmith. But don't overlook the program's opening rocker, Melissa Etheridge, who is slated to kick off the benefit at 5 p.m.

Etheridge is a dynamic live performer who should have no trouble winning over new fans in a stadium setting with her hearty, raspy vocals and soul-searching style. Look for her to turn heads.

The concert, by the way, is expected to raise about $1 million to help pay off a loan used in the $3.5 million purchase of land near Walden Pond.

CAJUN & BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

A more traditional Labor Day event is the 14th Annual Cajun & Bluegrass Festival at the Stepping Stone Ranch in rural Escoheag, R.I. The fest runs Friday night and both day and night Saturday and Sunday. Among those performing Saturday and Sunday are D.L. Menard & the Lousiana Aces, the Tony Rice Unit, Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys, Walter Mouton & the Scott Playboys, the Austin Lounge Lizards and the Poullard Brothers Creole Band. The Iguanas and local bluegrass favorites Northern Lights help kick off the Friday evening program. But for many, the highlight of the weekend comes after the night's main-stage performances, with social dances in the ranch barn and outdoor tent. Mouton (who finally played the festival last year after more than 20 years of Saturday nights at the same Louisiana dancehall) and Riley will respectively churn up the barn Saturday and Sunday, while Nathan & the Zydeco Cha-Chas will cook in the tent.

Speaking of cooking, the Festival offers authentic cuisine, such as blackened fish, chicken and even alligator, as well as jambalaya, red beans and rice. Tickets are in the $20 range per day, and camping is available with a three-day ticket. Children under 12 are admitted free!

"It's a great festival, man," says veteran Menard, who's known as the "Cajun Hank Williams." Of the festival's organizers, who also do the Big Easy Bash on the ranch in June, Menard, on the phone from Louisiana, says "They put their heart into it."

DECORDOVA JAZZ FESTIVAL

While Henley and his compatriots are preparing to help save land near Walden Pond, the nearby DeCordova Museum in Lincoln will present its annual Labor Day Jazz Festival at its outdoor amphitheater, which happens to provide the best outdoor concert setting you'll find in the Boston area.

This year's festival of locally based jazz talent features the Latin septet El Eco, former Full Circle vocalist Philip Hamilton's new Group and the Brad Hatfield Quintet, which includes trumpeter Tiger Okoshi and saxophonist George Garzone. The three-hour concert begins at 1 p.m.

ELSEWHERE

Another Labor Day option for those who are more adventurous would be a trip to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. That's the closest stop to Boston for the first U.S. tour of the WOMAD Festival, a decade-old celebration of international music supported by Peter Gabriel. Gabriel, PM Dawn, Crowded House, Stereo MCs, John Trudell and Jah Wobble are among western acts who will be joined by a huge cast of superstars from China, Russia, Africa and many other locations.

And Parrotheads can't forget that Jimmy Buffett and his Coral Reefer Band party down at Great Woods Thursday through Saturday to launch the holiday weekend. Let's just hope the weather holds out like the concerts do.

Freelance writer/photographer Paul Robicheau has covered music for more than a decade. He is a Boston correspondent for Rolling Stone magazine and his features and reviews appear regularly in the Boston Globe. ❑



IN THE WOODS: *Singer Melissa Etheridge, slated to open the Concert for Walden Woods on Labor Day*

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Tortured no Longer

An Introduction to Benjamin Britten (part 1)

Though his themes are pacifism and innocence, Benjamin Britten's music is often considered harsh and ironic. His most famous works project grim, grotesque images of war and isolation; even his charming song cycles have a tang of that bitterness that Britten shared with friend and collaborator W. H. Auden. Several new recordings just released this month, however, present a very different view of Britten. They present an image of the composer playing comfortably with the lyrical traditions of the past, producing music that is witty, pleasant, and wholly affectionate.

Two of the works released this month on CD have never been previously recorded in their entirety. Britten's royal opera *Gloriana*, composed for the coronation of Elizabeth II, floundered after its first performance met with cool reception – the first audience was appalled that Britten's portrait of Elizabeth I could be so tastelessly homely and human. Mackerras's new recording (Argo 440 213-2) still shocks (with Josephine Barstow playing a Queen capable of extraordinary vulgarity as well as much-celebrated nobility); however, this new recording also reminds us that much of the work really is triumphal and ceremonial, vivid with fanfares and lively masquing dances. It really is an honest appreciation of the monarchy.

Argo has also just released the first complete recording of Britten's *Beggar's Opera* (Argo 436 850-2), a work based, like Brecht and Weill's *Three-Penny Opera*, on an 18th century musical by John Gray. Britten doesn't concentrate on the play's social commentary, as the German duo did, but instead focuses on bringing out the charm of the original baroque show tunes through the use of some very handsome 'forties harmonies. The work is light, but not insubstantial. Just when we think Britten is about to turn London's under-world into a tea-dance, he delivers some delightfully Hogarthian piece of debauchery.

Britten also pays tribute to an earlier age of English music in his otherworldly opera *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. For Britten, as for Henry Purcell, the emphasis in the Shakespeare play lies not on that hopelessly confusing love square, but instead on the imagery of darkness, sleep, and the supernatural. Each set of characters in the opera therefore becomes deliriously extreme; the four lovers, always anxious and bickering; the clumsily dissonant rustics; the sticky-sweet fairy boys of Tytania's entourage; and winding them all in the coils of dream, strange falsetto Oberon and his rogue Puck. Hickox's new recording (Virgin 7-59305-2) is lusher than Britten's own (London 425 663-2), and can certainly compete with it.

Britten was once seen as somewhat glib and popular; now he's often seen as boy-haunted and shackled by self-hate. It's works like these that demonstrate he was obviously fully able to produce affecting, lyrical music without touching on obsession. Of course, he doubtless was boy-haunted and shackled by self-hate, but he was too polite to say so often. And so should we be. ❑

THE CALENDAR

Compiled by Kathy Matheson

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14				

DANCE

Ballroom Dance Week
Various locations
No, this is not a joke; this is your U.S. Congress at work. Sept. 10-19 has been declared National Ballroom Dance Week, and there are 11 different events you can attend to get into the swing of things (pun very, very much intended): lessons, performances, films, lectures, etc. And it's FREE. Call 491-7153.

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for the BB's 30th season, which begins with a production of *Sleeping Beauty* from Oct. 21 to Nov. 7. Call 695-6950 for times and prices.

PHOTOGRAPHY

N.E. School of Photography
537 Comm. Ave., Boston
Black & white, color, experimental color, advertising, corporate, editorial, photojournalism and portraiture are all represented in this student exhibition through Sept. 13. Photographers shown were students in the two-year professional photography program.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
The PRC hosts the New England Biennial, a juried exhibition of area photographers on view from Sept. 10-Oct. 17. Nineteen artists are featured, and their work covers topics from racism to high school proms. Call 353-0700.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River – all seen while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically-designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating – and free. Mon., 2:30 p.m.; Tues.-Wed. 6:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat. at 11 a.m.

Boston University
For you star-gazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that's clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. Entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Garden in the Woods
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast, and its staff offers guided walks every Tues., Fri. and Sat. at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31. Or, come in and explore the garden yourself. Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

Gore Place
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45 acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th and early 20th century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Odyssey Cruises
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the *Spirit of Boston* ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally-recognized chef. Call 654-9700.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past – this 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Send an electronic message to Bill Clinton or Al Gore in the new exhibit "Become an Electronic Citizen," open Sept. 7. In the "Person-to-Person" booth, make a "virtual visit" with a friend using a videophone. Through Sept. 6, the museum explores "From Words to Code: How People Make Computers Work," a light-hearted, interactive journey into a "land of languages." Also through Sept. 6 is "First Impressions: Digital Photography," an exhibit that allows visitors to dabble in digital paint. See R2-D2 from Star Wars in the new exhibit "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy over 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.



IMPROPER PICK

BUGGING OUT: BUZZ OVER TO THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE TO SEE "BACKYARD MONSTERS," AN EXHIBITION OF HUMONGOUS, ROBOTICALLY ANIMATED CREEPY CRAWLIES.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) comprise Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in "Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon." Call 266-5151; the ICA has free admission Thursdays from 5-9 p.m.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of primarily early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint and open courtyard. Call 566-1401.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition – an amazingly detailed 50' by 25' replica of the building celebrating its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. Call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's "Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT," which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's "MathSpace," a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents "Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings from the Collection" from Sept. 9 to Jan. 2. An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. Now through July 3, 1994, see "African and Oceanic Sculpture," with over 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. Through Sept. 26, see "Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Part 2." Call 267-9300.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
Come see "Backyard Monsters," an exhibition dedicated to bugs. Watch humongous (20 feet tall!) carpenter ants, a praying mantis, a black widow and a unicorn beetle — all are robotically animated. Many other creepy-crawlies are on display, and you can even build your own ant! Through Sept. 12. Also, on exhibit through Sept. 19 is "Science in Toyland," where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays from 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Call 589-0270.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are "Muscle Cars," hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-74. On Sept. 9, renowned diner historian and restorer Richard J.S. Gutman will be signing his new book, *American Diner, Then and Now*, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Gutman will also present a slideshow on the subject; tickets are $20, which include a copy of the book and admission to the "Muscle Cars" exhibit. Call 522-6547.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The Aquarium's newest exhibit is called "Catch Some Rays," about the mysterious – and dangerous – sting ray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200.

New England Sports Museum
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 - ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has anything to do with New England sports, including lots of interactive exhibits - like one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

Old State House
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special exhibit on display now explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from "Old Ironsides," the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Harvard Square
We promise, you'll be able to see it. The ART presents *Le Cirque Invisible* (that's "The Invisible Circus" for the completely language-deficient) through Sept. 6. It's a mix of comedy, acrobatics, animal acts, magic and sheer theatricality; tickets range from $18-$42, with special discounts for kids under. From Sept. 7-19, see *Time on Fire*, a "raucous romp through hell" that details a man's often hilarious experiences as he tries to cope with the medical establishment. Call 547-8300.

Asian American Theater Project
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
The tale of a concubine who wins her freedom in a poker game is one of the poignant stories told in *Unbinding Our Lives*, a play that traces the lives of Chinese women during the Gold Rush era. (Sept. 8-11, 15-18, 22-25, at 8 p.m. in the Leland Center.) Also, see the story of a Japanese-American family at an internment camp during WWII in *Living in Infamy*. (Sept. 12, 19 & 26 at 2 p.m. in Leland Center.) Call 426-ARTS.

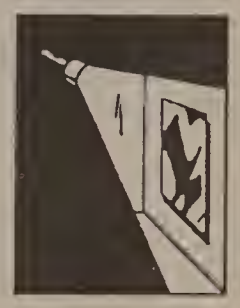
Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St., Boston
You're in for a toe-tapping night during this retrospective of country music singer Patsy Cline's work, with a celebrity guest D.J. every night. *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* is now performing until Sept. 12. Call 426-6912.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225.

Huntington Theatre Co.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Learn about the extraordinary experiences of an African-American woman growing up in the deep South in the HTC's production of *From the Mississippi Delta*. Performances run Sept. 10-Oct. 10; call 266-0800.

Medieval Manor
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of "Dark Ages" dining, this satiric musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900.

Continued On Following Page



The Golden Gallery

Richard Diebenkorn
Jim Dine
Helen Frankenthaler
David Hockney
Jasper Johns
Alex Katz
Roy Lichtenstein
Robert Motherwell
Claes Oldenburg
Larry Rivers
Jim Rosenquist
Sean Scully
Frank Stella
Wayne Thiebaud

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WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY LESLIE

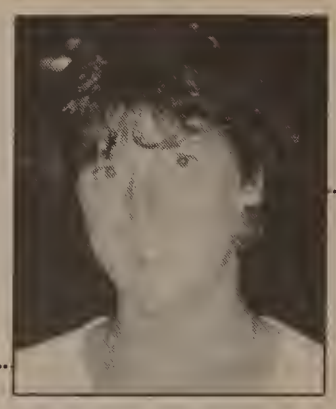
"What was your worst high school subject?"



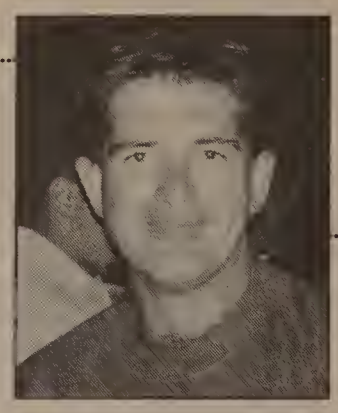
Cheryl, 29, East Boston
"Science. I never quite caught on and I felt like I was two steps behind everyone."



Dave, 34, Watertown
"French. I was always listening to how sexy it sounded, but not bothering to understand a word of it."



Claire, 32, Quincy
"Math or Chemistry. I always had male teachers and they always favored the guys."



Steve, 29, Brockton
"Swimming class. We had to wear those speedos and I was 30 lbs. overweight."



Cornelius, 22, Fenway
"Math, because it was usually first period, and I could never get up for it."



Amy, 23, Newton
"Driver's Education. Everything went downhill after I rammed into a police car."

M.I.T.
Student Center
Opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The M.I.T. Gilbert and Sullivan Players are hosting auditions for *The Pirates of Penzance* Sept. 12 in Room 491, and on Sept. 13 in Private Dining Room #1. Bring a prepared song. Call 730-8214.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its 5th year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Tickets are now on sale for the New Rep's '93-'94 season, which begins with a production of *Jar the Floor* from Sept. 16-Oct. 24. It's a tender, funny story of four generation of women in an African-American family preparing for the great-grandmother's 90th birthday. Call 332-1646.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly
Nagging wives, whining children, mothers-in-law and food will be the main topics in the award-winning *Catskills on Broadway*, four Catskills comedians performing their unique brand of Jewish humor. But they are only doing two shows: Sept. 5 at 3 & 8 p.m. Tickets are $35.50. Also, from Sept. 2-18, the NSMT presents the classic musical *Brigadoon*, a love story about a magical town that emerges from the mists of Scotland just one day each century. Call (508) 922-8500.

RIVERSIDE THEATRE WORKS
French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
The RTW presents *Guys and Dolls*, the musical about gangsters, gambling, long engagements, and innocent missionaries. From Sept. 9-Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.; cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults, $10 for seniors and $8 for students. Call 361-7024.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing their stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. The Little Sisters of Hoboken can now be seen with a brand new cast and set. Special restaurant/theatre packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAY THEATER
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
The URT takes a look at both the humorous and serious sides of the 50-something crowd in *Washed-Up Middle-Aged Women*. In the Black Box Theater Sept. 9-11, 16-18 and 23-25 at 8 p.m. ASL performance Sept. 11. Call 426-ARTS.

UNION CHAPEL
Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard
Harlem Exchange chronicles the correspondence between two African-American men from the Vietnam era to today. Shows are Sept. 2-5 at 8 p.m.; tickets are $15. Call (508) 693-3808.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this summer will be for *Miss Saigon*, the tragic love story of an American G.I. and the Vietnamese woman he left in Saigon. It's a must-see, but it's only here until Oct. 9. Call 931-2222.

LECTURES/READINGS

M.I.T.
Bartos Theater
20 Ames St., Cambridge
The poetry season opens Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m. with a reading by W.S. Merwin. Poets may read both their own works and works that have influenced them. Call 253-7894.

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
Harriet Tubman House
566 Columbus Ave., Boston
NOW is a non-profit organization dedicated to fighting sexism, racism and homophobia, and fighting for the advancement of the rights of all women. Come to an open house Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. to find out how you can involved. Call 782-1056.

WORDSWORTH BOOKS
Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Anti-pornography lawyer and activist Catharine MacKinnon talks about her hard-hitting book on free speech and the First Amendment, *Only Words*, Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free, but you must have a ticket, available from Wordsworth or the Brattle. Canned goods are collected at the door for the Cambridge Food Pantry. Call 354-5201.

GALLERIES

GALLERY 659
Jamaica Plain Arts Center
659 Centre Street, JP
Gallery 659 presents the works of four South American artists from Sept. 8-29; opening reception is Sept. 10 at 6:30 p.m., and there will be a concert of Andean music by Inca Son. Call 524-3816.

GALLERY NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston
NAGA presents "New Paintings of Boston" by Ed Stitt, a young realist painter whose depictions of Boston buildings - both famous and mundane - would make you swear it was a photograph. Also on view are works by Elizabeth Rosenblum on the theme "Pathologizing Desire." From Sept. 7 to Oct. 2.

ROLLY-MICHAUX
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
Robert Sweeney, a professor of fine arts at Amherst College, is noted for his luminist views of New England. This exhibition (Sept. 14-Oct. 16) features scenes of the hills and small villages of western Mass., as well as the flower-strewn fields and marshlands along the Connecticut shoreline.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOOK FAIR
Old Cambridge Baptist Church
1151 Mass. Ave, Harvard Square
Find used and nearly-new books on all subjects at bargain basement prices on Sept. 11 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Money goes to help Sojourner: The Women's Forum. Call 524-0415 to donate books.

CODMAN HOUSE
Codman Road, Lincoln
Handmade jewelry, baskets, quilts, pottery and toys will be among the many crafts represented at the 11th Annual Artisans' Fair on the grounds of historic Codman House on Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The house is accessible by Commuter Rail and admission is $3; call 259-8843.

GREEK FESTIVAL
71 Chandler Rd., Andover
Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church sponsor a three-day Greek Festival Sept. 10 (4-11 p.m.), 11 (11 a.m. to 11 p.m.) and 12 (11 a.m. to 6 p.m.), rain or shine. Greek music and dancing, food, arts and crafts and a Greek *agora* (marketplace) will be the focus of the event. Call 508-470-0919.

RACE FOR THE CURE
Daly Field, Brighton
The Race is a 5K run/walk near the Charles River, and money raised goes to provide mammogram screening for medically under-served women in Boston. It's Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to noon; entry fee is $15, $16 the day of the race. Call 738-4000 x2862.

VOLUNTEER FAIR
Hynes Convention Center
Boylston Street, Boston
More than 100 non-profit organizations will set up shop here between noon and 4 p.m. Sept. 11 to recruit warmhearted people like yourself to volunteer for them. Admission is $5; the keynote address will be delivered by Eli Segal, assistant to President Clinton and director of the Office of National Service. Call 547-6979.

CLASSICAL

CORO ALLEGRO
Church of the Covenant
67 Newbury St., Boston
Coro Allegro is holding auditions for new member Sept. 10 & 11; friends and members of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community with prior choral experience are encouraged to audition. Call 499-4868 to arrange a time.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy celebrates the re-opening of Pickman Hall Sept. 10 & 11 at 8 p.m. with "Septemberfest"; music includes Brahms, Frazin and Schumann. Tickets are $5. Longy also sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

MUSICA SACRA
Harvard-Epworth Church
1555 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Musica Sacra will be holding auditions Sept. 1 & 8. The chorus rehearses every Wednesday, and there are openings for all parts. The upcoming season features 20th-century Christmas music, and works by Poulenc, Britten, Distler, Elger, Brahms and others. Call to schedule an audition time, 864-7998.

FILMS

BOSTON FILM FESTIVAL
Loews Copley Place
Copley Square, Boston
The 9th Annual Boston Film Festival kicks off Sept. 13 and runs through the 23rd. Call 333-FILM for a daily program.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
The Barbra (yes, it's spelled right) Streisand film, *The Main Event*, will be screened Sept. 7 at 6 p.m. - made before she was an FOB (friend of Bill). On Mondays at 6 p.m., the BPL presents a Fred Astaire movie series: Sept. 13 it's *Top Hat*. All films are free.

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film entertainment from classic to cult features: each day has a different theme, and they change each month. For a full program, call 876-6837.

FESTIVAL OF SHORT FILMS
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square
The 2nd annual International Festival of Short Films runs Sept. 3-12; it's a two-hour collection of 11 live-action short films from five countries, including Oscar winner *Work Experience* from England and Gus Van Sant's and William Burroughs's masterful *Thanksgiving Prayer*. Tickets are $7, $5 for the 4 p.m. shows. Call 1-800-925-CINE.

LASERIUM
At the Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the *Lollapalaser* show every Friday & Saturday at 8 p.m. - a combination of lasers and music from groups like Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other music themes are on other days; call 723-2500.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
New to the world of Omnimax is *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, which runs through Oct. 14. For the more tropically-oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution - and destruction - of one of nature's most important creations. Call 723-2500; ticket purchase 24 hours in advance is advised.

WORLD TRADE CENTER
Northern Ave., Boston
Check out *The Other Side: A Virtual Reality Arena* at the World Trade Center. Tickets are $7; some rides and attractions are extra. It's the largest gathering of virtual reality entrepreneurs this summer. Call 1-800-367-9822 or 439-5000.

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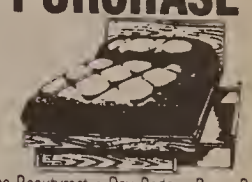
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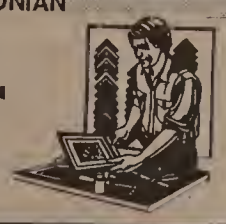
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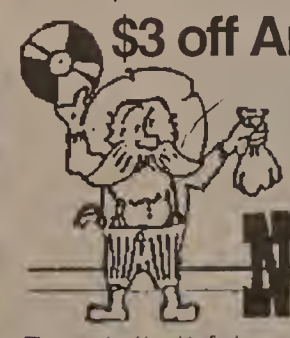
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BROOKLINE 3 professional women seeking one male/female to share 4 bedroom apt. in a house near a T. Available immed. $395 includes heat + utilities. Off-street parking available. Please call (508)774-5390 daytime.

BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. in 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd flrs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

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NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted. Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old. Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utilities. Steven (508)664-4443

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NORTH SHORE 2 roommates wanted to share large house on Lynnfield line near Rt 1. Off-street prkg, swimming pool, quiet location, w/w carpet, dw/d, w/d. No utils $110/week 593-2239

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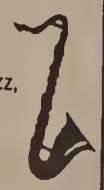


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LOVE MUSIC & DANCING? Italian/Syrian female, 46 (doesn't look it!), 5'5", brown hair & exotic eyes, enjoys 50's music, Jeopardy, dining out, home cooking, sports & long rides with good conversation. Seeks professional, educated male who is a sharp dresser & has similar interests. EXT•6915.

ONE MAN WOMEN! Full-figured, but shapely black female, 33, 5'9", easygoing & quiet, enjoys quiet evenings, renting movies, music & billiards. Seeks unattached black male, 30-40, who is spontaneous, not afraid of a professional woman, tired of head games, and has a good sense of humor. If you are seeking triendship or possible commitment, drop me a call! EXT•6911.

ARE YOU CURIOUS ENOUGH to meet a beautiful Russian woman? I'm 44, 5'5", slender, professional & romantic, and interested in travel & art. Seeks intelligent & honest gentleman for long-term relationship. EXT•6920.

SEXY, SENSUAL, PASSIONATE woman of substance! White female, 45, 5'5", 125 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes, great shape, compassionate in & out, emotionally secure, secure job. Seeks physically fit white male, 38-50, 5'9"-6'1", dark hair, who is ready for a 1-1 relationship with me. Serious replies only! EXT•6881.

SINCERE & HONEST! Boston area, divorced white female, 35, 5'6", dirty blonde hair, hazel eyes, slim, enjoys long walks, dancing, music, cooking & much more. Seeks white male, 30-40, who wants a fun-loving relationship. EXT•6883.

SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE- How about romance in Boston? Pretty, divorced white female, 45, with class, style & integrity, values an honest, caring relationship with a gentleman with similar qualities. Loves the country as well as the city, animals, Rod Stewart to Garth brooks, movies & special times with the right person. EXT•6899.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, divorced white female, 49, 5'3", brown hair, blue-green eyes, smoker, social drinker, enjoys music, dancing & simple things. Seeks attractive, caring, sincere male, 5'10"+, for a long-term relationship or more. Sense of humor a plus! EXT•6914.

VERY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE, divorced white female, 46, brown hair, blue eyes, emotionally & financially secure, with passions for skiing, aerobics, fishing, dancing, animals & being romantic. Seeks white male, 36-47, with similar interests. No couch potatoes or head games! EXT•6927.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable white male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

LISTEN UP! Full-figured, attractive white female, 25, seeks a 1-1 relationship. If you have a great sense of humor, like quiet nights at home & walks along the beach with an old-fashioned girl, give me a call! EXT•6806.

WHERE IS MY TOM CRUISE? Very attractive Italian-American female, 30, 5'4", 125 lbs, with medium brown hair, striking blue-green eyes. Seeks Italian-American "Hunk", 28-33, who is built, tall, sexy, clean shaven, handsome & hard working. EXT•6865.

MS.CLEAN SEEKS MR.CLEAN for friendship & hopetully more! Light-skinned black female, 48, petite (5'5", 120 lbs), with beautiful blue eyes, enjoys dancing, dining out, bowling & weekend trips. Seeks energetic male, 45-60, who shares similar interests. EXT•6811.

VERY ATTRACTIVE & SINCERE white female, 28, seeks white male, with dark hair & eyes, who is honest, romantic, funny, knows what he wants from life, and is not afraid to go after it. Please respond! EXT•6809.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. WANTED: White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relationship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

SEARCHING FOR 1 SPECIAL MAN! Quality female, 38, brown hair, blue eyes, professional, non-smoker, attractive, full-figured, affectionate, kind, sensitive & caring. Enjoys the arts, travel, ocean, mountains & dining. Seeks that special, sensitive white male, 35-48, with a willingness to enrich his life, for a possible long term relationship. All answered! Stoneham! EXT•6835.

PRETTY WOMAN seeks her Richard Gere! 20-something, ash blonde, petite, slender female, loves blues, baseball and Boston. Desires well-built male, 27-33, 5'9"+, who's sharp dressed, established professional, never married, Protestant, non-smoker and social drinker. North of city! EXT•6781.

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING black female, 27, with nice sense of humor, loves going to movies & late night walks. Seeks a sincere, caring & romantic male, 25-35, for friendship plus whalever comes naturally. EXT•6863.

EXTREAMELY PRETTY! White female, great shape, very fit, hard body, outgoing, with a positive attitude & champagne taste. Seeks an extreamly handsome white male, 28-36, big build (bodybuilder/weightlifter), who's outgoing & a genuine nice guy. EXT•6803.

FUN & FIESTY, green-eyed girl next door! White female, 28, sales professional, loves sailing, skiing, rollarblading, movies, museums, traveling, Vermont & The Cape. Seeks like-minded fellow to laugh with & share life! EXT•6814.

VERMONTER TURNED BOSTONIAN! Attractive female, 34, 5'6", non-smoker, romantic, loves Seinfeld, movies, the beach, dusk & Cabernet Savignon. Seeks man of integrity, 30-39, who is funny, communicative, and wants to be in a relationship. EXT•6838.

ATTRACTIVE, CLASSY, Cape Verde black female, 23, 5'3 1/2", well-built, easygoing, loves the movies, skating, travel, dancing, dining, kids, nights on the beach, and quiet nights alone together. Seeks down to earth, fun, energetic, white or Hispanic male with similar qualities & a great sense of humor. Don't be shy, give me a lry! EXT•6773.

DATING: THE FINAL FRONTIER! White, professional, sci-fi female, 41, 5'6", desires exploring strange new worlds & finding peace wilh this one. I have health, fitness, varied interests, financial stability, adventure in soul, and a need for laughter at sunrise, sunset, and 100 times in between. Seeks same in male adventure-mate, 35-45, or so. EXT•6791.

IVY DEGREED PLUS! The girl who has everything: beauty, brains, personality, heart, soul, and integrity. Media personality seeks white male, 41-52, to share the Dreams and the Reality! EXT•6784.

HAPPY! Attractive white female, 39, 5'4", professional, non-smoker, adventurous, feminine, thoughtful, good friend, slow runner, enjoys beginning tennis, infrequent skiing, the ocean, travel, dining out & movies. Seeks clean-cut white male professional for friendship & dating. EXT•6772.

PRETTY, divorced white female, 40 (looks much younger), 5'2", short brown hair, green eyes, nice smile, college educated, great sense of humor, fun-loving, will try almost anything once. Seeks sincere man, age & race unimportant, for friendship first, then who knows! EXT•6774.

VIVACIOUS, VERY ATTRACTIVE, successful, business woman, 38, fun, athletic, widely traveled, varied interests, understands the importance of love & loyalty, non-smoker, non-drinker. Enjoys tennis, walking, skiing, dancing, movies, & quiet times at home. Seeks attractive male, 30-45, 5'7"+, who is a business or medical professional, for a monogamous relalionship. EXT•6759.

SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 29, 5'5", loves the movies (old & new), music, dancing, dining, walking, bike riding, working out & a great sense of humor. Seeks male, 28-35, with similar interests, for companionship only. Please be drug & smoke free. Social drinker OK. Race unimportant! No games please! EXT•6756.

PASSIONATE WOMAN WHO'S READY, sexy, pretty & blonde, would fike to share the summer season, maybe more, with a successful, strong, attractive & loving man, 46-56. Together we can experience life's simple joys! EXT•6732.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 35, 5'4". enjoys golf, hiking, skiing, sporting events, the beach, gardening, cooking, movies, billiards & travel. Wishes to hear from a white professional male, 35-45, with similar interests. EXT•6731.

UNIQUE, FOXY & SEXY, Divorced Italian/Spanish female, 5'7", blonde hair, brown eyes, attractive, full-figured, classy & affectionate. Seeks male mate for long-term friendship, 1-1 relationship & love. No head games or phoneys! Sincere replies only! All races welcome! I'm real, call me! EXT•6713.

STRIKINGLY ATTRACTIVE, Asian female professional, 28, petite, fit & intelligent, enjoys theatre, jazz, fine dining, romantic getaways & good conversation. Seeks attractive, professional, well educated, non-Jewish, white male, 30-35, 5'8"+, non-smoker, who is interested in a cozy, intimate, 1-1 relationship. EXT•6701.

DON'T READ THIS, unless you are an honest, sincere, down to earth, gentleman interesled in meeting a 44yr old blue-eyed blonde with a great sense of humor. I enjoy music, movies, good conversation & much more. EXT•6718.

LIFE'S TOO SHORT! Hi, I'm 45 (but built like an 18yr old), 5'2", 109 lbs, and looking for someone to share life with. I love dancing, walks along the beach, long rides & getaway weekends. Seeks someone to hold, kiss, and be with. EXT•6734.

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT & CLASSY! White female, 35, tit (emotionally & physically), professional, positive, energetic, diversitied, outgoing personality. Seeks secure mature, handsome male who is healthy, charismatic, communicative, straight forward, sociable, affectionate, humorous, monogamous, childless & a non-smoker, for friendship, relationship & possibly marriage. EXT•6711.

DIVORCED WHITE FEMALE, 55, attractive, educated, chubby but not fat, seeks a white male, 50-65, for friendship & romance. EXT•6873.

K.I.S.S.! Caring, sensitive, attractive, athletic white female, 30, 5'7", seeks caring, stable, professional, active, handsome white male, 28-35. Friends of Bill W's preferred. Together we can enjoy each day as it comes! EXT•6702.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

YUPPIE IMAGE, compassionate personality! Attractive young professional, 22, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, healthy, intelligent, articulate, dynamic, honest & such a romantic. Seeking young (22-28), attractive, optimistic, honest, career-oriented woman to enjoy travel, recreation, diversion & to share the special opportunities of a progressive lifestyle. EXT•7377.

NO LABELS ON US! White male, 30, 6'1", 175 lbs, seeks woman, 20's-30's, who loves serendipity, backrubs, calamari, French movies, Halloween, Suzanne Vega, strawberries, pubs, tax refunds & more, for friendship, romance & ?! EXT•7476.

TALL, HANDSOME, financially secure, professional, white male, 44, with brown hair & blue eyes. Seeks attractive, slim, physically fit female, 32-43, to share travel, hikes, plays & romantic evenings. I am looking for a friend & soulmate! EXT•7420.

LOVES LIFE! Affectionate, honest, sincere & open white male, 47, 5'10", is very loving & able to show feelings. Enjoys movies, long walks, dancing, music & romantic quiet times. Seeks white female, 35-48, with similar interests & qualities. EXT•7456.

LOVING BLACK MALE, 33, 6'2", very sweet & comforting, seeks black or Latino woman, 29-40, for long-term relationship. I need someone who wants to be loved as much as I do! EXT•7421.

THE REVIEWS ARE IN & HE'S A HIT! White male, 33, seeks women, late 20's-early 30's, who enjoys tennis, movies, books, occasional dancing & still thinks about the meaning of life! EXT•7473.

STRUGGLING PROFESSIONAL, white male, 36, 5'10", medium build, easygoing, sense of humor, bright, enjoys good conversation, long walks, romantic dinners, movies, music, art, theatre, reading & much more. Seeks white female who is not seeking the incredible! EXT•7475.

EXCEPTIONALLY ROMANTIC, handsome & alluring Jewish male, 30, very athletic, sophisticated & emotionally stable. Seeks female, 20-30, who is physically fit and feels happiness & passion in her heart. EXT•7443.

ATTRACTIVE, WELL-BUILT white male, 28, 5'8", 155 lbs, brown hair & eyes, caring, fun, positive, family oriented, enjoys movies, comedy shows, long walks with someone special, picnics, talking, listening, and dining in/out. Seeks attractive, shapely woman, with similar interests. Please be intelligent, open, warm, communicative, and relalionship minded. EXT•7411.

FUN MENSCH! Jewish male, 40, attractive, easygoing, honest, seeks smart, sincere Jewish woman with a zest for lite, to share long walks, warm communication & whalever else may come easily. EXT•7439.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you trom all those jerks you've been daling. It's the real thing, and you should call betore some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7462.

JUST ARRIVED ON BEACON HILL! Attractive, intelligent, fun-loving, honest white male, 33, 6', 180 lbs. Seeks intelligent, personable, very attractive older female, 40+, for friendship & possibly more. Let's explore Boston togelher & have all kinds of fun! EXT•7507.

TOP QUALITY, divorced Jewish male, late 50's, 5'8", decent guy, youthtul, easygoing, pleasing to the eye, humorous, sailor & skier. Would like to meet a calm, attractive, non-smoking, companionable lady, mid-40's-early 50's, with similar qualities. EXT•7438.

HANDSOME WASP, 37, 5'11", 180 lbs, blond hair, blue eyes, left winged yuppie, tameable urban cowboy, unique, distinctive character of integrity. Seeks a thin, attractive, childless, younger woman for a special 1-1 relationship. EXT•7440.

ROMANTIC, LOVING, affectionate & sincere man, 37, 5'10", 170 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, seeks similar qualities in a feminine woman with beauty of the heart & soul as well as the body, for a monogamous relationship. Age & race unimportant! EXT•7508.

SPECIAL LADY WANTED! Successful, white businessman, 40ish, 5'7", 170 lbs, med. build, brown hair, blue eyes, moustache, enjoys dining out, movies, travel, wine & cheese. Seeks a lady with a pretty face & great smile! EXT•7418.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TONIGHT? White male, 24, 5'8", 155 lbs, dedicaled weightlifter, avid reader, Ayn Rand admirer, writer, Gloria Estefan fan. Seeks white female, 18-30, who is confident and in relatively good shape, who enjoys nights amongst the skyscrapers & domestic nights in. EXT•7509.

TALL, ATTRACTIVE, SINCERE, blond, adventurous, honest, down to earth, responsible, caring male, 31, seeks a lady to enjoy life's adventures with. EXT•7321.

HANDSOME & CLASSY divorced Jewish male, 48, passionate, bright, caring, loving, with a great sense of humor & flexibility. Seeks slender, pretty lady with similar attributes, for tong term relationship & possible marriage. EXT•7400.

ATTRACTIVE, divorced white male, 52, educated, successtut, fit (emotionally & physically), seeks bright, attractive, petite female for friendship & possibly more. EXT•7396.

A REAL MAN! Black male, 28, 6'3", 225 lbs, dark & handsome. This sincere, intelligent, humorous & employed gentleman dares you to take a chance on, who knows?! EXT•7384.

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE! Tarzan seeks Jane! White male from Boston, 28, 6'1", 190 lbs, attractive yet modest, brown hair, blue eyes, athletic build, enjoys hockey, football & tennis. Seeks an attractive, sarcastic woman to keep me guessing! Age & race unimportant! EXT•7383.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7381.

ADVENTUROUS, FUNLOVING white male, 28, 5'7", 160 lbs, dark brown hair & eyes, educated professional, seeks 21yr old+ summer fun partner. Relationship possible! I'm easygoing, an avid guitarist, and into hard rock, the outdoors, boating & travel. Let's chat! Long hair a plus! EXT•7406.

SEEKING THE ROYAL TREATMENT? Professional white male, 30, 5'10", is looking to treat that special someone like a queen. If your looking for romance, friendship & excitement from a true gentleman, pick up the phone if your still alone! I'll set your heart on fire if passion is what you desire! EXT•7407.

CREATIVE GENTLEMAN LEVITATES slender, pretty woman, 35-45! Share the magic with me: athletic, articulale, good-looking white male, 45, 5'10", slim, former Engineer now self-employed kind of guy. Enjoys the country, hiking, canoeing, skiing, culture and values intelligence, communication & humor. A moonlight walk will make our spirits soar! EXT•7404.

LET'S MEET EACH OTHER! Black male, 27, 5'10", 160 lbs. My godmother said "Boy, you don't need to place no ad! You got a lot going for you; your handsome, funny & got plenty of sense. Let them ladies come to you, or either take your butt to church!" I laughed! True story! Call me ladies! EXT•7399.

MULTIDIMENSIONAL WHITE MALE with creative mission & accessible heart, spiritual, wise, athletic, musical, vulnerable. Seeks similar, slender, unconventional, compassionate, energetic, curious woman, 30's, for an intimate, playful partnership & mutual growth. Trust your impulses! EXT•7375.

HANDSOME ITALIAN MALE, 32, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes, never married, down to earth, confident, easygoing, very romantic, very honest, good sense of humor, north of Boston. Seeks quality woman, 26-30, who's attractive, thoughtful, caring, sincere, loving & respectful, for a possible long term, monogamous relationship. Italian a plus! Take a chance! EXT•7311.

SOPHISTICATED, ACADEMIC Jewish male, 50's, 5'11", slender, a variety of interests & travel experience. Interested in a committed relalionship and/or marriage with an attractive, educated, intelligent, caring woman, American or toreign, who is childless but considering starting a family. EXT•7372.

WHITE MALE, 48 (looks 47 1/4), seeks a person who is 1)female 2)breathing 3)nice. I enjoy sports (Bruins & Celtics season ticket holder), movies, TV, dining, dancing & the outdoors. I live with 3 animals- my cat, my dog, and my brother. EXT•7327.

SEXY WHITE MALE, 44, dark hair, green eyes, nice smile, good sense of humor, college grad, self employed, enjoys body building, jogging, fitness, dining out, dancing, walking, music & more. Seeks female body builder to share my gym & work out together. Must be a fun person! EXT•7314.

WANTED: WONDERFUL WOMAN! Black male, 37, 6', 175 lbs, black hair, brown eyes, computer professional, non-smoker, enjoys movies, concerts, bike rides & quiet times. Seeks black female, 30-40, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•7368.

PHILOSOPHY PHD! White male, 42, formerly editor of scholarly journal in Europe, now graduate student in physics. Have own engineering consulting company, planning new career in astronomy. Solitary, introspective, independent, unconventional. Seeks lady 21-51 with similar background, interests, outlook. EXT•7330.

EMPTY PEDESTAL AWAITS fit, active woman! Succesthough, white male professional, 39, 6', slender, smoker, enjoys outdoors, arts, music, cuddling, romance, weekend getaways & spoiling a special lady. Seeking openness, communication, intimacy & lasting relationship! EXT•7355.

HUMOROUS, ATHLETIC, attractive white male professional, nearing mid-30's, 5'9", 160 lbs, very physically fit, enjoys many sports. Seeks an attractive, athletic woman, 28-37, who sees the lighter side of life, has a lot of energy, but also likes quiet times to share feelings & thoughts. EXT•7342.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

©1993

BY ROCKIE GARDINER — SEPTEMBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 14, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too.)

Hope springs eternal – another NFL season, another zillion reasons to believe your/my team will triumph. While Mercury trines the unpredictable Uranus-Neptune conjunction this weekend, all manner of miracles are possible, all explanations seem plausible. But the news is probably just a setup for the slam-bam, headbanger of a Mars-Jupiter conjunction on Sunday, a whoop-de-do war cry to accompany truly dangerous enthusiasms. It's also a precursor of the militant Mars square to the weird Uranus-Neptune combo on the 9th. Perhaps we'll see more (smart) bombs bursting in air, more divisiveness among separatist factions all over the planet, maybe we'll get a signal from the Mars Observer lost (Neptune) in space (Uranus). While these are among the most challenging, erratic and otherworldly aspects we've been hit with in a while, enduring them with a modicum of grace can result in substantial rewards. Next Friday the Virgo sun trines that troublesome Capricorn duo so we may actually see some progress, perhaps a resolution that'll last longer than a minute. Labor Day itself should be fairly quiet, a well-deserved respite from the slings, arrows and pipe bombs coming every which way. Enjoy.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

You're easily influenced by your mate's optimism, your public's enthusiasm or your lawyer's talent for tipping the scales of justice. Balance is the lesson of the day. As your Mars ruler meets expansive, expensive Jupiter in Libra, the sign of significant relationships, you won't be able to restrain yourself by yourself. In fact, there's hardly a thing you can do solo except attack the fluctuating forces affecting current career choices. Don't go off half-cocked. Have a plan and a partner in crime.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

While other signs may be awash in kookiness and confusion this week, the brave bull manages to succeed by saying what needs to be said and doing, sometime next Friday, what comes naturally. There might be trouble with co-workers and foreigners, but their antagonisms don't have to become yours. Stay on a safe and sane track, create to the best of your artistic abilities – there'll be ample opportunity – and you'll be rewarded, if not financially, then by attaining a purely personal goal.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

The usual tension, a seasonal event, that occurs when your Mercury ruler passes through picky Virgo can propel you out on the road, to the health food market or into the files in search of accurate, practical information. Trading in knowledge can also have financial benefits, particularly if you dig into insurance and investment matters. There are a few drawbacks: you're liable to push beyond normal limitations, bet more than you should or play around with reckless abandon. Watch it.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

The Pisces full moon, Tuesday's blue moon, is still weaving its magic spell, making you dreamy, ditzy and strangely susceptible to others' suggestions. Strong aspects to your erratic partnership scene can put you at the mercy of his or her whim. Mercifully, money matters go well, but what passes for domestic tranquillity at your house can disappear when macho Mars pushes buttons, shortens fuses and wields a knife next Thursday. Try to keep a sense of proportion, avoid megalomaniacs and their mammoth projects.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

Your neighborhood may be a hotbed of activity this weekend – part entertainment, part enterprise. One gung-ho cheerleader on the block or an overly optimistic sibling can further upset a shaky work and health scene, but even if you're pressed to undertake more than you really care to, do it. Next Friday, when your sun ruler benefits from those unstable conditions, you'll profit financially from this week's excess. On a personal note – beautify the bod, reshape the lion's mane. Venus is in Leo, love is stalking you.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

This week could turn out to be the high point of the Virgo Experience, a multi-media event celebrating your creative talents and personable personality. Because your Mercury ruler is supported by the weird and wondrous, wild and wacky Uranus-Neptune conjunction, you find order in what others call chaos. And, of course, have a perfectly wonderful time doing so. On the other hand, money-making matters should be handled gingerly since the tendency is to leap way before you remember to look. Some can stomach the thrill, some virgins can't.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22)

How much motivation does it take? The incredible energy generated by the ambitious Mars-Jupiter conjunction in your sign can launch a rocket, an innovative project or a philosophical imperative. How much luckier can you get? Jupiter may be raising ethical standards to new heights, but courageous Mars provides the heart and balls to pursue and achieve your current goals. The folks at home may resent your pontificating, but if they've given you nothing but problems lately, stop trying to pacify them.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Most of the machinations and motivations are hidden this week, so unless you're working behind the scenes yourself, you might not realize just how much power is being exerted on your behalf. Next week, when old friends and siblings are more open about their actions, you'll see how the story of your current event unfolded. Meanwhile, the gossip is juicy, the neighbors are freaky, but fascinating, and if you don't piss one of them off, you'll have a fine time this weekend. Just don't fly next Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21)

Informative, idealistic and irrational. The news from the top (boss, government, parent) can assuage a tricky financial scene just days before friends upset it. Don't leap at the first bait dangled before you this weekend. Values are fluctuating, money matters seem to be charting their own course, and all you can reasonably do is maintain your balance (holding on to the Libra/Libium in your life?) until next Friday. That's when the career/cash payoff should come in. Please, no manic episode to mark the event.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

Another milestone of a week, with an exciting, borderline scary, career offer on one hand and an impressive intellectual reward on the other. Grab them both because this sort of opportunity comes around only once every 12 years. The ride will be ebullient and extravagant, but don't for a minute assume you can maintain control of the scene, much less yourself. The aspects to the planets in Capricorn are too erratic, too fantastic for the well-chosen word. Nonetheless, a far-out publishing/teaching project is a real possibility.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

Although the world sees your friendly, as opposed to fierce, facade most of the time, there are moments, like the ones that'll arise this week, when you can lose your cool in one frantic second. As first mercurial Mercury and then impulsive Mars aspect your Uranus ruler, any little thing can throw you off stride. Remember this when you feel your blood boil for no apparent reason. And be careful with machinery, sharp objects and steely-eyed foreigners. What you don't know, who you're not familiar with, can hurt you.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

Obsession. The Calvin Klein days are here again. First you'll get the message, words from a loved one that'll put you on better terms with friends and colleagues. But when meddlesome Mars squares your Neptune ruler next Thursday, the madness sets in. Delusions about sex, power and money should be kept to yourself, otherwise the self-same buddies could freak. On the plus side, this planetary aspect invents an imaginative horror story line, a fantastic opera, a romantic, ridiculous ad campaign.

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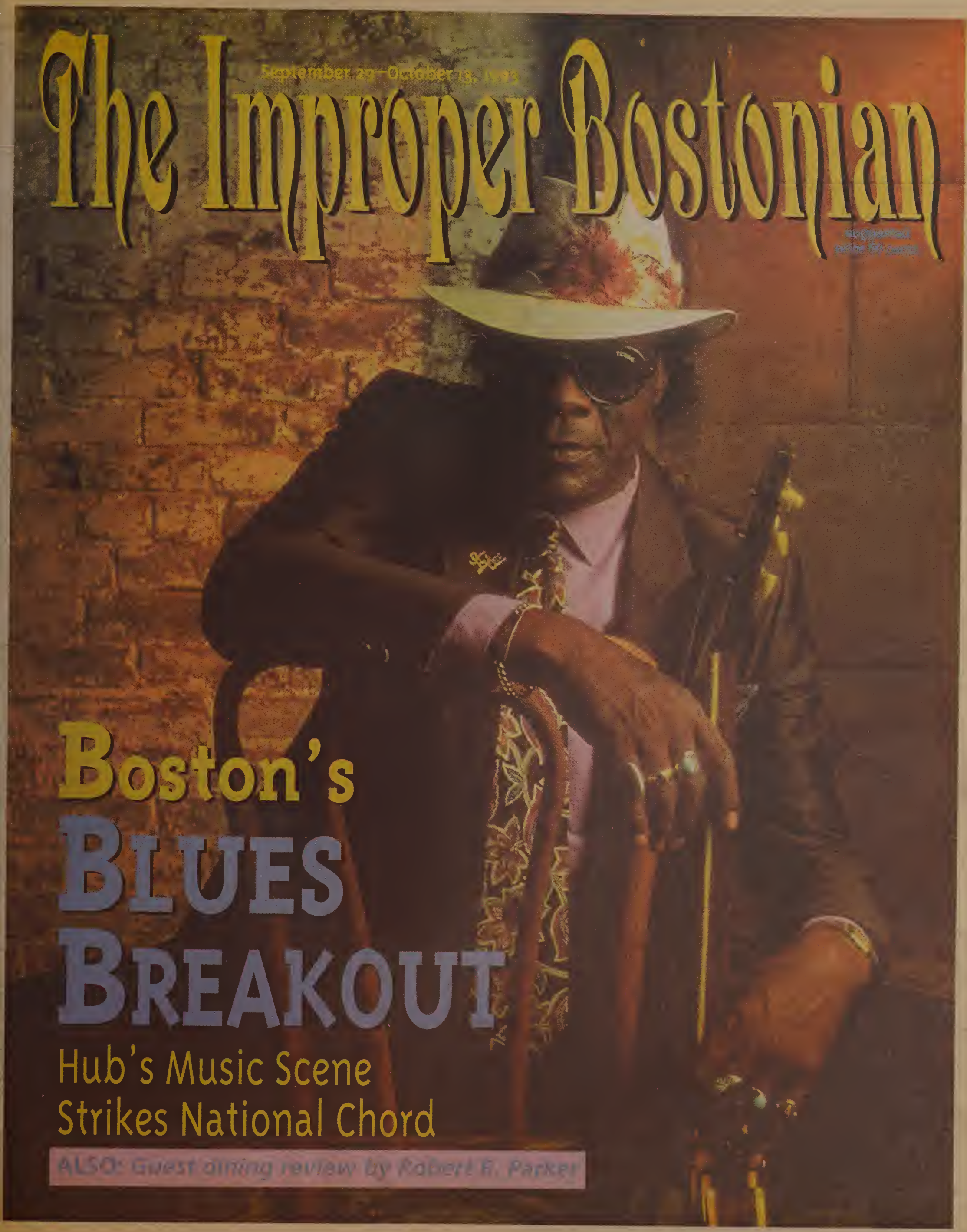
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Boston's BLUES BREAKOUT

Hub's Music Scene Strikes National Chord

ALSO: Guest dining review by Robert B. Parker

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Shear Wonder

When the leaves start to fall, the body and soul begin to yearn for scrumptious containers of warmth. The very definition of warmth is wool, and the veriest essence of that is sheepskin, whose many permutations from Australia and New Zealand are available at the Shearing Shed. Babies, in their unwitting slumber, are big consumers of the natural buttery-yellow (and safely made) Babycare lambskin. Perfect for sleeping on, face up or face down, in the crib or car, it's machine-washable (with Ivory, of course). In case you're not a baby but like the fleeciness, the Shearing Shed has all sorts of fluffy adult things, such as sheepskin rugs. Another big seller, even in the summer, for



their cooling and anti-dampening properties, are car seats made of Australian Merino. Available in universal, fit-all-cars styles, the seats can be ordered custom-made, too. To complete the car outfit, check out the big furry steering-wheel covers—with sheepskin back-soothers. And, to make everything harsh more melting, there's even a seat-belt cover. The Shearing Shed has a sheepskin to cover your mattress, and when you drag yourself out of it to use the exercise bike, there's a sheepskin to soften the Puritanically harsh ride. Trappers hats that flap and Velcro into a range of looks, and women's versions (black and forest green are the rising colors) are big items, along with furry footwear for all.

The Shearing Shed
395 Washington St.
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232-3515

From Shoddy to Shod in Three Minutes

Does the subway grating take its chomp out of your heel? Bricks and irregular sidewalks do it—constantly. Rather than going shoeless for a day, or even for an hour, you can bring your pumps, flats or men's shoes into the friendly Heel Quik! shop, a large version of a hole in the wall. It does full-service everything for shoes; its lightning heel gentrifications take about three minutes, and you're off ($4.40 for what Heel Quik! politely terms ladies; $8.75 for men). Customers, many of them regulars, stream in and out all the time. Some are here for stitching or for anchoring the "kilt" of leather floppies that are on some men's shoes; others come here for a protective sole, a thin layer of Cat's Paw or similar material that extends the life of a new pair of shoes, which also helps with non-slipping and waterproofing ($14 for ladies, $18 for men's shoes). Protective soles come with a lifetime guarantee. Andy, Heel Quik!'s shoe man, won second place for shoe repair in all of North America, and in valet mode, Heel Quik!'s Executive Office Service will pick up, repair and return shoes to offices in Boston. What to do while waiting oh so un-long? Smiling Bill Riley, whose partner is his daughter Lisa, is forever ringing up lottery and scratch tickets for customers and selling shoe-stretchers, polishes, etc. A sign outside compares the weight and woe of a 120-pound woman walking on high heels with the equivalent degree of force of a steel hammer. In four months, she would ram a hole a mile deep. So, it's no surprise the clipping-along woman has shoes in need of repair—often.

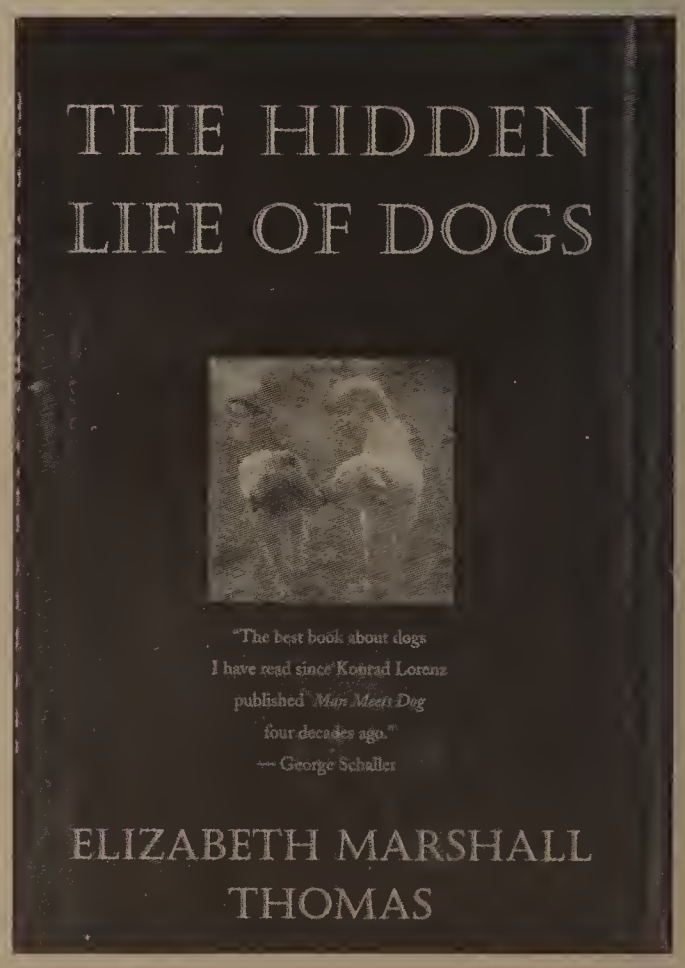


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It's a Dog's Life

Almost like a novel starring dogs, this little book, written by anthropologist/novelist Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, plunges you into the doings and, yes, the feelings of dogs. Maybe the last time you read a dog book was in childhood, and to get you back there, *The Hidden Life of Dogs* has appealing canine drawings by Jared T. Williams at the start of each chapter. Like a curious stalker, Thomas followed her dogs during their very wide-ranging trottings through Cambridge and beyond (one of them had a 160-square-mile beat), studying their customs, relationships, and the ballet of their motions and sensations as writ in ears, tail, body postures and peeing behaviors. At home, she and her family cohabitated with between six and eight dogs, which formed a society as complex, differentiated and exciting as the world of a multigenerational novel. Two dogs produced litters at the same time, and one mother—in a horrifyingly fascinating scene—murders the puppies of the other. Thomas demonstrates, using intimate details that echo the book's drawings, the great power of the pack, of friendship and of company among dogs (they want that far more than we might know) and the importance of the alpha animal in the dogocracy. You'll be surprised to see how affecting this canine domestic anthropology can be; tenderly objective in its writing, the book may also make you cry.

The Hidden Life of Dogs
By Elizabeth Marshall Thomas
Houghton Mifflin Co.
$18.95



Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146

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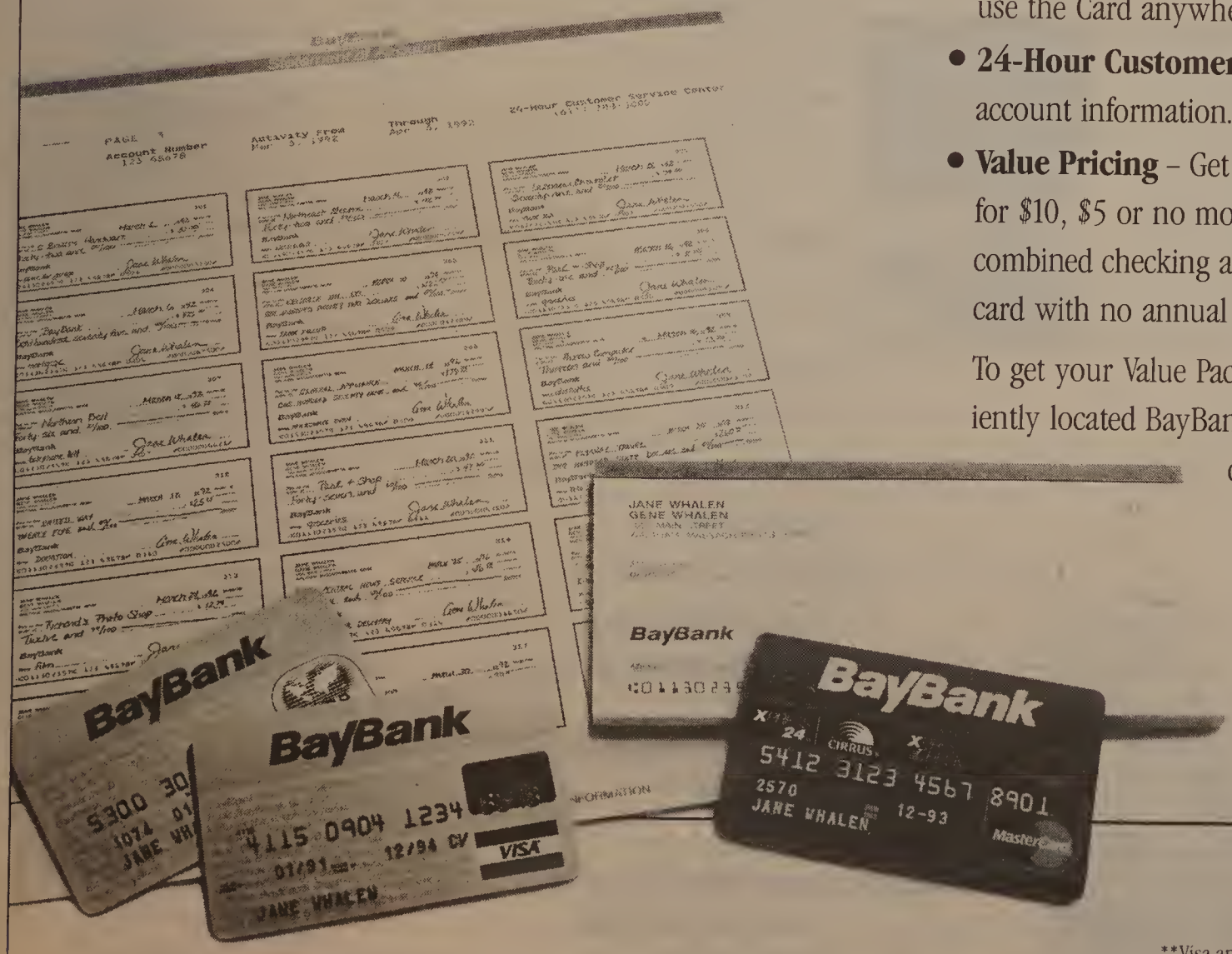
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By Paul Robicheau

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Toronto Screen Scene



Film critic Gerald Peary traverses the great Canadian divide to the Toronto Film Festival of festivals to report on the new flicks (*Everyone* hated *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues,* starring Uma Thurman) and lots of gossip (Cool dude Dennis Hopper showed up with a dyed-blond, skinny-skirted—on each arm).

By Gerald Peary

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Robert B. Parker, local Rennaissance man and creator of the *Spenser* detective-book and TV series, brings his tough-guy gastronomic sensibility to one of his favorite Cambridge haunts, Upstairs at the Pudding.

By Robert B. Parker

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and especially, Marion and Leon

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IMPROPER POLL

Help us help you—we would like to learn about Improper Bostonian readers like yourself. Don't spare any details; give us your views, comments and complaints. We value your opinion, and will work towards any suggestions you may have.

1. How many people (including yourself) usually read your copy of The Improper Bostonian ? _____

2. Where do you usually pick up your *IB* ?_____

3. How many of the last 3 issues have you read or looked through ?_____

4. On average, how much time do you spend reading or looking through an issue of IB?

( ) Less than 10 min ( ) 10 - 20 min ( ) 20 - 30 min.
( ) 40 – 60 min ( ) More than 1 hour

5. Please list your favorite 3 columns or sections of the *IB* .
1._____
2._____
3._____

6. Which of the above sections is the first one you read?
_____

7. What are two or three IB feature stories you've especially liked?

8. What are two or three topics you'd like to see as feature stories?

9. Please check all of the following publications you read regularly:

( ) Boston Globe *( ) USA Today*
( ) Boston Herald *( ) Boston Magazine*
( ) Boston Phoenix *( ) Wall Street Journal*
( ) New York Times *( )The New Yorker*
( )Other_____

10. What is your primary source of information about leisure activities?

( ) Boston Globe *( ) Tab Newspaper*
(..) Improper Bostonian *(..) Boston Herald*
( ) Boston Phoenix *( ) Boston Magazine*

11. How often do you shop at these locations?

	Never 1	2	3	4	Often 5
Downtown Boston	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Fanueil Hall/Quincy Market	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Newbury Street	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Cambridgeside Galleria	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Atrium/Chestnut Hill Mall	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Copley Square/Prudential	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Harvard Square	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Other _____	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )

12. How often do you do the following:
1 = 2-5 times a year;
2 = once a month;
3 = 2-3 times a month;
4 = once a week;
5 = two or more times a week

( ) Go to a club or bar
( ) Dine out (other than fast food)
( ) See a movie
( ) Participate in recreational sports
( ) Work out in a fitness or health club
( ) Go to a concert
( ) Go to a comedy club
( ) Go to a theater or playhouse
( ) Visit a museum

13. How often do you or a member of your household purchase the following beverages:

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Frequently	Very Often
Domestic beer	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Premium/imported beer	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Domestic wine	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Imported wine	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Bottled water	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Liquor	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )

14. From which bank is your ATM card issued ?
( ) Fleet ( )Bank of Boston
( )Shawmut ( )Bay Bank ( ) Other _____
( ) Do not use/have ATM card

15. Where do you vacation?
( ) Newport ( ) Cape Cod
( ) NH, ME, or VT ( ) The Vineyard/Nantucket
( ) The Berkshire/Lenox ( ) Other _____

16. Have you ever met someone through a dating service?
( ) Yes ( ) No

17. In the last month have you visited or contacted a business advertised in IB?
( ) Yes ( ) No

18. In the last month have you responded to a classified advertisement?
( ) Yes ( ) No

19. Do you:
( ) Do volunteer work
( ) Recycle
( ) Attend major celebrations like "First Night", Fourth of July on the Esplanade, and Chowderfest
( ) Vote in elections
( ) Call "900" numbers
( ) Enjoy Museums

20 Age?_____

21. Do you own a car?
( ) Yes ( ) No
If yes, what model? _____

22. What is your occupation? _____

23. In what city or town do you work? _____
If Boston, what section? _____

24. What area of Massachusetts do you live? _____
If Boston, what section? _____

25. Do you rent ( ) or own ( )?

26. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
( ) High school or less
( ) Some college
( ) Four - year college
( ) Post graduate
( ) Currently a student (where? _____)

27. What is your marital status?
( ) Married
( ) Single
( ) Divorced
( ) Widowed

28. Do you have children?
( ) Yes ( ) No

If yes, how many? _____

29. What is your gender?
( ) Male
( ) Female

30. What is your total household income?
( ) Under $25,000
( ) $25,000 - $34,000
( ) $35,000 - $49,000
( ) $50,000 - $70,00
( ) More than $70,000

Using any adjectives, how would you describe the Improper Bostonian?_____

_____

Thank you for participating in this important survey.

-The Publisher

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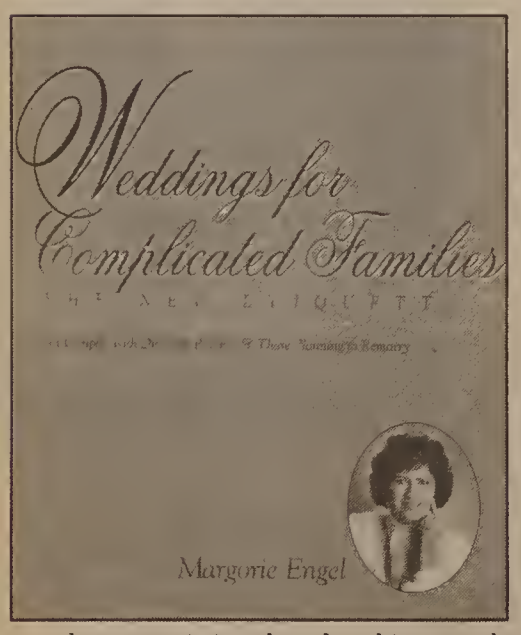
VIDEO



Groundhog Day, starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell; Murray ended a stellar year at the box office playing a TV weatherman mysteriously condemned to experience Groundhog Day over and over until he gets it right. Running amuck and misusing his new power, Murray's character takes manipulation to new and hysterical heights before he stumbles upon his conscience.

BOOK

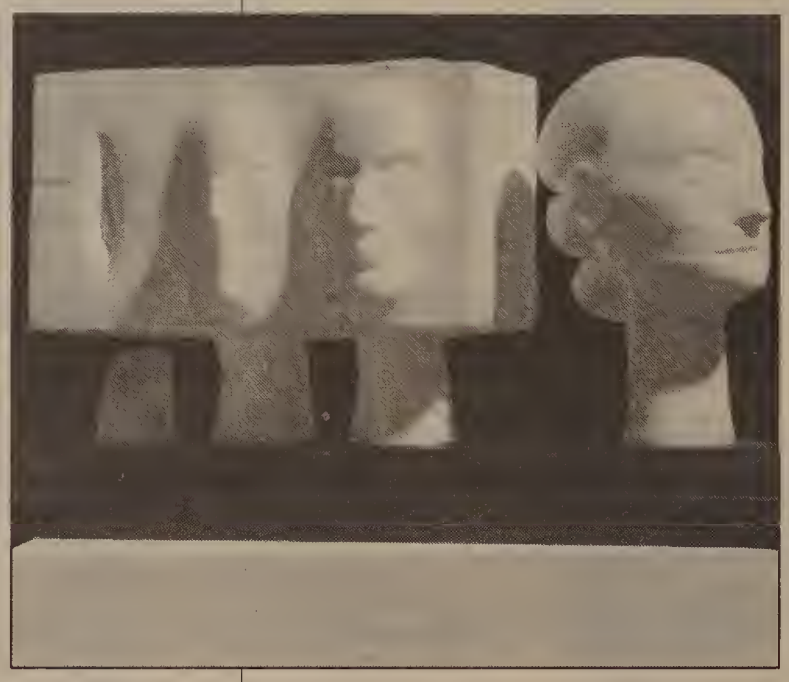
Weddings for Complicated Families: The New Etiquette by Marjorie Engel (Mt. Ivy Press, $14.95). These days, the modern wedding doesn't involve throwing the



bouquet, it involves breaking up the fistfight. For the young couple, divorced parents can make wedding plans a trifle more complicated than *Steel Magnolias*. Here in the nineties, half of all marriages end in divorce, but Engel's book replaces the anxiety replaces the anxiety with ease and tackles questions much more complicated than "what color does a non-virginal bride wear?"

TELEVISION

Censorship: Sense or [expletive], Cambridge Community Television. In his cable-access show, Cambridge musician Stephen Funk Pearson probes the question of censorship and never fails to smash the boundaries of network-broadcast standards. Although highlights include explicit clips from other countries and censored bits from movies aired on TV, Funk's program is not meant for sensationalist gawkers, but for free-thinking viewers concerned with the inconsistent policies of media censors.



ART

Elbert Weinberg 1928-1991: A Retrospective Exhibition, Boston University Art Gallery, through Oct. 31. Best known for his Jewish subjects (Holocaust memorials in Hartford, Conn., and Wilmington, Del.) Weinberg had been a valued member of the faculty at Boston University. For the first time since his death in 1991, an exhibition features his best-known sculpture, which spans a period of more than 30 years.

EXERCISE

Cardio-boxing. Gaining popularity across the country, this new aerobic and anaerobic exercise is finally catching on in Boston. Introduced only a year ago at the Beacon Hill Athletic Club, 261 Friend St., Boston, 720-2422, cardio-boxing is relieving the stress and ridding the flesh of many Bostonians. Following the training procedures of professional boxers, members jab punching bags, jump rope and hone their punching skills



with the staff's golden-glove teachers. Women are finding the exercise especially beneficial since it builds upper-body muscles and teaches self-defense skills. The instructors' constructive intimidation makes burning calories fun and challenging.

ANIMATION

Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Festival of Animation, Coolidge Corner Theater, through Oct. 24. Forever pushing the envelope of political correctness or even good taste, Spike and Mike bring another 18-and-over show to Boston for your viewing pleasure. Gear up for old favorites like the two uncensored *Beavis and Butthead* episodes and drop your jaw for this year's new and truly tasteless (but accurate) rips on contemporary media and the American beauty myth. Watch Chainsaw Bob in his version of the Waco compound fire and *Puke a Pound*, a satire of modern weight-loss programs. Call 734-2500 for show times.



RECORDING

Nirvana, *In Utero*. Fans everywhere have long awaited the follow-up CD from the alternative act that rushed mainstream music's gate two years ago. Now after months of controversy with its record company, DGC,



Nirvana is ready to reclaim the throne or fade into one-hit-wonder obscurity. But never fear, *In Utero* is packed with all the disgust, anger and character of its predecessor. Who would want it any other way?

BENEFIT

Boston Designer's Collaborative/New England School of Photography's *Fashion Plate*, NESOP Gallery, 537 Kenmore Square, Oct. 8 through Nov. 12. Boston's finest designers have teamed up with Boston's finest photographers to present an exhibit intended to benefit Boston's fashion/arts community. Admission is free, and a number of photographs and fashions themselves will be raffled off, with the proceeds going towards the BDC scholarship fund.

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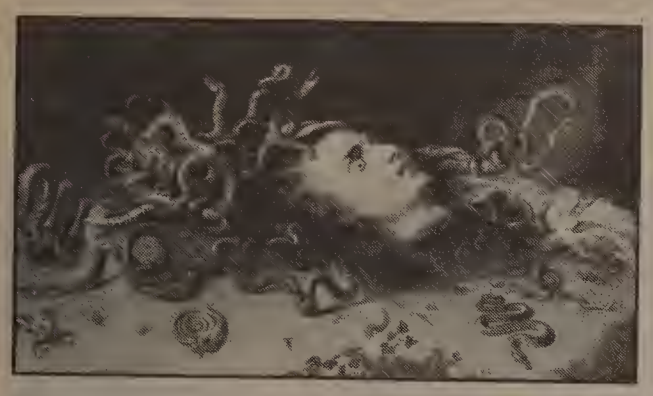
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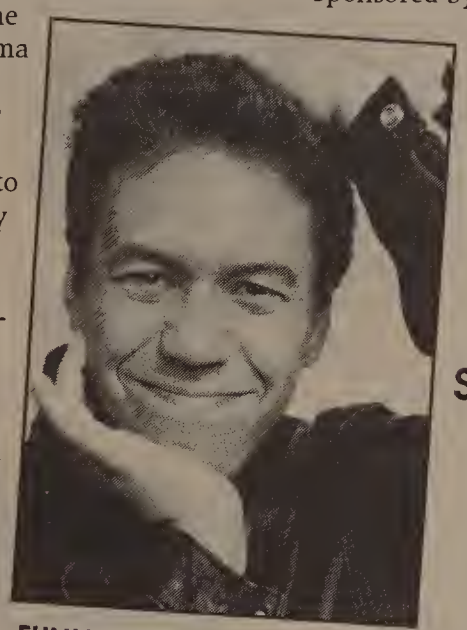
TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS



THE BIG PICTURE: *Visit the curvaceous, fleshy blockbuster,* The Age of Rubens, *at the MFA.*

WEDNESDAY

29 The Fund for a Free South Africa presents the premiere of actor **Morgan Freeman**'s directorial debut ***Bopha!*** tonight at the Loews Charles Cinema at 7 p.m. The film stars **Danny Glover** (*Lethal Weapon*) as a police officer forced to choose between duty to his profession and loyalty to his son, a rebellious youth dedicated to waging war against apartheid. Glover and co-star **Alfre Woodard** will be there. Tickets are $20 or $50. Call 267-8333.



FUNNY FACE: *Comedian Gilbert Gottfried headlines at Nick's Comedy Stop Oct. 8-9.*

THURSDAY

30 **Seiji Ozawa** opens his 20th anniversary season with the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** tonight at 6:30 p.m. in an opening-night gala. The performance, featuring an all-Berlioz program, takes place at Symphony Hall. Tickets start at $50; call 266-1200.

FRIDAY

1 The **Make-a-Wish Foundation's** second annual ***Come True*** benefit party runs from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Copley Plaza Hotel ballroom. Honorary chairman is former **Celtics** player and coach **Tom Heinsohn**. Tickets are $25, $35 at the door. MAWF is dedicated to fulfilling the wishes of kids ages 3-18 who suffer from terminal illnesses. Call 451-WISH.

SATURDAY

2 **Le Masquerade**, an exciting and creative N.Y. dance troupe, performs at the ***Broadway to Boston*** **gala** tonight at the Westin Hotel at Copley Place (8 p.m. to 1 a.m.). Sponsored by the **Women's Educational and Industrial Union**, the evening will celebrate the diversity of Boston through music. Hosted by WBZ-TV news anchor **Liz Walker**. Call 536-5651.

SUNDAY

3 Today is the last day to catch the principal dancers of the **New York City Ballet** at the **Shubert Theatre.** At 3 p.m., these world-class dancers will perform a program of all-**Balanchine** choreography. Call 482-6661 or 426-4520 for tickets; sponsored by the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series.

MONDAY

4 Flesh out your Saturday with a visit to the MFA's new blockbuster, ***The Age of Rubens.*** The curvaceous subjects in the 120 paintings reveal much about the cultural, religious and social fabric of the 17th-century life and times of Flemish Baroque-painting-master **Peter Paul Rubens.** At the **Museum of Fine Arts** through January 2. Call 267-9300 for information.



HAT ATTACK: *The musical* 42nd Street *kicks off a run at the Colonial Theatre Sept. 28.*



GIVE ME FIVE: Five Guys Named Moe *premieres at the Wilbur Theatre Oct. 1.*

TUESDAY

5 Where did summer go? Believe it or not, tonight is the **Bruins'** 1993-94 **home opener** at **Boston Garden** (which probably won't be around for much longer...) The B's are playing the **New York Rangers**, so you know that—despite the ice—this ticket will be especially HOT.

WEDNESDAY

6 The internationally acclaimed musical ***Five Guys Named Moe***, only at the **Wilbur Theatre** until the end of this month, is a terrific, entertaining tribute to blues/jazz great **Louis Jordan**—and NOT to be missed! Call 931-2787 for tickets.

THURSDAY

7 The classic Broadway musical ***42nd Street*** is only at the **Colonial Theatre** until Oct. 10, so call 931-2787 for tickets.

FRIDAY

8 The comic who never seems to open his eyes, **Gilbert Gottfried**, headlines **Nick's Comedy Stop**, 100 Warrenton St., tonight and tomorrow at 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Known as the voice of Iago the Parrot in *Aladdin* and the accountant in *Beverly Hills Cop 2*; he's also all over cable-comedy shows. Call 482-0930.

SATURDAY

9 Trust us, this isn't Biology 101. Writer, actor, satirist and humorist **Spalding Gray** (*Swimming to Cambodia* and *Monster in a Box*) presents his monologue, ***Gray's Anatomy,*** at the **Hasty Pudding Theatre** through tomorrow night. Call 496-8400 for times and tickets.

SUNDAY

10 **Mellea Vineyards** sponsors the **Fall Wine Festival of New England** today from 2-6 p.m. on its grounds in Dudley, Mass. (near Old Sturbridge Village). A dozen wineries and 15 of the region's finest restaurants will be at the event, along with music by the **Cool Jazz Quartet**. For tickets and directions, call (508) 943-5166.

MONDAY

11 He sure is a wild one. Alternative-rock legend **Iggy Pop** performs tonight at **Avalon** on Lansdowne Street. Call 931-2000 for ticket prices and show times.



MASKED BALL: *New York's Le Masquerade troupe will liven WEIU's gala* Broadway *benefit Oct. 2.*

TUESDAY

12 Tonight is opening night for ***Falsettos***, a Broadway musical that won two Tony Awards last year. Special-added bonus is that the Boston show features the original Broadway cast. Through Oct. 31 at the **Colonial Theatre**; call 426-9366.

BOSTON'S BLUES BREAKOUT

Newfound Audience and Business Boom Put the Hub on the Blues Map

By Paul Robicheau

"The roadhouse is jumpin' all night long," guitarist Rick Russell is singing onstage at Johnny D's Uptown in Somerville, and the dance-happy crowd is chanting the rejoinder "All night long!"

But Johnny D's isn't the only place celebrating the blues on this Saturday night. Over at House of Blues in Harvard Square, Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson is stirring up a well-oiled crowd with his Chicago-bred showmanship on the standard "Bring It on Home."

The same scene can also be found at Harpers Ferry in Allston, Ed Burke's in Mission Hill, the Linwood Grille in the Fenway or Sticky Mike's downtown. Blues musicians are bringing it home all over. The music is heard in weekly jams at places like Wally's in the South End, the Boston Beach Club at Faneuil Hall, the Tam in Brookline, the Middle East Cafe in Central Square, Club III in Somerville and the Black Rose in Harvard Square. Even in the suburbs, Quincy's Yard Rock and Maynard's Sittin' Bull Pub are signposts to the music's expansion.

"Boston is a sophisticated town that can appreciate heritage, and not just what comes on the radio," says harmonica-player Tim Gartland of the band Walk That Walk, which took the Johnny D's stage before the Rick Russell Band, "and that comes into play.

"Baby boomers are getting older and want to listen to something closer to the rock they listened to in the '60s and early '70s," Gartland says. "The blues are a natural music to listen to. They don't want to listen to rap or punk. They just want music they can drink beer to, and dance to, and get loose. It's an American folk music."

"I've been to L.A., the Midwest, the South—and Boston has more blues talent than any other area that's happening right now."
Blue Monday bandleader GEORGE LEWIS

"When it's honest and real," Rick Russell says, "People feel it."

"Boston's a real boom town right now," says Richard "Rosie" Rosenblatt, who plays harmonica for the 11th Hour Rhythm Kings and is president of Newton's Tone-Cool Records, a locally oriented blues label whose next release features Boston's own country/blues treasure, Paul Rishell.



CHICAGO SHOWMAN: *Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson lets loose at the House of Blues. His Windy City-style of playing has found a home in Boston, a city that welcomes every strain of blues.*



BLUES COUP: *Michelle Willson, leader of Evil Gal, surprised many by taking her Boston-based, eight-piece R&B/blues band to Memphis and beating out 16 other groups to win the Amateur Blues Talent Competition.*

Of his 1991 CD, *Boston Blues Blast Vol. 1*, featuring 18 area artists, Rosenblatt adds, "Disc jockeys around the country have told me it's one of the best compilations they've heard, especially from unknown people."

It has taken time, but the city's blues musicians, clubs and reputation are becoming more well known.

"The scene's just waiting for someone to write about it nationally," guitarist Russell says between sets at Johnny D's, a club that eamed last year's W.C. Handy Keeping Blues Alive Award, an honor previously given to such blues hotspots as Antone's in Austin, Texas, and Tipitina's in New Orleans.

"I really think we're on a plane with the likes of Austin," Russell says. "We don't have a Stevie Ray Vaughan, but Austin didn't have one until somebody started checking him out. There are a lot of great players here."

"Boston has to be among the top-five cities—that's for sure," says club-owner Ed Burke, who has traveled to other blues capitals to scout talent. "It's right behind Chicago and New Orleans."

Harpers Ferry co-owner Charlie Abel agrees, "I've been to other cities and I've listened to other acts, and they can't touch Boston."

That reality came true this past month when Evil Gal—an eight-piece,

R&B/blues band that won Harpers 1993 Battle of the Blues Bands— went on to the annual Amateur Blues Talent Competition down in Memphis, and beat out 16 other groups from across the country.

"That probably opened a few eyes," pipes Russell, who happened to be in Memphis, and contends that Evil Gal's jump-blues attack was "the most professional," in a "scene littered by Stevie Ray wannabes."

"They blew the lid off the place," agrees bassist George Lewis, who leads the Blue Monday house band at House of Blues and was also in Memphis during the competition.

"Boston, believe it or not, and New England are second only to Chicago in the depth of talent in the blues genre."
House of Blues spokesman NIGEL SHANLEY

"I am in complete shock," says Evil Gal leader Michelle Willson, a brassy singer who first put together the band for a one-shot tribute show to such classic vocalists as Dinah Washington and Ruth Brown. "The thing just sort of took off.

"It's a big feather in the cap for Boston that a band actually went through the trouble of going down there, and won," says Willson, whose band's trip to Memphis was supported by the Boston Blues Society. "Within the last couple of years, the blues community and musicians have pulled together and supported one another."

For winning, Willson's group earned a $1,000-cash prize, and the opportunity to perform at a number of Southern festivals, as well as the W.C. Handy Awards show in October, a trip for which the band will raise funds with an Oct. 5 House of Blues show. Evil Gal guitarist Joe Craig Jones was also awarded the first annual Albert King Award, for being the most promising guitarist among the participants.

House of Blues bandleader Lewis says, "I've played the whole country. I've been to L.A., the Midwest, the South— and Boston has more blues talent than any other area that's happening right now."

His Memphis friend "Shelly," who came back up to Boston with Lewis, agreed, "As far as musicianship goes, Boston blows Memphis away. But, in terms of the crowd, there's too much soul in Memphis."

Sitting at House of Blues' upstairs bar, after Lewis's shifting all-star band had finished for the night, Shelly says, "If this band had played in Memphis, people would have been freaking out. [These people] were holding their beers tight, and it was as if they were wanting to let go, but they didn't."

House of Blues—opened by Hard Rock Cafe founder Isaac Tigrett, last November to huge hoopla, due in part to investors such as actor/"Blues Brother" Dan Aykroyd—has prompted some cynical reactions from the local scene. Some people point to the club's clientele of tourists, students and suburbanites who never followed the blues. Others say House of Blues' decor of authentic Southern folk art and ceiling reliefs of blues heroes make the place look like an antiseptic version of a New Orleans juke joint.

But on the record, people on the blues scene mostly give House of Blues a lot of credit.



GUITAR ACE: *Ronnie Earl and his band, the Broadcasters, deliver feisty, soulful sounds at the House of Blues in Harvard Square.*

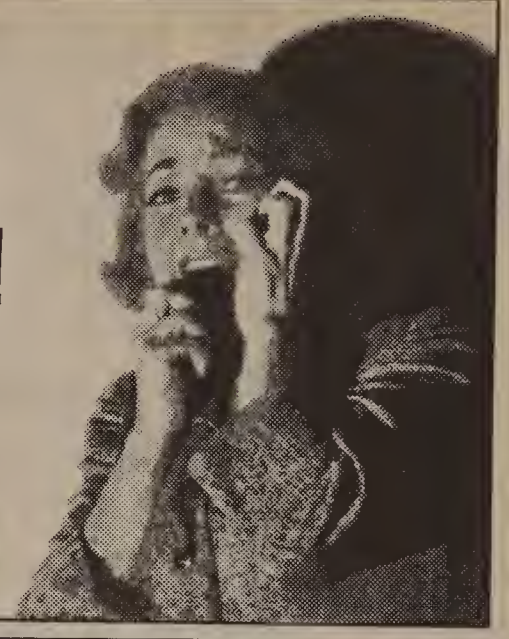
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"The House of Blues has been a positive impact, if just for the mere fact that they've introduced new people to the blues, and subsequently strengthened the blues scene," says Harpers Ferry's Abel.

Keyboardist Bruce Bearse, who leads the Toni Lynn Washington Band, adds, "Having the House of Blues open up, and having someone big in the media like Dan Aykroyd pushing it, makes the blues more viable for everybody."

"What we try to do here is educate people as to the impact of the blues and its influence on modern music," House of Blues spokesman Nigel Shanley says, noting tours are even given to school children. "It's very important that this culture be celebrated."

As for why House of Blues is celebrating the music here, having opened its Harvard Square club before others around the country, Shanley affirms, "Boston, believe it or not, and New England are second only to Chicago in the depth of talent in the blues genre."

There will always be other blues fans who prefer the roadhouse atmosphere of Harpers Ferry or neighborhood-bar feel of Ed Burke's, the Linwood Grille and the Midway Cafe in Jamaica Plain. But is there enough depth in blues talent—or an audience to go with it—around town?

"There are so many places doing blues now," says Ed Burke, who has begun booking alternative folk-rock some nights. "The [blues] market has been watered down a bit."

"A lot of it is overkill," opines guitarist Frank O'Brien, a former doorman at the now-defunct Nightstage who has been booking blues at the Linwood Grille. "Since the House of Blues has been around, no matter what night it is, it seems to be packed. A lot of people go there, like they're expecting Dan Aykroyd to serve them a drink. Overall, the club scene is hurting a little bit."

Even House of Blues, an automatic door line since it opened, is not immune to some slack in attendance. On a recent Thursday night, even Boston blues guitar-virtuoso Ronnie Earl and his Broadcasters delivered a feisty, soulful, late set to half-a-house.

Flo Murdock, talent booker for Johnny D's, observes of the scene, "Like anything, you can only spread it so thin."

Not that the clubs aren't trying.

Mai Cramer, a blues authority for 15 years at WGBH-FM, where she airs *Blues After Hours* on weekend nights, says she used to mail a calendar of upcoming events. Now, she says, "It's too long to read all at once over the air, which is an indication of how big the scene has become."

"Everybody's interested in opening a blues club," keyboardist Bearse says. "They can make money."

"I really think we're on a plane with the likes of Austin. We don't have a Stevie Ray Vaughan, but Austin didn't have one until somebody started checking him out."
Blues guitarist
RICK RUSSELL

That's a source of concern for Mark Ryder, head of the Boston Blues Society, which seeks to increase awareness of the blues in the area.

"I love to see it become big, but I hate to see it exploited," Ryder says of the blues. "I fear for its becoming generic."

"I worry about the art form's being properly recognized," concurs Ronnie Earl. "There are a lot of bands that play blues, but not very many that I think are real... It's about soul, not flash and clothes."

"I do think we need a lot more integration, but I see it coming," offers disc jockey Holly Harris, who helps bring blues to a commercial radio audience on WBOS-FM Sunday nights (WBCN and WCGY also air shows). Harris suggests that a blues festival in Franklin Park might



JUMPIN' AT JOHNNY'S: *Guitarist Rick Russell, left, and his band charge up the Saturday-night dance-happy Johnny D's "roadhouse" crowd.*



BLUES AUTHORITY: *WGBH-FM's Mai Cramer can no longer announce the events calendar on her show,* Blues After Hours. *"It's too long to read all at once over the air, which is an indication of how big the scene has become."*

be one method of broadening the music's exposure.

An integration of musical styles is not lacking in Boston, however.

"When you go to Austin, you realize there's an Austin sound, and New Orleans has a New Orleans sound," Tone-Cool's Rosenblatt says. "Boston has attracted people from so many places, and mixed styles from so many places. It's a place where blues players are not stuck in one style."

"There aren't just Stevie Ray Vaughan clones," keyboardist Bearse agrees. "There are jump blues, and Chicago, Memphis and New Orleans styles. It's getting more diversified, and the scene keeps growing because of that."

Among the notable players who relocated to Boston with authentic regional styles intact are Southern soul/blues veteran Mighty Sam McClain, Texas singer Darrell Nulisch, and Chicago migrants George "Earring" Mayweather and Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson, who formerly played with the late Muddy Waters.

"I couldn't have come to a better

continued on page 15

LOOKING FOR THE BLUES?

Name	Address	Phone #	Blues Night
Black Rose	50 Church St., Cambridge	492-8630	Call for shows
Boston Beach Club	300 Faneuil Hall Marketplace	227-9664	Monday
Cafe Grappa at the Days Inn	1234 Soldiers Field Rd., Brighton	254-4336	Thursday
The Cantab Lounge	738 Mass Ave., Cambridge	354-2685	Wed., Fri. - Sun.
Club III	608 Somerville Ave., Somerville	623-6957	Oct. 9
Dad's Diner	911 Boylston St., Boston	296-DADS	Monday
Ed Burke's	808 Huntington Ave., Boston	232-2191	Call for shows
The Grog	13 Middle St., Newburyport	(508) 465-8008	Sunday
Harpers Ferry	158 Brighton Ave., Allston	254-9743	All
House of Blues	96 Winthrop St., Cambridge.	491-BLUE	All
The Irish Embassy	234 Friend St., Boston	742-6618	Monday
Johnny D's Uptown	17 Holland St., Boston	776-2004	Call for shows
The Kells	161 Brighton Ave., Allston	782-9082	Call for shows
Linwood Grille	69 Kilmarnock St., Boston	267-8644	Thurs.-Sat.
Maxwells	335 Huntington St., Boston	266-1705	Friday
The Middle East Restaurant	472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge	492-9181	Saturday, 4-6 p.m.
Midway Cafe	3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain	524-9038	Sunday
Ryles	212 Hampshire St., Cambridge	876-9330	Tuesday
Silhouette Lounge	200 Brighton Ave., Allston	254-9306	Saturday
Sittin' Bull	163 Main St., Maynard	(508) 897-7232	Wednesday
Sticky Mike's Blues Bar	1 Boylston Pl., Boston	351-2583	Wed.-Sat.
The Tam	1648 Beacon St., Brookline	277-0982	Call for shows
Wally's Cafe	427 Mass. Ave., Boston	424-1408	Sun.- Mon.
The Yard Rock Blues Club	132 E. Howard St., Quincy	472-9383	Wed.-Sun.

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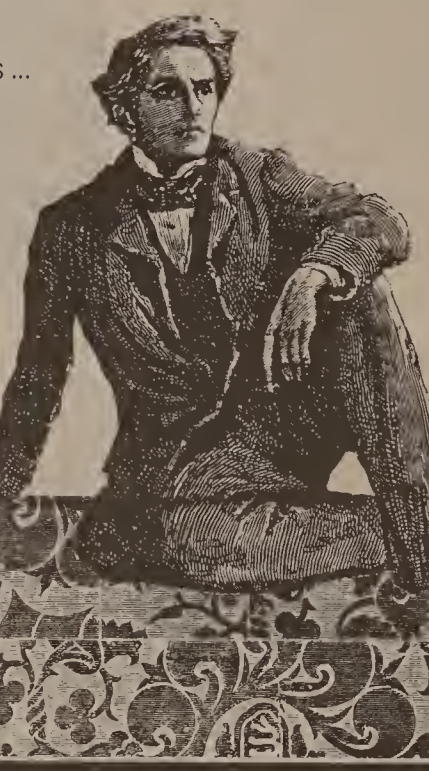
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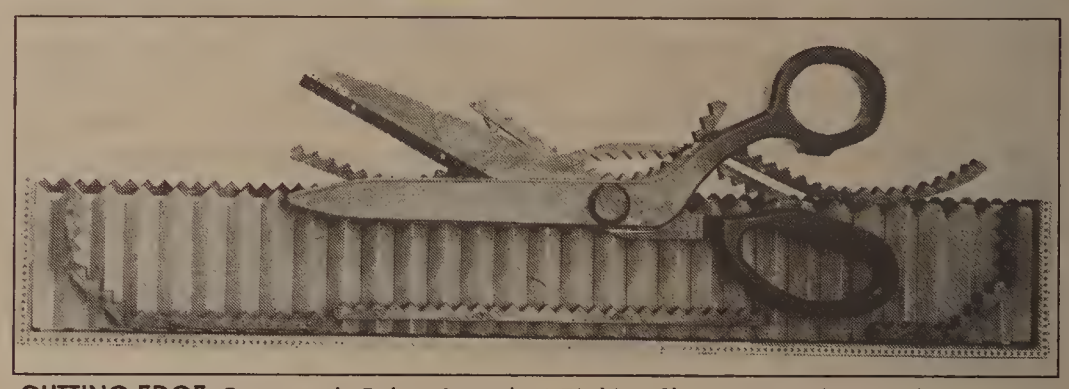
Arts Review / Ruth C. Morss

Visual Puns

Cumming's creative pranks delight and challenge in MFA retrospective

Skulls 'R Us ? See what an unfettered imagination can do in *Robert Cumming: Cone of Vision*, a major midcareer retrospective that allows us inside the quirky ultracontemporary world of this hometown artist. Cumming graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art before going on to achieve international recognition for his humorous transformations of ordinary objects.

Take Cumming's interest in soap. His visual-prank-of-a photograph *Ivory Dial Switch* depicts two bars of Ivory soap, but a mirror reveals that Cumming has lovingly carved "Dial" on their backs. *Bathroom Faucets I've Lived With for 5 Years* presents us with a historical vista and an autobiographical record—of plumbing fixtures. The sharp, oversized and animated pair of scissors, the star subject of *Pinking*



CUTTING EDGE: *Boston-artist Robert Cumming's* Pinking Shears, *enamel on wood, 1993.*

Shears, brings home Cumming's approach of placing unnatural focus on an unusual selection of objects.

Seventy-five pieces, ranging from black-and-white photographs to a 5-foot wooden sculpture and a 17-foot balloon, show this visual punster at his best.

The Museum of Fine Arts rarely receives credit for its commitment to the art of the present. For several decades, the Department of Prints, Drawings and Photographs has zealously pursued a collections policy—buttressed by a considerable budget—focusing on contemporary artists. **Ann Havinga** and **Cliff Ackley** of the MFA's PDP deserve credit for showcasing this intriguing local artist and for writing wall text that is mercifully free of theoretical twittering.

Cumming's first pieces actually appeared in the local Boston press. Many years ago, the *Boston Sunday Herald* staged weekly contests, offering a dollar for the best takeoff on a provided curlicue drawing. Cumming's entry won repeatedly, an event that not only gave him artistic confidence but also provided a welcome supplement to his allowance. His talent for taking a "thing" (most often an object familiar to us from pop culture), removing it from its accustomed setting and tweaking our assumptions makes viewing his work a funny/puzzling/unsettling experience.

As part of his puzzle *cum* joke, Cumming will often take a motif, free-associate and express the results in different media. Originally derived from the death's-head image on early-American gravestones, a skull becomes a guitar pick, an artist's palette, a light bulb, a balloon and an attenuated stick. The sassiest of these is the palette, which is suspended above rocks littered with paint brushes. Cumming's comment? He's poking fun at the hallowed, but stodgy, genre of landscape painting. We may have struggled with penmanship, but the alphabet leaps from the copy-book page when Cumming gets a hold of it. The acrylic-wash drawing *Plain Painted Parts* shows individual letters lounging about an otherworldly landscape (or, as I prefer to think, having a picnic on Mars).

Not surprisingly, Cumming refuses to confine either himself or his imaginative creations to one medium, and he makes paintings, large acrylics, paper works, sculpture, drawings, prints and photographs. Central to this multimedia approach is the concept of craftsmanship. The 5-foot fountain pen came from a $2-million machine shop and the chairs, charmingly unusable as they are, would shine as examples of the furnituremaker's art alone.

At the MFA through November 28, the exhibition was organized by the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego, in collaboration with the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston. This project was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and a generous contribution from Dr. and Mrs. Charles C. Edwards. ❑

IF YOU GO

Robert Cumming
Cone of Vision

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BLUES

Continued from page 13

place," Johnson says with a quiet smile, backstage at House of Blues. "My career has been going up ever since I've been here."

"There are a lot of clubs within a four- to five-hour radius," says Nulisch, "so you can work a lot."

"It's a rich geographical area," says Joe Hajjar, owner of Quincy's Yard Rock. "If you include Boston, Providence, Worcester and Portsmouth (the southern-New Hampshire city that holds its own blues festival), I don't know of any part of the country that's richer."

"This city hasn't jumped on this blues wave like a lot of cities," Nulisch adds, noting the legacy of Rhode Island's Roomful of Blues, which helped launch Earl and Duke Robillard, as well as clubs like Jonathan Swifts, which occupied Harvard Square before House of Blues.

Gordon Beadle, a saxophonist who is seen around town with everyone from Johnson to Evil Gal (and at many a blues jam, as well), agrees. "The last couple of years, there's kind of been a momentum," he says, "but it kinda goes back to Roomful of Blues. It's kind of cumulative."

There's even a new generation catching on to the blues. Witness "Monster" Mike Welch, a 13-year-old guitarist who first honed his chops at Sunday-afternoon jams at Johnny D's and even got his bum immortalized in cement at the House of Blues inauguration.

"To see someone of that age who prefers to be playing the blues than rock 'n' roll is very encouraging," says Johnny D's Murdoch.

"People say it's a resurgence," Ed Burke says of the blues, "but it never really left. It's always been the root of rock 'n' roll. As that familiar quote goes, `The blues had a baby and they named it rock 'n' roll.'

"People want to be entertained," Burke says, "and these blues people put on a good show." ❑

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★★	Fair
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CALENDAR GIRL
★

Convertibles, Camels and Coca-Cola: *Calendar Girl* tries for nostalgia but results in nausea. Three '60s teen-agers set out on a juvenile search for Marilyn Monroe but end up discovering the really important things in life, like tattoos. The film is a rerun of *Happy Days*, only the jokes and cardigans are replaced by cuss words and nudity, and Jason Priestly plays a very uncool Fonz. The intermittent scenes of deep emotion and bonding between these three are abrupt and awkward, and better suited for a New England Telephone or a Pepto Bismol commercial.

M.R.D'Entremont

DAZED AND CONFUSED
★★★★

Perhaps this year's funniest bit of nostalgia, this ode to the '70s is an irrefutable argument that the decade is the nadir of fashion. Richard Linklater, director of the microbudget cult-hit *Slacker*, takes his Generation X sensibility and relocates it to 1976, probing the endless search for beer, bongs and sex among the new seniors and incoming freshmen of a mid-American high school. It may not be as good as the two films it most closely resembles, *American Graffiti* and *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*, but it bridges the generation gap between them nicely. A must for '70s-hard-rock aficionados.

J.W. Hall

THE FUGITIVE
★★★

The Fugitive is quintessential Harrison Ford. No one cracks nervous jokes under fire quite the way Ford does, and since the part of Doctor Kimble, the film's protagonist, calls for a lot of that, it fits Ford like a glove. As the falsely convicted killer of his beloved wife, he wins our sympathy. As the escapee pursuing his wife's killer, he wins our admiration. And as a daredevil fugitive who risks life and limb to evade hardheaded but good-humored lawman played by Tommy Lee Jones, he wins our attention. Our attention drifts, though, as the spectacular action/chase scenes are replaced by dry details of Kimble's investigation. We are too prepared for the ending, which winds down in trite anticlimactic fight scenes.

M.R.D'Entremont

IN THE LINE OF FIRE
★★★★

Wolfgang Peterson directs this exciting, coherent, and often humorous action thriller starring Clint Eastwood as Secret Service Agent Frank Horrigan, a "borderline burnout with questionable social skills" who still feels guilty that he didn't protect JFK that day in Dallas. Frank gets a second chance, compliments of rogue-CIA-operative and would-be-presidential-assassin Mitch Leary (John Malkovich) who engages Frank in a game of cat-and-mouse. Renee Russo is good as career-Secret Service agent Lilly Raines and Frank's love interest. Almost over-the-hill, Frank is less believable as Lily's love interest even if he does adore jazz, play the piano and grin disarmingly after making chauvinist remarks.

K.Wilson

JURASSIC PARK
★★★

Forget character development. Forget plot. Even the scary parts—and there are many—don't go over the top. The dinosaurs rule *Jurassic Park*, and taining humans are Dennis (Wayne Knight), a treacherous, whiny computer genius responsible for the dinosaurs running amuck in Jurassic Park and a greedy, cowardly lawyer (Martin Ferraro) who deserves to be turned into dinosaur food. If you wish lawyers were an extinct species, you'll enjoy director Steven Spielberg's visual lawyer joke. The talents of Laura Dern, Sam Neill and Jeff Goldblum as scientists are utterly wasted.

K. Wilson

RISING SUN
★★★

Director Philip Kaufman's elegant and confounding film based on Michael Crichton's novel is a Japanese mystery tour set in L.A. that begins when a prostitute is found dead on the Nakamoto Corporation's board-room table. The two LAPD Special Services liaison officers assigned to the case (Sean Connery and Wesley Snipes) complement each other. Connery is wise; Snipes is an everyman who has much to learn—about the Japanese and about himself. Kaufman flashes ideas at us like lightning but doesn't always develop them. His exploration of corporate culture is disturbing: big business is, above all, a man's world. Girls, there's room for you at the top, too, provided you're a gorgeous prostitute.

K. Wilson

SEARCHING FOR BOBBY FISCHER
★★★★

A genuinely heartwarming tear-jerker that doesn't wholly sacrifice complexity and intelligence when it's yanking your strings. Josh Waitzkin (Max Pomeranc) is a 7-year-old whiz at chess, described in the loaded chess phrase as a "young Bobby Fischer." The film captures the excitement and dangers of having such gifts and makes no demands that viewers necessarily understand or care about chess. The most prominent theme is the battle between the father (the excellent Joe Mantegna) and Josh's two wildly different chess teachers, played by Ben Kingsley and Larry Fishburne, over Josh's upbringing and his inhibiting decency. Pomeranc is terrific, avoiding smarmy precociousness—and you can't help but love those big eyes.

J.W. Hall

TRUE ROMANCE
★

There's a moment that best captures *True Romance's* spirit: Patricia Arquette picks up the top of the toilet tank and slams it over her attacker's head. In a just world, someone would do the same to the makers of this movie. In Detroit, Christian Slater and Patricia Arquette meet grungy-cute, fall in love and marry, then head for L.A. with a suitcase full of cocaine stolen from the Mob. The movie offers a fast-forward romance; mucho macho posturing and gut-wrenching violence that screenwriter Quentin Tarantino takes to its *Reservoir Dogs*-like logical, absurd conclusion: puke, my-name-is-Dick and toilet jokes galore; endless pop culture references; and dialogue that often sounds like bad Mamet. *True Romance* is all smart-ass attitude; it thinks it is sooo cool.

K.Wilson

THE WEDDING BANQUET
★★★★

Another charming—and moving—comedy from Ang Lee about generational conflicts in a Chinese-American family. Here a gay son, who is still in the closet and beset by the matchmaking efforts of his parents, decides to marry one of his tenants, a spirited Chinese painter (May Chin) who needs a green card. With his lover pretending to be his roommate, the situation gradually gets out of hand as a raucous wedding banquet becomes unavoidable and his visiting parents linger in his house. What makes Lee's films special are not only his wonderfully light touch and skillful pacing, but the sadness that suddenly wells in the hearts of his characters. Standing out are the striking, likable Chin and Sihung Lung, marvelous as the father everyone is trying to protect from the truth.

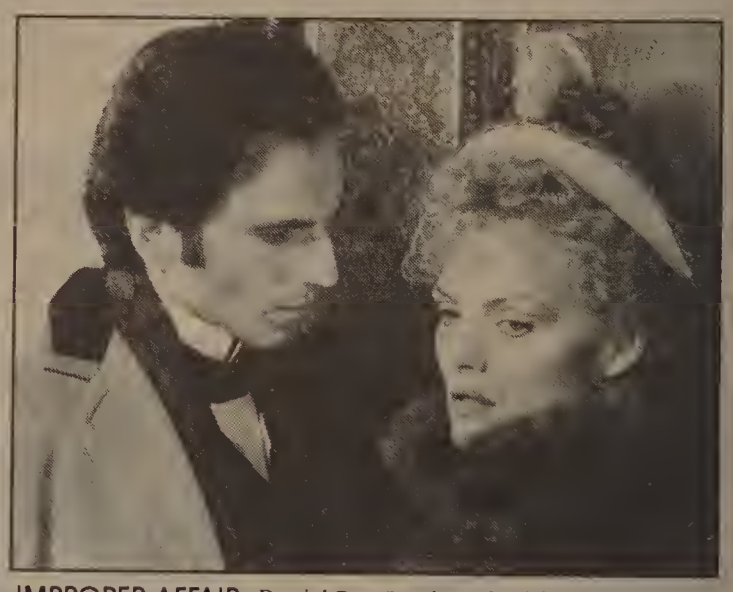
J. W. Hall

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

HEART AND HEAT

"...a visual, domestic feast of color, flowers, fabrics and paintings... Scorsese brings to the table his masculine, Catholic, obsessive and insistent genius."

The Age of Innocence opens magnificently. A close-up of a single flower against a red background, hidden behind a thin veil of lace unfolds in time-lapse fashion. The music swells. The image is repeated again and again. The sequence is refined, formal and elegant, but oh so passionate, erotic and insistent. And this is just the title sequence!



IMPROPER AFFAIR: *Daniel Day-Lewis and Michelle Pfeiffer violate the code of 1870s New York society by falling in love.*

With it, director Martin Scorsese captures the heart and heat of this story, based on Edith Wharton's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, about a young man, Newland Archer (played by the brilliant Daniel Day-Lewis), whose desire to live a life of feeling, imagination and intelligence conflicts with the life that's expected of him as a member-in-good-standing of upper-class, "old" New York society in the 1870s. Newland is engaged to the beautiful and conventional May Welland (wonderfully played by Winona Ryder) but falls in love with May's exotic, older cousin, the Countess Ellen Olenska (the equally wonderful Michelle Pfeiffer), an expatriate New Yorker, who's come home from Europe to escape a disastrous marriage.

Edith Wharton, who was herself a member of New York society, wrote *The Age of Innocence* in 1920, seven years after she divorced her husband and moved to Europe at the age of 49. In the novel she looks back to an early period and at what could have been her own story. The opening scene signals screenwriters Jay Cocks and Martin Scorsese's intent to be faithful to the novel. The part of the omniscient narrator is handled by voice-over (Joanne Woodward). Even more remarkable is Scorsese's exhilarating cinematic bravado, energy and artistry. He brilliantly establishes Wharton's key images, themes, characters and relationships. The scene takes place at the opera, which suggests that society, not the individual, comes first, and that any drama between two people is played out on stage, in society.

Newland and Ellen learn that genteel society will go to great lengths to maintain the status quo while preserving a calm, unruffled appearance. Society is a "tribe" whose rules are very strict, even if it's "a hieroglyphic world" in which the rules remain unspoken. When, at the end, Ellen leaves a dinner party on the arms of an elderly and dignified couple who represents the pinnacle of New York society, the moment is the New York-society equivalent of Joe Pesci "whacking" somebody in *Goodfellas*. In fact, Scorsese picked Michelle Pfeiffer to play the part of the Countess Olenska after seeing her play a mobster's wife in *Married to the Mob*.

But the story does take place in a kinder, gentler, if not totally innocent age, before *Goodfellas* and before *Bonfire of the Vanities*, when being born into society, not making money, was important and when both God and the Devil could be found in the details. Certainly Wharton doesn't spare the details of society's accouterments: the subtleties of dress, the proper place settings, the appropriate length of time between the engagement and the marriage, the number of courses at a meal, the acceptable means of transportation—and neither does Scorsese. The production company included an etiquette consultant, and a food-history-and-presentation expert who oversaw the film's seven dinners.

The movie is a visual, domestic feast of color, flowers, fabrics and paintings.

Is the novel as sensual as the movie? Some of the most erotic scenes, such as the one in which Archer undoes the buttons of Countess Olenska's glove and kisses her hand, can be found in the novel. The pages do give off heat. But Scorsese brings to the table his masculine, Catholic, obsessive and insistent genius. You feel his heat permeating this timeless Protestant period piece. ❑

IF YOU GO

The Age of Innocence

DIRECTED BY: Martin Scorsese
SCREENPLAY BY: Jay Cocks and Martin Scorsese
Based on the novel by Edith Wharton
PLAYING AT: Loews Theaters

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

STAR-GAZING IN TORONTO

"...every foreign and independent film that will play in Boston is unveiled there, royally, along with—live!—the nervous distributor, the intense director, the haughty actors and a grandiose restaurant party."

For 13 lucky years, I've crossed into Canada each September for long film-going days and nights at the Toronto Festival of festivals. In that time, the fest has swelled from a gawky, sweetly earnest enterprise into, with Cannes and Berlin, one of the three most powerhouse film festivals in the world.

The North American art-house calendar year kicks in at Toronto; practically every foreign and independent film that will play in Boston this fall and winter is unveiled there, royally, along with—live!—the nervous distributor, the intense director, the haughty actors and a grandiose restaurant party. This year, Toronto got the world premiere of Gus Van Sant's *Even Cowgirls Get the Blues* (everyone loathed it) and the North American premiere of Jane Campion's *Piano* (everyone adored it) among dozens of ultra-hot new pictures, including first-time director movies from African-American actors Morgan Freeman (*Bopha!*) and Forrest Whitaker (*Strapped*).

There's also good stuff at Toronto for quieter, more contemplative moviegoers. The 50-or-so Big Pictures are surrounded by 250 smaller, more esoteric ones. Unlike the Boston Film Festival, where the unknown pictures are booked haphazardly and mysteriously (they are usually pretty bad), the fine Toronto selections are made by expert programmers, who have traversed the globe uncovering them.

I could tell you of these little gems, such as Ning Ying's *For Fun*, about a bunch of old Chinese men who start an amateur-hour version of the Peking Opera, or Patricia Gruben's *Ley Lines*, in which a Canadian director from Vancouver traces her patriarchal lineage to Texas, to Hitler's Germany, to the Inuits of the North Pole.

Instead, I'll gossip about *Me and Bobby McGee* versus *Blue Velvet*.

Kris Kristofferson, whom I barely sighted in a barbecue line at a lawn party, looks these days like every other faded '60s rocker, with a white beard, a soft nose, jeans and boots. But Dennis Hopper, after his drug-crazy years, still has his chutzpah. Cinema's Mr. Danger was hanging out at a party with a dyed-blond, stringy-haired, high-heeled, tight-and-tiny-skirted babe. On each arm.

The bigger they are, the more they remember the Little People? Since 1981, I've carried around a splendid memory of hours and hours rapping away once with Edward James Olmos, prior to *Miami Vice*, *Stand and Deliver*, etc. Well, Eddie has thought of other things. "Your face is familiar," Olmos said, not very persuasively, when I introduced myself. Then he lapsed into smile-button, California-speak: "It's really nice to see you again, Gerry," he said, robot-voiced.

But the Toronto fest is brimming with so many celebs that, sooner or later, you'll find the one for you. I settled in at a party with actress Kerry Fox, the brilliant New Zealander who starred, as the shy-author Janet, in Jane Campion's *Angel at my Table*, and as the trouble-causing younger sister in Gillian Armstrong's *The Last Days of Chez Nous*. She's very friendly and at the stage of her career where she's nicely surprised if someone recognizes her and knows her films.

Holly Hunter (*Raising Arizona*, *Broadcast News*) is at another stage—a deserved star. I admit I gawked, seeing the diminutive Holly across a party in genuinely old, genuinely faded jeans. She looks like a lit.-major graduate student, but oh those incredible, mascara'd eyes!

Hunter won Best Actress at the Cannes Film Festival for *Piano*, with her formidable, Brontëesque portrayal of a tempestuous 19th-century lass who is sent across the high seas in a forced marriage. Hunter could be the 1994 Academy Award-winner for the same, and Campion's *Piano* is the one art-house movie at Toronto that appears to be a certain hit when it opens in the United States later this fall. It's terrific.

My other favorites from Toronto?

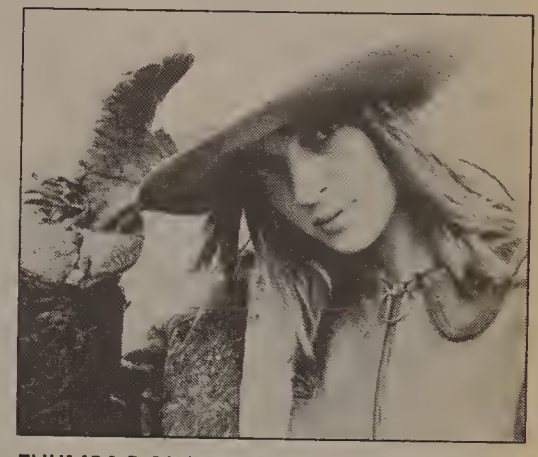
Ken Loach's *Raining Stones*, a warm, delightful political comedy about the schemes of an unemployed Manchester worker to raise money for his daughter's First Communion dress.

Todd Hayne's *Dottie Gets a Spanking*, a wonderfully imaginative Freudian short set in a mythical 1950s about a pre-gay, 5-year-old boy's adoration for Dottie, a Lucy-like TV comedy star.

Christine Richey's *In the Gutter and Other Fine Places*, a heart-wrenching documentary set in subterranean Alberta, Canada, in which the filmmaker spent three years following three marginal men—two alcoholic, one schizophrenic—picking their way through garbage bins in search of returnable bottles.

Victor Nunez's *Ruby in Paradise*, a quietly poetic story of an ordinary girl from Tennessee who wanders to the Florida coast to work in a souvenir shop, featuring a stirring performance by Winona's kid sister, Ashley Judd.

With luck, some of the above should get to Boston. ❑



THUMBS DOWN: *Toronto Film Fest critics said no to* Even Cowgirls Get the Blues, *starring Uma Thurman.*

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY

★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
The Firm	★★	★★	★	★	★★★	★	★★
The Fugitive	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Hard Target	★★	★★	★★★	★	★★	★★★	★★
In the Line of Fire	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Man Without a Face	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★
Manhattan Murder Mystery	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★		★★
Rising Sun	★★★	★★★	★	★	★	★★★	★★
Secret Garden	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★		★★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★

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PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER



ART IS A COMMODE-ITY: *Boston artist BoHill Wong's whimsical work has won over serious collectors and a New York gallery.*

Artist BoHill Wong

BY JULIE FLAHERTY

Bathroom artist flush with success

BoHill Wong, artist, is now in his bathroom period, which might be the biggest news in the art world since Picasso got the blues. Whimsical commodes and other water-closet paraphernalia are becoming a theme for the Boston artist. They are a change from the anthropomorphic fruits and vegetables and partying snakes he has done in the past, so gallery owners have their ears to the ground, because despite being mentally disabled, BoHill has made it to the big time.

Originally from Hong Kong, BoHill has come to prominence through the help of the Gateway Crafts Program, a sort of collective artists' studio in Brookline funded by the Department of Mental Retardation. There, BoHill and 31 other artists with disabilities from autism to cerebral palsy weave, sculpt, write and draw under the supervision of professional artists.

For them, art is more than therapy: it is a profession. Ironically, "being a poor, starving artist is a respected job in society," says the program's exuberant director, Rae Edelson. But they are not altogether starving: Sixty percent of the profits go to the "clients," as the participants are sometimes called.

The addition of toilets to BoHill's repertoire doesn't mean he has given up the other ironic and often literal subjects that attracted the attention of the Cavin-Morris Gallery in New York. Some works, such as his snake in a bubble bath, have a dreamlike incongruousness and are almost psychoanalytical, which may be why several shrinks own original BoHills, as, by the way, does singer David Byrne.

"I remember SoHo," BoHill says fondly, recalling one of his openings—which he always attends—where he charmed everyone with his wide smile. Although he is bilingual, he speaks very little, but he is pithy and cheerful.

"I think I would like to try a snake sandwich," he says, when asked about the serpents he puts in his work.

BoHill, now 60, is ready to become a dirty old man, but a ridiculously charming one. He has a weakness for women, and sketches of sexy females—not just girls, but snakes and dolled-up "tomatoes"—are his favorites. He now has his own bachelor pad, after living in a nursing home for several years, and he is quick to offer to cook you dinner. Although he doesn't decorate with his own drawings ("There are too many to put up," he says), he is not shy about praising his own work, and often includes himself in his pictures.

He can't tell you where he gets his ideas, except maybe to point to his head. Luckily, "I have many, many ideas," he says.

Writer Stephen Davis

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

A *Jajouka* Rolling Stone

Stephen Davis is cool. He's the type of man who stirs admiration and envy in the souls of those who experience him. Like a true '60s hippie, he listens to the inner voice of life and lives it without question. Through his career as *Rolling Stone* music editor, to rock 'n' roll biographer, to present-day "fictive ethnographist," Davis has dug his roots with dignity. His journeys have led him through kif-inspired conversations with music masters in Morocco to trashed motel rooms with rock-icons Jimmy Page and Robert Plant. Davis has hung out with everybody from Keith Richards to reggae-god Bob Marley. It is no wonder, then, that an afternoon spent with Davis involves conversation peppered with topics ranging from "botanical cleansing" to "ethnopsychiatry" to his everyday search for "deniability."

Jajouka Rolling Stone is the title of his latest book and first novel. After 20 years of research and seven trips to the North African mountains, Davis was finally ready to tell his mythological tale of pied pipers and pilgrims. "I knew I would write about Jajouka someday," he says recalling his first journey there. "I kept wondering what it would be like to go someplace and then keep coming back and get deeper into it and try to make the people come to life." Like every fable, *Jajouka* has the key components: enchanting music, innocence, exploitation and truth. It also, as Davis explains, has a moral. "It really is about the danger of the world turning into a theme park," he says, "Disney Earth!"

After a life of adventure, you would think that Davis is living large and lusty. In reality, this author's life in the Blue Hills is simple. But this maverick hasn't completely abandoned his rock 'n' roll roots. For example, Davis's mornings are slightly askew. "I get up and make my kids breakfast," he says in his casual drawl, "and then I read the paper and screw off until I can't screw off anymore and the level of guilt rises." As he readily admits, it's not his kids who need the cattle prod to get going in the morning; rather, it's Dad who needs the extra jab to get himself up and off to his private sanctuary, where he tries to pound out at least 1,000 words a day on his bottom-of-the-line Smith Corona word processor.

With 10 books under his belt, a happy family and a "Magic" horse, Davis has achieved personal and professional success. To what does he attribute his success? "Always overtipping the breakfast waitress," he says with a smile.

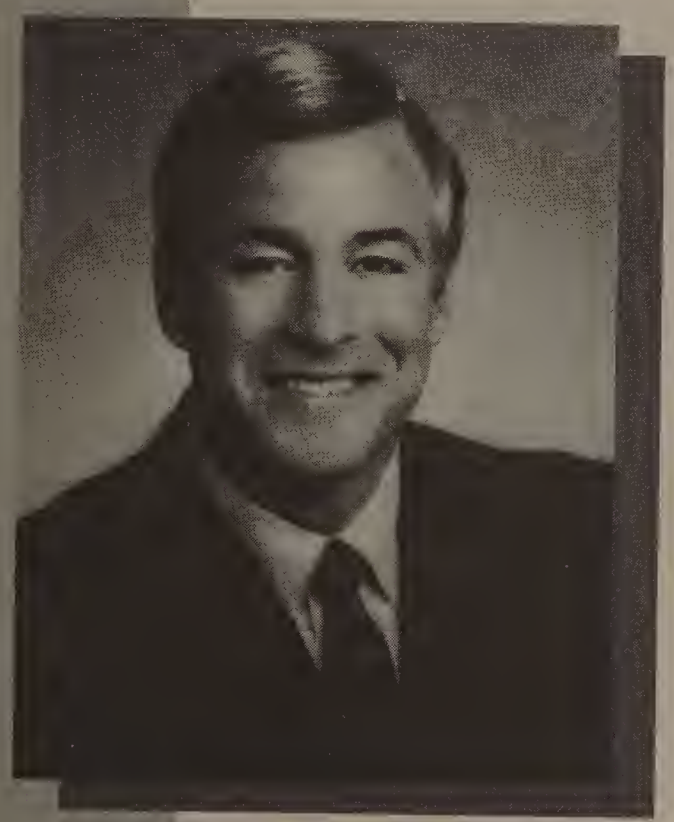


EASY RIDER: *Writer Stephen Davis, a former* Rolling Stone *editor, pats his horse, Magic.*

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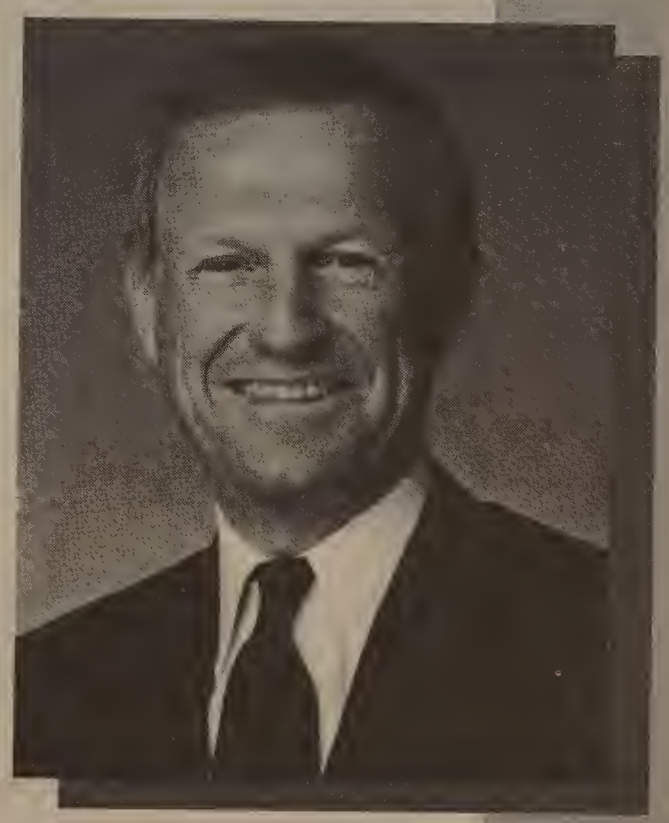
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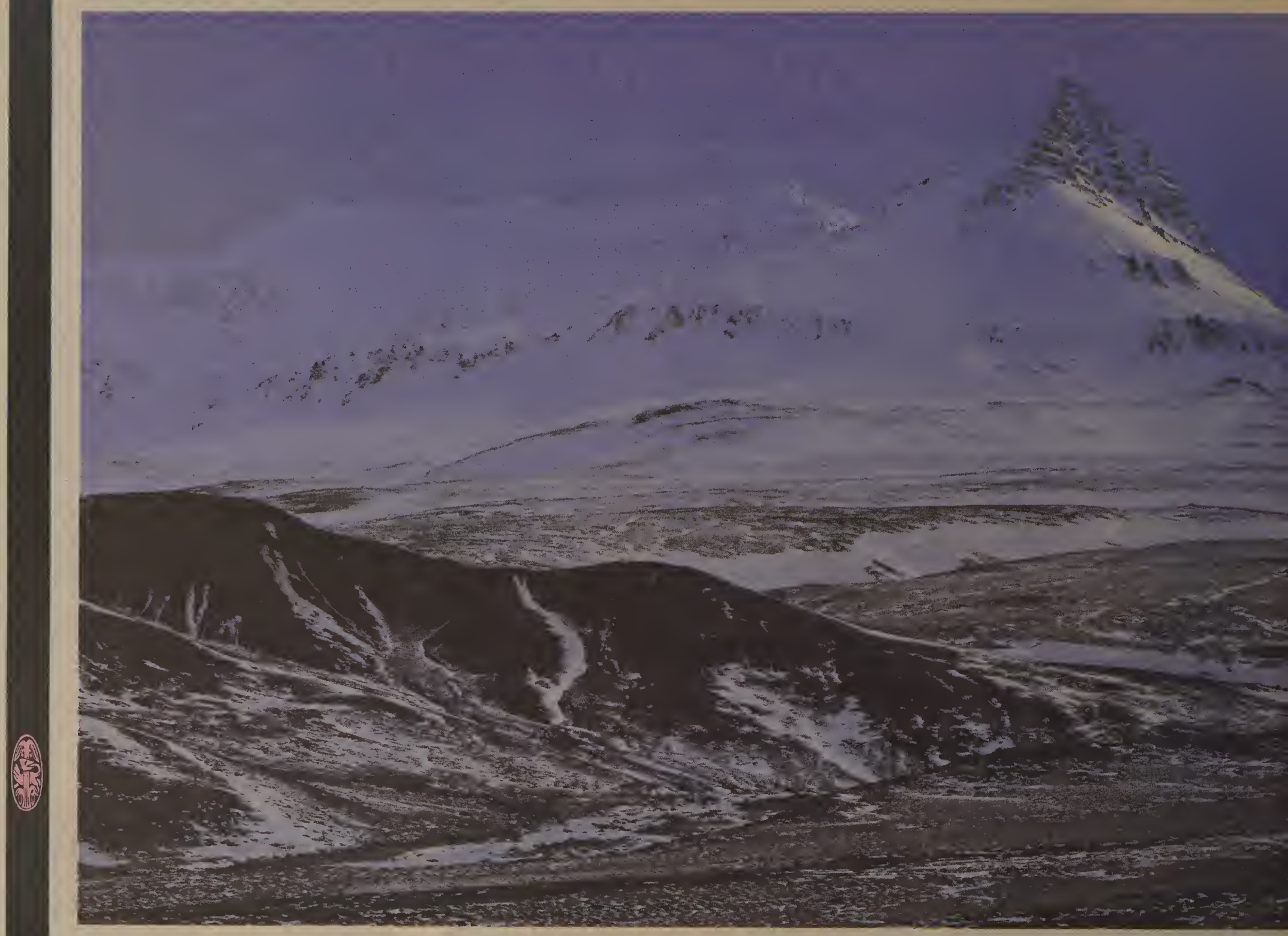
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Comedy / Linda Ventura

The Benefits of a Healthy Sense of Humor

"There is a thin line between laughter and pain; that is exactly what these comedians will be doing at *Comics for Kids* ..."

The word *grass roots* probably brings to mind visions of suburban green-carpeted lawns, which most of us in the big city can only dream of revisiting. It seems like the only grass roots we urbanites can touch are those that pop up meekly between the cracks in the sidewalk pavement.

For Jeanie Flynn, however, *grass roots* describes the close-knit feeling between local patrons and comedians who have pulled together to present the second annual *Comics for Kids*. Jeanie has coordinated this event to raise funds for children with cancer at New England Medical, the hospital that saved her life when she herself was diagnosed with cancer seven years ago.

"There is a thin line between laughter and pain; that is exactly what these comedians will be doing at *Comics for Kids*, telling a joke to help those in pain," explains Jeanie.

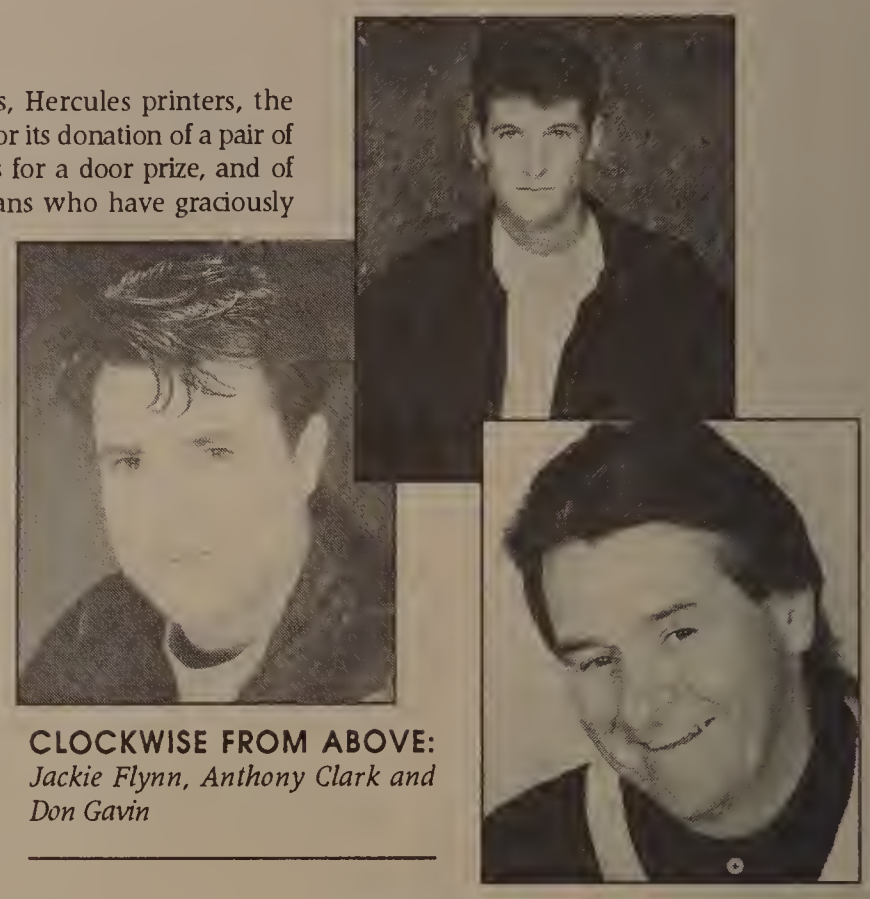
Comics for Kids will be held at the Comedy Connection on Wednesday Oct. 13 and will feature Boston comics Don Gavin and Jackie Flynn (Jeanie's brother), with a special guest appearance by Anthony Clark, one of the hottest names in Boston comedy and a favorite pick of clubs across the country.

Clark, known for his "viciously satirical mind," has just finished filming his third movie, *Teresa's Tattoo*, and recently appeared alongside Sting and Elton John in the Walden Woods concert. With the release of both his second film, *This Thing Called Love*, and the home video of his first movie, *Dog Fight*, Clark is still enthusiastic about performing for a worthy cause such as Jeanie's *Comics for Kids*.

Comics for Kids' star comedian Don Gavin, recently returned from a USO tour, has helped Jeanie promote this cause over the years. Co-starring comedian Jackie Flynn, whose sarcastic, observational humor has helped him acquire a string of headlining performances around the country and a recent shot at *Star Search* in Florida, explains why he performs at Jeanie's benefit every year. "We, as comedians, are fortunate to do what we do for a living. Its easy enough to put 'a little back' by doing these benefits. It creates a good feeling among friends."

Echoing her brother's feelings about "friends helping friends," Jeanie explains *Comics for Kids* is made entirely possible through the generosity of local friends and patrons, such as the Comedy Connection, Boston Beer Works, Hercules printers, the Texas Boot factory for its donation of a pair of lizard cowboy boots for a door prize, and of course, the comedians who have graciously donated their time and talents.

Celebrity guests are sure to attend, Jeanie promises, since her *Celebrity Gala* is only a month away. *Comics for Kids* is a prelude to the $40-plate *Celebrity Gala* on Nov. 19, at which comedians, anchorpersons and athletes from such teams as the Bruins will volunteer to act as dealers at a mock-casino night at Boston Beer Works.



CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: *Jackie Flynn, Anthony Clark and Don Gavin*

Although the majority of the proceeds from *Comics for Kids* and *Celebrity Gala* will be donated to the hematology and oncology programs at New England Medical Center, funds will be allocated to start Jeanie's pet project, PACK (People Against Cancer in Kids). This program, explains Jeanie, will continue her efforts to "take children from the hospital whose [spirits] need a lift and bring them to a hockey game where they can meet with some of the Bruin players," such as Cam Neely and Ray Bourque, who informally volunteer their time.

"The effect this meeting has on the sick child's mental attitude," explains Jeanie, "and the subsequent medical progress is truly amazing." For advance tickets or information about *Comics for Kids*, call (617) 648-6238. ❑



Model, Jessica Smithers, Shute Agency. Photo © Paul Pilcher, 1993

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Wed. 9/29- Finis Henderson, Jackie Flynn. Thurs. 9/30-Finis Henderson, Jackie Flynn, Frank Santos. Fri. 10/1 & Sat. 10/2- Finis Henderson, Jackie Flynn. Sun. 10/3- Jackie Flynn. Mon. 10/4- Kevin Knox. Tues. 10/5- DJ Hazard. Wed. 10/6- Steve Hurley. Thurs. 10/7- Frank Santos. Fri. 10/8-Tommy Davidson. Sat. 10/9- Don Gavin. Sun. 10/10- Tommy Davidson. Mon. 10/11- Kevin Knox. Tues. 10/12- DJ Hazard.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $8. Always packed.
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Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's
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Dick Doherty's Comedy Campus
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Something Useful (Maybe) / Anthony Tedesco

Routine Excuses

Copping out more than working out? The following tips can help you run out of reasons to avoid sticking to your fitness program.

Some people just *love* to exercise. They bounce around in their day-Glo spandex, spewing fitness-related exclamations such as: "Running 16 miles makes me *more* energetic!" and "I just *love* sweating, and pulling all of the muscles in my back!"

As you can see, exercise can be extremely damaging to your brain (excuse 36B) due to the Natural High it gives you, which is only worsened by the ensuing Natural Munchies and the Natural Staring at Things for Excessive Amounts of Time. This euphoria-induced brain damage may (read: may not) explain why 50 percent of people drop out of their exercise program within six months, according to research cited in *Men's Health*.

Ninety-seven percent of the exercise partners who bet each other $40 that they wouldn't be the first to skip a workout, didn't miss a single one.

Not that this should discourage you from working out (excuse 11A), however, because although there's no way to cure the genetic glitch in my DNA that keeps me from working out regularly (excuse 63F), the cop-outs that most people give can, in fact, be overcome. Exercise physiologist and Boston YWCA fitness manager Ali Coffey is here to help. What follows are some clever comebacks to the most common exercise excuses:

1. *It's raining/snowing/hailing small boulders so hard that the mailman isn't even going out today.* Which is why they call him "Really Chubby Bob" down at the post office. If you don't want cruel nicknames given to you by columnists looking to increase their word count, Coffey recommends sticking to your workout by picking up for yourself some socks made of polypropylene, a material that wicks moisture away from your feet so that not only do you not get blisters, but (added bonus) your feet don't freeze and fall off (excuse 375D). A gortex (waterproof) jacket, as well as shoes capped with neoprene (the material used for wet suits) can also help the cause. For warmth and dryness on tighter budgets, try dusting the inside of your socks with talcum powder and covering the socks (with your feet in them) with plastic bags.

2. *It's too hot.* Bring a water bottle with you, if not a permanent-water IV, so your body can cool itself by sweating out the water. Also, provide yourself with some homemade cooling by predunking your exercise outfit in water and wringing it out; the dampness will lower your body temperature through evaporation. Finally, wear a headband, preferably loud day-Glo, to keep the sweat from stinging your eyes.

3. *My schedule is far too busy.* Well, excuuuse me. Because exercising should be as much of a priority in your life as: "5:30, Watch *Hogan's Heroes*," try scheduling workouts into your week as if they were important appointments. And if you have to miss one of these important appointments, due to some unforeseeable act of God causing headlines such as "All of New England Thrown a Great Distance," then just reschedule it and continue with your next workout. Contrary to what past research has been preaching, intermittent exercise is still very beneficial for your body, according to Coffey.

4. *Exercising is too boring.* If you're, say, an avid jogger who simply can't take another lap around and around (and around) the track, make an effort to work other activities into your schedule. Pursue neglected interests in singles tennis, cross-country skiing or full-court hoops. And even if you absolutely refuse to do any exercise except jogging (Stubborn, aren't we?), you can still enhance your jog through new challenges, such as juggling eight or nine flaming pins with your eyes closed or alternating your running-track location with a long, sloping, scenic route. Also, purchase a personal stereo and liven up your fitness program by listening to music, or even a few blood-pumping books gone audio: i.e., *Silence of the Lambs*, by Thomas Harris (Simon & Schuster Audioworks, and anything by Anne Rice, especially from her vampire collection (Random House Audioworks).

5. *I'll never be able to stick to my exercise program, despite having read your first four insightful and highly informative tips.* Buttering up won't make me overlook the comebacks to this last excuse. Go out and get yourself an exercise partner with an attitude; tandem nagging might be the extra impetus you need. Or put your money where your muscle should be. According to a Michigan State University study cited in *American Health*, 97 percent of the exercise partners who bet each other $40 that they wouldn't be the first to skip a workout, didn't miss a single one. (Compared to only 25 percent of those who didn't wager cash.)

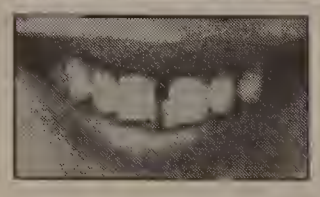
But, of course, you left *your* $40 in your other pair of pants, which is probably getting lost at the cleaners as we speak (excuse 196B). In which case, you win. What time does *Hogan's Heroes* come on?

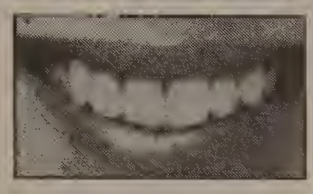
*Reader participation/writer-slacking!: Any waiters or waitresses out there willing to send me (*The Improper Bostonian*) your pet peeves about dining patrons, to be published in an upcoming Waitperson's Wishlist (i.e., I wish you wouldn't let your kid throw "the pretty colored" sugar packets all over my section)?* ❑

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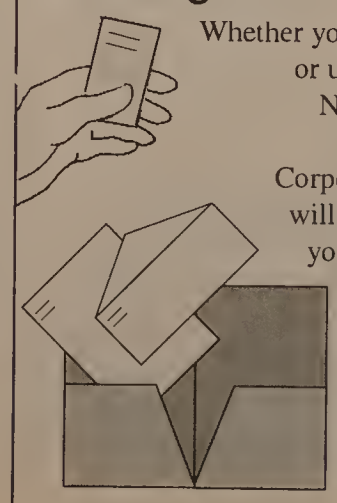
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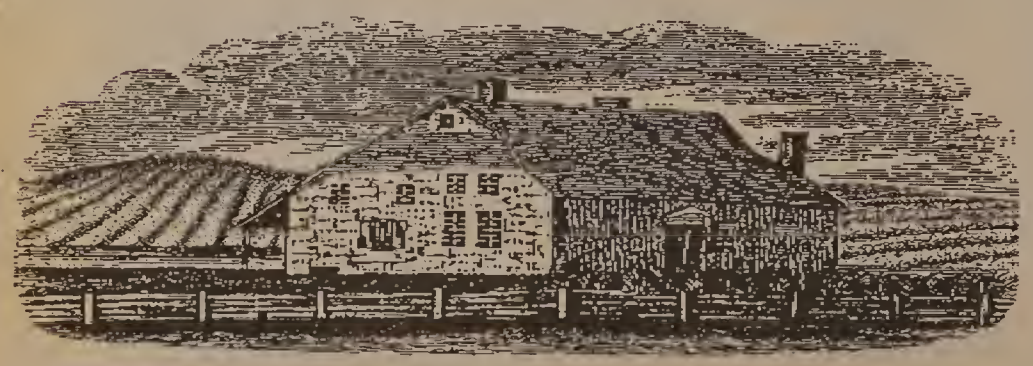
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New England's premier wine festival featuring a dozen wineries pouring the best wines of the Atlantic Northeast. 15 of the region's finest restaurants sampling excerpts from their gourmet menus. Sampling by members of the Mass. Fine Foods Council. Music by the Cool Jazz Quartet.
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Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

Filtering Out the Truth

"Lately, the practice of filtering impurities from red wines . . . has generated sharp controversy."



Stripped to its essentials, making wine is no different today than it has been for centuries. The process is neither mysterious nor complicated. What separates us from the ancients is that we understand the natural processes and we can control their progression to produce—more or less—the kind of wine we want.

The initial stage involves collecting the juice of ripened grapes in a fermentation container (barrel, vat or tank) and exposing it to a sizable population of yeast. These single-cell organisms obtain the energy to reproduce at a geometric pace by consuming the abundant sugar now in their midst; the most important by-product of this frenzied multiplication drama is ethyl alcohol. Soon after, the sweet juice completes its transformation into wine, bacteria generally will begin converting any unstable and harsh malic acid present into softer, mellower lactic acid. At some point before bottling, the hazy liquid needs to be made clear one way or another and also requires continuous security against attack by whatever hungry microorganisms remain.

Producers of the finest wines often strive to conserve the grape's natural fruit, balance the flavor elements and prevent spoilage by doing as little as they possibly can. This is not due to inherent laziness but to the widespread conviction that minimal handling exposes wines' quality to the least risk. Current theory is that the best wines "make themselves." Whereas the most aggressive procedures available guarantee absolute protection from spoilage, they are also thought to suppress flavor development. Whatever the vintner's philosophy, he or she must decide how each of the substances threatening the wine's appearance and taste will be neutralized or removed.

Lately, the practice of filtering impurities from high-quality red wines, once almost universally practiced, has generated sharp controversy. Does passing wine through a filter automatically eviscerate it or can the procedure actually help it express its potential? Some of the industry's most influential writers, spokespersons and importers have vehemently decried filters' effects, insisting that along with whatever harmless levels of yeast and bacteria removed, filters also subtract crucial flavor components. Stability is achieved, but at the expense of character.

Wine producers and merchants, ever alive to new marketing possibilities, have begun to tout "unfiltered wines" as an unmistakable statement of quality. The decision to filter or not becomes, according to this view, the ultimate litmus test of a winemaker's seriousness and commitment. Filtering is characterized as a cosmetic convenience designed only to please customers who fear sediment or to suit penurious, uncaring shippers seeking to avoid the extra expense of transporting wine under temperature control.

This is all oversimplified. This argument appears to give the consumer some valid measure to distinguish one wine from another, but it does not. Any vintner wishing to remain in business for a long time must decide on a strategy to produce biologically stable wines untainted by floating particles, clouds or metallic hazes. Conscientious methods of attaining clarity and stability do not so much prevent a wine from aging nor strip its vitality as they remove impurities so that the wine can live to reach maturity in health. Filtration is not only one among the many practices—and by no means the most radical or brutal—that can be used to achieve these goals. Fining, an often-recommended complementary procedure, entails adding foreign substances to the wine; frequent racking into new barrels exposes the wine to a potentially harmful uptake of oxygen, and , in any case, requires longer wood maturation.

Unskilled winemakers may use filters improperly so that they introduce off-flavors, but this is not the fault of the underlying practice. Quality-conscious vintners filter out substances that pose real dangers but contribute nothing useful. On the other hand, overly manipulated wine may remain unfiltered because it has nothing left to remove. Highly sulfited wines, for instance, require less filtration.

As always, the ultimate proof is in the way the wine tastes. There are great Burgundies and Bordeaux that routinely employ filtration as part of their aging regime. Filtered wines may take longer to recover from bottling, but there is no logical reason why removing bacterial, yeasts or oxidized pigments should attenuate flavor. It's a good story, but it doesn't hold up. ❑

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A STEAK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

39 Dalton St., Boston. In the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, 262-1822.
Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve in a relaxed style, add music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'til 1a.m.daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer or a 12-oz,New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT

1248 Cambridge St.,Cambridge.497-6548.
Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting,.Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including *thali*, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music Thursday through Saturday nights.(no cover)..Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available. Open daily 12 p.m. to 11 p.m.

ANTHONY'S PIER 4

140 Northern Ave., Boston 482-6262
Boston's world-renowned seafood restaurant, Anthony's Pier 4 is bustling with international, national and local clientele. Besides offering one of the finest views of Boston harbor and the skyline, the restaurant has received numerous awards such as first place in Sales and marketing magazine's Business Executives Dining Award for 14 years.specialties: the freshest harvest from the sea, including New England lobster, Boston scrod, as well as a variety of fine meats.

BENNETT ST. CAFE

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.
Newly arrived chef Peter Davis, formerly of the Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills,Calif.has created a totally new menu, including new rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit the casual outdoor patio area for drinks and dinner, and try our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made to order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are! Open 6:30 a.m.-11 a.m. for breakfast,lunch 11 a.m. -3 p.m., and dinner 3 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 11 p.m.

BENNINO'S RESTAURANT

1234 Soldier's Field Rdat the Day's Inn. Adjacent to the Charles River,Brighton, MA 254-4336
Major credit cards accepted.
A moderately priced authentic Italian restaurant featuring home style specialties including Seafood Verdichio, Chicken-Brocolli &Ziti, Pasta Festa with up to 70 combinations of different pastas, sauces, and toppings.You'll always find the food to be freshly prepared and everything homemade. Also there is live entertainment in the lounge Tuesday through Saturday starting at 8:00 p.m.

BLUE WAVE

142 Berkeley St., Boston, 424-6711.
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative West Coast style, stressing fresh, clean food; generous portions; creative open spaces; and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:00 and is one of Boston's best. Open daily 11:30 a.m.- 11 p.m., brunch on Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

BOB THE CHEF'S

604 Columbus Ave., Boston 536-6204.
Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy fall-off-the-bone bar-b-qued spareribs, chicken and dumplings, or soul chitterlings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7 to $9 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies. Open Sunday through Thursday,8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday,8 a.m. -11 p.m.

CACTUS CLUB

939 Boylston St.,Boston 236-0200
Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Rustle up lunch for $4.50. Ride in for dinner and choose from a "fiesta of flavors." Fried corn fritters dipped in honey, Navajo braised rabbit, and prarie oysters are just a sampling of the traditional staples that are served daily.Call to reserve for parties of eight or more. Open daily for lunch and dinner.

CAFE RUBINO

226 Newbury Street, Boston, 247-2080.
No credit cards accepted.
At Cafe Rubino, Newbury Street's only pasta bar, there is something for everyone. A favorite is the New Orleans Italian sandwich, the *muffelatta*, as well as authentic pasta dishes. Stop in for morning coffee or afternoon espresso, and try the delicious cakes and tortes. Take out available. Hours are Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

CANESTARO PIZZERIA

16 Peterborough St., Boston, 266-8997
Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so drop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by *Boston's Best Guide*. We offer 30 different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. Free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday,11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining, weather permitting. Serving until 10:00 p.m. Sunday -Wednesday, 10:30 Thursday-Saturday.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

100 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-0300.
New American-New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are spectacular- Cornucopia won the *Improper Bostonian*'s Best of Boston award for "Tastiest Dessert"; *Bon Appetit* named Cornucopia ""Best Sunset View Bar" in Boston". Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised. Open for lunch 11:30-2:30 Monday - Friday, Dinner 5:30-10:00 Monday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 'til 10:30.

DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St.,Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston, 338-3093.
441 Harvard St.,Brookline 734-5696.
This original 20-year-old Sicilian-style seafood & pasta restaurant is best known for its specialty-classic calamari. The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, *The Boston Globe*, December 1989.

DAVIO'S

269 Newbury St, 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810; 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
Davio's in Boston captures the flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village,and the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

THE FISHERY

718 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 868-8800.
Major credit cards accepted.
Dock yourself at The Fishery's hand-crafted, boat-shaped raw bar or enjoy dinner in its casual, nautical dining room. The Fishery's own pan-fried crab cakes rival Maryland's best. "Delicious pan-fried crab cakes..." *The Boston Herald*.. The *Boston Phoenix* calls The Fishery "a local gem," and The Fishery Calamari "irresistably addictive." The Fishery is proud to serve only the freshest, quality seafood. Specialties include: Sour cream and Mustard Catfish, LemonGrass Mussels, Southwestern Shrimp, and a variety of grilled seafood. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 12:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

GREEN BRIAR RESTAURANT

304 Washington St., Brighton,789-4100.
Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads and, burgers at this Brighton Irish restaurant Daily lunch and dinner specials. Brunch every Sunday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.. Casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Open from 11:00 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week.

GRENDEL'S RESTAURANT AND BAR

89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160
Major credit cards accepted.
Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010.
Boneless buffalo Wings, grilled chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, burgers, Irish beef stew, fish & chips, corned beef & cabbage and gourmet specials." Summer two-for-one dinners served Sat. -Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wednesday-Sunday. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line. Open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 12 a.m.

HARVARD STREET GRILL

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.
Major credit cards accepted.
Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek is a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: grilled salmon with shiitake, spinach, bean sprouts, ginger, and tamari; smoked chicken and tart cherry pate, or the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce and desserts such as chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce, lemon buttermilk tart with blueberry coulis, or homemade fruit ice. 1993 *Wine Spectator* award of excellence, 1993 Ivy award. Open Tuesday-Thursday 5:30-9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HOUSE OF BLUES

96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases top national acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 pm.-2:00pm., Mon.-Sat. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere, to shelter your blues.

ICARUS

3 Appleton Street, Boston. 426-1790
Major credit cards accepted.
Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including best restaurant from *The Improper Bostonian*. Chef/owner Chris Douglass' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeño sorbet, juniper and pepper crusted venison, and a wellfleet littleneck clam roast with tomatoes, basil, and zucchini. A sumptuous list of home-made desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level dining room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Mon.-Sat. Reservations recommended.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT AND MUSIC CLUB

17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. 776-2004.
Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and now it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around, and it's healthy too. Filtered water is used for all cooking. Natural free-range,antibiotic-free beef, chicken,eggs, and more. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna withjamaican relish, and homemade pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. The atmosphere is unpretentious and casual, and prices are reasonable. In October, enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., and brunch is served Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Located on the red line.

JOSE'S MEXICAN FOOD

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, 354-0335.
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into the super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the *Improper Bostonian* and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible, lunch specials 11a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Saturday 12 p.m.-4 p.m.. Dinner Monday-Thursday 4 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 p.m.-11p.m., Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

LA PICCOLA VENEZIA

63 Salem Street, Boston. 523-9802.
Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, Polenta, Baccala, Tripe, Scungilli, Baked Caratelli, Veal Scallopini, and traditional pasta favorites. Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

The Last Hurrah! Bar and Grill

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street, Boston 227-8600.
This popular turn-of-the-century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston creme pie.

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Restaurant Listings, cont.

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Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street, Boston 227-8600.
This popular turn-of-the-century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston creme pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Noon -5 p.m. Saturday. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Monday- Saturday,and 2-11 p.m. Sunday. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

Lucia Ristorante
415 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 367-5915.
Since 1877 Lucia Ristorante has followed a basic philosophy: to present authentic *cucina Italiana* as well as innovative dishes with a pledge toward freshness and quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Monday-Thursday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Mamma Maria
3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code.
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Choice Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's *Time Travel Guide*'s "Best of the Best", offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu, and daily baked bread,, Be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Open 7 nights a week Monday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth-watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday, 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station T stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront
85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.
Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom raviolis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in the *Improper Bostonian* 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sunday-Thursday 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak *au poivre* Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers.Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904.
Catch your favorite spoting event at This neighborhood restaurant and bar. This establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on five satellite TVs. As far as the menu, barbecue is the name of the game here. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 7 days a week.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday -Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7days from 11:30 a.m.-3, pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Tuesday 5 p.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday until 11:00 p.m.

Stromboli's
187 North St. Newton, 630-0002.
12 Green St., Woburn, 935-0070.
Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta, and tender chicken calabrese with broccoli, simmered in wine sauce. Delivery available. Use their gourmet catering service for your next function! Open 7 days in both locations. Sunday-Thursday 11:00 a.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 11 p.m.

Taj Mahal at Kenmore
484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring fresh seafood, poultry, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to individual order, and one of the best hamburgers in town. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary". Function facilities available, free parking. Just one-fourth of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

Fall in love with N.E. wines; bug out for dinner.

The **Fall Wine Festival of New England** will be hosted by **Mellea Vineyards** in conjunction with **Le Amis du Vin** on Sunday, Oct. 10, 2-6 p.m. in Dudley, Mass. The harvest season will be at its height, the foliage bright and the holiday weekend will make it the perfect time to ride into the hills and sample the tastes of New England. The festival will feature tastings from more than 30 of the region's premier restaurants and wineries. A prefestival wine symposium and a competition for the best wines are scheduled, as well as a fine-wine auction to benefit the B.U. Culinary Arts Program. Members of the Massachusetts Fancy Food Council will also be there with offerings that prove being locally produced really does make a difference. Jazz music will complete the afternoon. Tickets for the event are $27 in advance or $30 on the day of the event. Call (508) 943-5166 for information and tickets.



MODEL DATE: *Ristorante Primavera's Nelson Oliveira and friend during DIFFA's* Gala Roxy.

TABLE TALK

Rumor has it **Mr. Leung** has cast a serious eye on **Amsterdam**'s location in the Park Plaza building. Paul O'Connell, an **Olive's** alumnus, is opening up his own restaurant to be called **Providence** in November at 1223 Beacon St. in Brookline. **Il Capriccio** of Waltham has found a place in town, but we won't tell any tales so as not to jinx the deal. **Bernardo's** restaurant on Fleet Street in the North End has remodeled and created an open kitchen; diners can now indulge two senses, smelling and seeing. And last, the **Colorado Public Library** restaurant in Brookline will be moving to a new location.

In the menu department, **David's** restaurant on Stuart Street will be introducing a new fall menu next week, with dishes such as duck-and-crab-meat lasagna and rabbit fricassee. For his putanesca dish, Chef Ross Cameron has also lined up a supplier for truly fresh Wellfleet clams. Always interested in Louisiana's cuisine, the **Fishery** in Cambridge has introduced a new appetizer: grilled, smoked alligator sausage. But watch out, it may bite back!

FRUIT OF THE VINE

For the first time, **Bread & Circus** in Cambridge is offering a wine seminar and tasting. Scheduled on Tuesday evenings in October, between 6:30-8 p.m., the series starts with a taste of Spain on Oct. 5; continues with California's artisan wineries: reds and whites on Oct. 12 and 19; concluding with organic wines, led by Bread & Circus wine-manager Peter McCann, Oct. 26. The seminars will be held at the Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center on Second Street, with access available to the center's galleries. The fee is $5 per session; tickets are available at the customer-service desk in the Cambridge store. Bring ID if you don't look over the drinking age. Call the store at 492-0070 for information and brochure.

Across the river in Boston, the **French Library** on Marlborough Street is offering an introductory five-session course in French-wine appreciation, taught in English by Hugh McPhail. Beginning Oct. 18, the course will consist of five two-hour sessions held Mondays at 6:15 p.m. Topics include the wine-making process, evaluating wines, and tastings. Registration is $100 for members and $125 for non-members. For information, call 266-4351.

OCTOBERFEST

If you prefer beer to wine, mark the Harpoon Octoberfest on your calendar. On Oct. 1, 2 and 3, **Harpoon Ale** hosts its huge Octoberfest party at its brewery on Northern Avenue in Boston. There will be beer, beer, and more beer, oom-pa-pa bands and food, as well as contests and prizes. A free shuttle is available from South Station and the admission is $5 (there is a cash bar), under-21 free. All visitors over drinking age receive a mug. For more information call 455-1935.

BUG APPETIT

The latest culinary frontier seems to be insects! Remember chocolate-covered ants in the 1970s? According to the *Food Insects Newsletter*, in Washington D.C. (a city filled with all kinds of congressional insects), a place called the **Insect Club** incorporates bugs not only into the decor, but also into the menu. Along with the decorative 14-foot dragonfly, the club offers seven free buggy items in addition to its regular menu. Does a chimichanga stuffed with creamy pureed mealworm or a piece of cricket brittle titillate the taste buds? Who will be the first to board the bandwagon in Boston? ❑

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston-Boston, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

THE BAY TOWER ROOM
33rd Floor- 60 State Street- Boston, 723-1666
All major credit cards welcome.
This great restaurant has an unsurpassed, breathtaking view of the Waterfront and Boston Harbor. The Bay Tower's new chef Raoul Jean-Richard will delight the senses with a buffet of salads, raw bar, terrine cheeses, and fruits. Diners receive a complimentary flute of Moet and Chandon. You then decide between 12 sumptuous entrees to be served at your table. Delightfully tempting desserts include tiramisu, creme caramel, Black Forest kirsch cake, and crepes filled with your desired ingredients.
$32 per person/$16 for children under 12
10:30 to 2:00 Sundays, reservations recommended.
Garage parking $4 at 60 State Street.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun 10::30-2 p.m.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St. , Brookline, 566-1002
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Sunday Gospel Brunch: Live Gospel music and a hearty southern buffet. Authentic entrees such as country fresh ham, buttermilk biscuits, deep fried catfish, and chedder cheese grits. Three available seatings: 10 am., 12, 2 pm. Upstairs stage seatings invovles guest participation; downstairs seatings view the show on monitors. Located in Harvard Square, Cambridge. "Praise the Lord; this place is the best."- Steve Tyler.

ICARUS
3 Appleton Street, Boston. 426-1790.
Major credit cards accepted.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

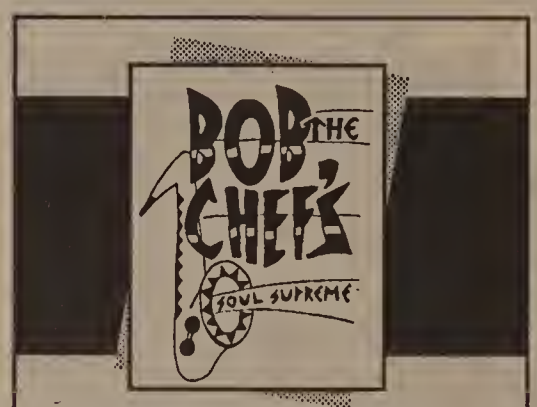
JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, Red line. 776-2004
Live jazz on Sundays.Mix and match with the "brunch combo" more food than you really need, for $5.99! Choose among texas toast, sweet cheese blintzes, fruit pancakes, huge omelettes, and eggs any style. menu features homemade belgian waffles, fresh fruit and yogurt. great daily specials.Saturday brunch also features sandwiches and salads. Natural eggs too! Yup, happy hens getting fed organic feed running aroung freely, leaving a natural antibiotic free egg. Sat. & Sun. Brunch Sat. 9:30-3:00. Sun. 9:30-2:30.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bos., 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowder" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.



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Guest Dining Review / Robert B. Parker

PUDDING ON THE RITZ

"...I don't know how the food is prepared and seasoned, and call me crazy, I don't much care. The kitchen should keep on doing what it's doing."

In Cambridge, Joan and I like to eat at a restaurant called Upstairs at the Pudding on Holyoke Street, where Joan is, as far as I can determine, the mayor. Right up front, let me say that I'm biased. I have a special fondness for the Pudding because they treat me right. Unlike most restaurants, they know who I am (Joan Parker's husband), they accept me for who I am, and when I come for dinner, the hostess never tells me that the dumpster pickup is around back. Just because I live in Cambridge, and have a Ph.D. and write books doesn't mean I have to look like Chris Lydon. What's wrong with Wallace Beery?

The main dining room of the Pudding, which is up two flights of gracious stairs, has a ceiling that may be 30 feet high; I've always wanted to know, but never asked for fear of looking like a rube. Joan wouldn't be afraid to ask, but she doesn't care how high the ceiling is. The walls of the dining room are adorned with posters of Hasty Pudding Club productions dating back well into the 19th century. The posters are alleged to be more valuable than the building, though, myself, if I were offered either, I'd take the building. In good weather there is a patio. Actually, there's a patio regardless of the weather, but nobody wants to sit out there in the cold. It is a wooden deck, three stories above the street, ringed with flowers and plants, and canopied with small, sparkling white lights. Whenever I'm out there, I expect Peter Pan to swing through and make me young forever. Joan says childish forever doesn't count.



DOWNSTAIRS UPSTAIRS: *The downstairs dining room of the Pudding.*

There is full liquor service (as I have often demonstrated), but no bar—the booze is arrayed on a long table at the edge of the room, supervised by a woman who makes a dandy Absolut martini on the rocks with a twist. But no matter how compelling the ambiance, any restaurant finally succeeds or fails on its food (remember Flynn's?). And the food at the Pudding is excellent. There are dandy little pizzas to share while you look at the menu. There are portobello mushrooms grilled with olive oil and lemon. There are beef steaks, and pastas, and chickens, and ducks, and tuna steaks, and lambs, and swordfish, and clams from Cape Cod, and vegetables from even closer. The wine list exceeds our need. And the desserts are good.

In fact, it's all good. If I were getting paid by the word, I would write in sumptuous detail about the food preparation, saucing and seasoning. But I'm not. So I won't. Besides I don't know how the food is prepared and seasoned, and call me crazy, I don't much care. The kitchen should keep on doing what it's doing.

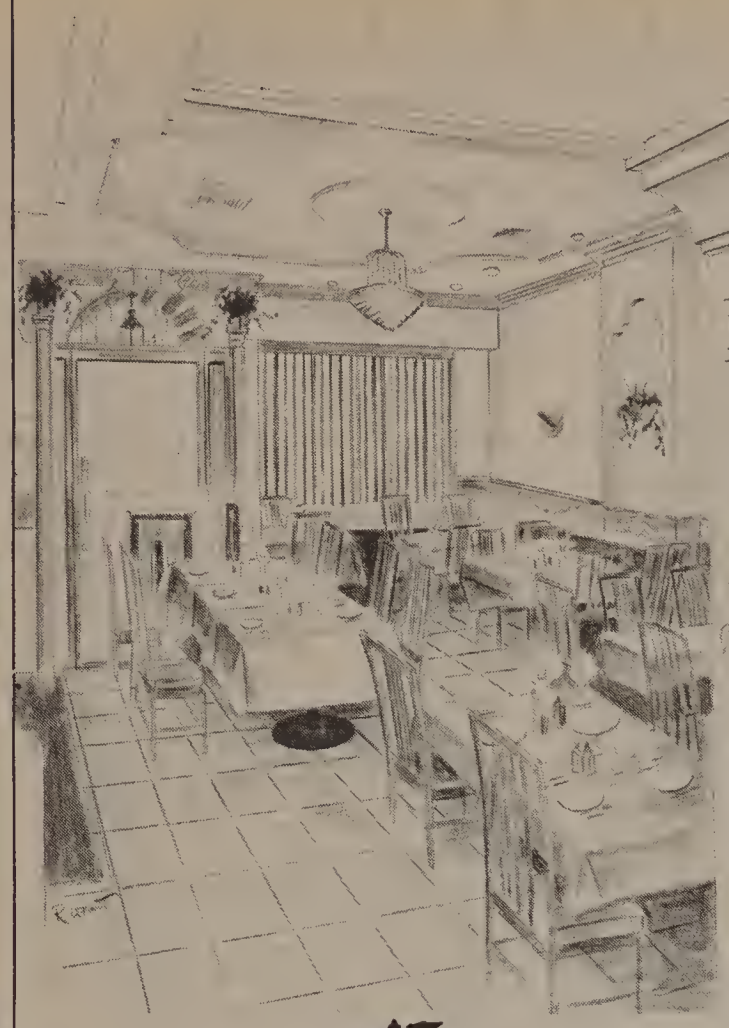
But if you're in desperate need of a foodie fix, I'll mention some of the key words I would have used, had I written in sumptuous detail: delicate, unctuous, rich, fresh, crisp, compelling, hint, understated, roux, reduction, briny, insolent, innovative, essence, polished, delicious, delightful and delovely ... M.F.K. Fisher, eat your heart out.

Cambridge resident Robert B. Parker is the author of the Spenser *mystery series and the spin-off TV programs,* Spenser for Hire. ❑

IF YOU GO

UPSTAIRS AT THE PUDDING

10 HOLYOKE ST., CAMBRIDGE
(617) 864-1933
RECOMMENDED DISHES: Menu changes daily, but here are some regular specials: spiced corn chowder; marinated duck breast with gorgonzola flan, citrus segments, black olives and cracklings on bitter greens; halibut in parchment with a toasted-walnut and sweet-pepper relish; lemon-verbena custard with blueberry compote and biscotti.
HOURS: Lunch, weekdays, noon-2 p.m. Dinner, Monday-Thursday, 6-10 p.m., Friday-Saturday, 6-11 p.m. Brunch: Sunday, noon-2 p.m.
CREDIT CARDS: All major cards accepted.
RESERVATIONS: Suggested
Parking: Holyoke Parking Garage across the street.
Hint: Great pretheater dining; 10-percent discounts with certain theater companies.



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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Atrium Lounge
The Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston 523-3600
Relax in the comfortable setting of the Atrium Lounge at The Bostonian Hotel with some of the best jazz artists from the Boston area. Atrium Lounge entertainment schedule (Wednesdays, 7:00pm.-11:00pm.) 9/29 Dave Whitney, Trumpet: 10/6 Gray Sargent, Guitar: 10/13 Gray Sargent, Guitar: 10/20 Dave Whitney, Trumpet: 10/27 Dick Johnson, Clarinet, Saxaphone: 11/3 Gray Sargent, Guitar.

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Cafe Grappa
1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Day's Inn
Brighton 254-4336
A jammin' place featuring live music Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Tuesdays from 7:00-12:30pm. feature Splash, a tropical band that combines the best influences of reggae, Latin, and Afro Carribean. Wednesdays from 8:00-1:00am. heat up fast as Alvin Terry, Boston's premiere jazz drummer is joined by a variety of the area's best musicians for a mighty jazz jam. Thursdays from 8:00-2:00 feature Jose Ramos and his bad for what's fast becoming the best blues jam in Boston.
All major credit cards accepted. Free pkg.
Great Italian food available at Bennino's Restaurant next door.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave. Central Sq. Cambridge 354-2685
Live music every night. Upstairs Monday- Geoff Bartley's new open stage (folk &more), Tuesday- Geoff Bartley presents Irish, Blue Grass Country Woman & Acoustic Rock. Call for details, Wednesday: blues,blues,blues!!! Thursday: Trudy Sandhaus Quartet (jazz), Fri & Sat. Little Joe Cook & The Thrillers- world famous blues!! Downstairs Fri. Poetry Slam! with Patti Smith & Michael Brown 6:30-midnight Sat.: something special- Call for details Must be over 21yrs. Positive Id required.

Harpers Ferry
158 Brighton Ave. Allston 254-9743
Voted Boston's Best Blues Club by Rolling Stone Magazine. Harpers Ferry is undeniably home of Boston's best live rhythm & blues. Featuring rhythm & blues jam every Sunday with Host Stovall Brown and every Wednesday Host Rick Russell and The Cadillac Horns
Live music 7 nights a week with the very best in local, national and international artists. Call the club for schedule of shows and advance ticket sales.

House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases top national acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 pm.-2:00pm., Mon.-Sat. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere, to shelter your blues.

Johnny D's Restaurant & Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. " One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- *Boston Globe*. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30pm.Cajun dansing every Monday 8pm.with Krewe de Roux and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30pm. Great food- Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Maxwell Jumps
335 A Huntington Ave. Boston 266-1705
Maxwells, on Hunington Avenue across from Northeastern University always has something going on. Try your skill at jello shots or maybe racing down the World Famous Maxwells' Bobsled course! DJ and dansing during the week plus live acts too. Join The Digg Band every Friday night for the area's most rockin' blues. Maxwells always fun- all the time!

The Rowes Wharf Bar, Boston Harbor Hotel
439-3995. 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." *The Improper Bostonian*. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Also, lunch is served from 11:30am to 4pm.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Featuring Karaoke, comedy great music and more! When looking for a fun night out, don't miss the Mystery Café Dinner Theater. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Café Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m..

Dancing

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "HI" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

The Irish Embassy Pub
234 Friend Street Boston at the Boston Garden
742-6618
Do you remember The Irish Embassy Pub in Falmouth? Ofcourse you do! Now we are also at The Boston Garden. Come down and enjoy a great crowd in a fun, casual atmosphere. Sundays there are acoustic jams in the afternoon and a D.J. at night. Monday nights come down and beat the winter blues with our blues jam.Tuesdays: Eoin Woods. Wednesdays: Best original music. Thursdays: College cover bands. Fridays: Alternative music. Saturdays: Classic hits.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400,
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2am and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

Downtown's Newest Irish Restaurant & Pub
The Harp
Across from Boston Garden

Sept. 29	Tim Crandall & Loose Change
Sept. 30	Standing Hamptons
Oct. 1	Tim Crandall & 5-0
Oct. 2	5-0
Oct. 7	Bruce Jacques & the Invisible Band
Oct. 8	Heavy Metal Horns
Oct. 9	T.B.A.
Oct. 10	North South Connection
Oct. 11	Lime Rockets
Oct. 14	Mark Morris & the Cattunes
Oct. 15	Mark Morris & the Cattunes

COMING OCTOBER 16TH
JOHN CAFFERTY & THE BEAVER BROWN BAND
85 Causeway St., Boston
617-742-1010

Allston's Best Irish Pub
Kinvara Pub
On the Allston/Brighton Line

Sept. 29	Grinning Lizards
Sept. 30	Bruce Jacques & the Invisible Band
Oct. 1	Lulu's in Crisis
Oct. 2	Swinging Johnsons
Oct. 3	Koopla & O.J. Tom
Oct. 4	Comedians & Luck O' the Oraw
Oct. 5	Free Jukebox & Oart Tournament
Oct. 6	Grinning Lizards
Oct. 7	Avocado
Oct. 8	Broadcast
Oct. 9	Shoot the Moon
Oct. 10	T.B.A. & O.J. Tom
Oct. 11	Comedians & Luck O' the Oraw
Oct. 12	Free Jukebox & Oart Tournament

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
617-783-9400

Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Briar

Sept. 29	Karaoke
Sept. 30	The Pour Boys
Oct. 1	Response
Oct. 2	Da Mud Hens
Oct. 3	D.J. Ed
Oct. 4	Irish Sessiun
Oct. 6	Karaoke
Oct. 7	The Dennis Healy Band
Oct. 8	The Fools
Oct. 9	The Pour Boys
Oct. 10	D.J. Ed
Oct. 11	Irish Sessiun

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Brighton 617-789-4100

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About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

COUTURE SHOCK

"To think that one can just zip into 29 without the proper regard for *la mode* is to exhibit an attitude that is ... insensitive to the delicate fashion sensibilities of others."

In the heady mid -'80s, 29 Newbury, affectionately known as just "29" by the cognoscente, enjoyed all the benefits and perqs associated with the gluttonous, overly materialistic surge that swept the nation, which was inexplicably due to the fact that we had an aging actor in the White House whose wife conversed on a first-name basis with the constellations. Why this was so, I am at a loss to explain, but the fact remains: The '80s were an ode to a forgotten streak of hedonism in America's collective unconscious, and 29 was everything the expense-account '80s aspired to be: glamorous, trendy, exclusive and patronized by the Beautiful People. Models and their worshipers and handlers swept into the intimate little bar, sipped Kir Royales on the patio, or disappeared into the unisex bathrooms to do who knows what. Aesthetically pleasing people arranged themselves becomingly on the bar stools or in the booths to admire the ever-changing art work and mutually congratulate themselves on being so hip.

IF YOU GO

29 NEWBURY

29 Newbury St. (Duh!)
536-0290
Last call: 12:30 a.m.

Alas, I was but a youngster then, and could not partake to the fullest in the rituals that were so much a part of life at 29. Now that I'm finally old enough to have some real fun, we have become a soberer and duller nation, and 29 has lost a little of its glamorous sheen. However, it still retains a good deal of its former caché. The staff is still excruciatingly hip and sniffs disdainfully at clientele who are sporting less than up-to-the-moment couture. Woe to anyone who attempts to breach the door wearing white shoes or anything resembling last year's styles. To think that one can just zip into 29 without the proper regard for *la mode* is to exhibit an attitude that is shockingly cavalier and completely insensitive to the delicate fashion sensibilities of others.

Fortunately for us, the result of this wardrobe policing is that at no time will you ever, while you are on the premises of 29, have to be offended by the clothing habits of someone who does their shopping in the sale bin at J.C. Penney's. Even though the '80s are now just a couple of pages in the history books, the clientele at 29 is still extremely well groomed and highly decorative, although most of it is of the non-reproductive variety, which makes the chances of finding a date slim, to say the least. However, you will probably meet someone who will offer to do exciting things to your hair, or perhaps consult you on the new color scheme for your living room.

All this scrutiny of one's personal appearance might be daunting to some, but really, it's what makes 29 great. After an evening of dinner from the wonderful menu, surrounded by people who actually have table manners, and are aware of the fact that the proper way to enjoy the evening is by starting with a couple of martinis, then moving on to a couple of bottles of wine, followed by aperitifs, you begin to wonder what you were doing slugging shots in some meathead bar a couple of nights ago.

If you go to 29 often enough, and wear the right things, you will find that the staff loses quite a bit of its glacial facade, and actually starts to resemble what it is supposed to resemble, that is, staff, rather than fashion critics. The everybody-knows-everybody-else-here atmosphere does a good job of keeping out the riffraff, and all I can say is, you can't really go wrong in an establishment where everyone, including the bus boy, is attractive. ❑

Comedy
Wednesday: 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.
"The Comedy Workout"
Featuring some of
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Hosted by the comedy team of
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Dinner/Show packages available.
9/29 Dom Fig, Sue Bartlett & Mike Prior
10/6 Nick Costas, Joe Carrol & Mark Schneider
10/13 Justin Mc Kinny, Pete Cummins & Greg Carey

Three Cheers
RESTAURANT & BAR

Karaoke
Thursday: 8p.m. – 2 a.m.
Karaoke Night – Karaoke contest every week.
First prize round trip tickets for two to Hawaii!

Dance
Friday: 8 p.m. – 2 a.m.
DJ Dave Stewart plays all your favorite dance tunes.

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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

SWEET SAXESS

"... Being a musician fulfills a need I knew was there, but never knew it was as deep as it was ..."

Social-studies major Joshua Redman graduated *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa from Harvard University in 1991. He was accepted to Yale Law School but took a year's deferment to hang out in the New York jazz scene and play tenor sax. In the fall of '91, he entered the Thelonious Monk International Jazz Saxophone Competition—and won.

Now guitarist Pat Metheny is calling Redman "the most important player to come along in 15 years."

"I respect Pat very much, but I think he might be a little misguided in that statement," demurs Redman, 24, who will lead a special quartet featuring Metheny, bassist Christian McBride and drummer Billy Higgins at the Charles Ballroom on Oct. 11.

"No matter how much I read what other people say—the critics, the public or the musicians—ultimately my self-evaluation dwarfs all of that," Redman says. "I'm incredibly self-critical.

"To me, it's not really important to be the best or the most important. What matters is fulfilling desires inside of me, my spiritual and intellectual needs. Being a musician fulfills a need I knew was there, but never knew it was as deep as it was."

Some might say that blood runs deep, since Redman's father is renowned tenor player Dewey Redman.

"I was into jazz at an early age because my mother liked jazz, and my father's records were around," says the younger Redman, who only saw his father on occasion, since his parents never married.

After experimenting with guitar and piano, Redman picked up the tenor at age 10. His father was an influence "in the same way that John Coltrane or Sonny Rollins or Dexter Gordon was an influence. I was very much drawn to the sound of the tenor sax in the jazz idiom."

Sidetracked into popular music during high school, Redman returned to jazz in college. He joined the Harvard Jazz Band and played at jam sessions during summer breaks. But his focus was on his studies.

"I had no time to play, but it was really in college that I kinda started to prefer jazz," the self-taught saxophonist says. "When I did listen to music, I hardly ever listened to anything but jazz."

Redman had long listened to Metheny, Higgins and bassist Charlie Haden, partly because they had played with his father. This year, Redman toured with Haden's Quartet West, and recorded his second Warner Bros. album, *Wish*, with all three musicians.

"There are a lot of people I always dreamed of playing with, but I'd say they were some of the people I dreamed of playing with more than anyone else," Redman says. "The record is a wish come true, and that's why it's called *Wish*.

"Initially there's a lot of apprehension and nervousness, and sometimes a lot of self-doubt," he says of playing with his idols. "But the experience of playing with the masters I've played with—and especially with Charlie and Billy and Pat—is once the music starts, immediately those kinds of concerns are gone. All the ego boundaries disappear. Because the way those three musicians choose to make their music, they're incredibly generous. You never feel their individuality tugging against yours, or somehow competing against you."

Wish ranges from ice-breaker "Turnaround," an Ornette Coleman tune familiar to all (and nailed on a first take), to a Redman-Metheny duet of the Eric Clapton hit "Tears in Heaven," to a pair of live tracks recorded at New York's Village Vanguard on a break from the studio.

On Oct. 11, Redman will be passing through his old Harvard Square stomping grounds, but social studies and law will be the last things on his mind. "Right now I live in the moment," he says. "You can never do everything you want to do. Maybe I will go back to school at some point, but right now, I'm blessed with the opportunities that I have."



JOSHUA REDMAN: *Award-winning tenor sax*

ELSEWHERE—Ska kings Bim Skala Bim tear up the Paradise Oct. 1, while folk-pop chanteuses The Story and band charm the Somerville Theater Oct. 2. ❑

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

STRINGS AND VISIONS AT THE BSO

"Seiji Ozawa knows his strengths—Romantic and Post-Romantic works—and this fall he'll exploit that repertoire, dwelling particularly on the considerable achievements of Hector Berlioz."

Mass. Ave. is about to become crowded with couples doddering to their cars, drunken with 19th-century dreams. The Boston Symphony Orchestra's season has almost begun. Seiji Ozawa knows his strengths—Romantic and Post-Romantic works—and this fall he'll exploit that repertoire, dwelling particularly on the considerable achievements of Hector Berlioz.

Several concerts will feature Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique*, an orchestral description of a disastrous opium trip. The 24-year-old Berlioz was eager to impress a rather chilly Irish actress whom he'd long been obsessed with. He wrote her this symphony as a sort of deranged serenade. In it, a "young musician of highly strung temperament and fiery imagination," tormented by unrequited love, takes an overdose of opium in the hopes of killing himself. The dose is insufficient; haunted by depression, he plunges into a series of ghastly hallucinations. He catches fleeting glimpses of his love and struggles to get close to her through the haze of opium, through a ballroom crowded with waltzing ladies and mincing dukes, through a summer landscape threatened by storm. Then the dream turns; he's told she died at his hands, prodded onto a scaffold and hanged. His wracked soul is dragged to a witches' sabbat, where he sees his love again, now hideous and cackling, delighting in his death. She yanks him into the gruesome orgy, and, writhing madly, they tumble toward Hell.

The actress, sufficiently impressed by this bizarre musical tribute, finally agreed to marry Berlioz. This is one of those charming stories of a dream come true. She quite quickly became ill, went mad and brought Berlioz misery and ruin. The BSO will perform this work four times in all: The first three performances (October 1, 2 and 5) pair it with Hans-Werner Henze's *Symphony No. 8*, commissioned by the BSO. The introduction of a new Henze symphony is certainly something to attract notice, but traditionalists may prefer to attend on October 8, when the *Symphonie Fantastique* will be paired with Berlioz's little-performed *Lelio*, or *The Return to Life*.

One of Berlioz's greatest choral works, the huge *Requiem*, will be given on October 21, 22 and 23 (open rehearsal on October 20). The piece is one of the most startling monuments of Romantic excess, scored for an absurdly gargantuan population of instrumentalists and singers, shot through with Berlioz's vivid and willful atheism. He wrote a *Requiem* mass like none written before him, an exploration of unbelief; listening to the work is rather like drifting beneath a vast, murky sea, while out of darkness ancient icons swim into view, chipped and greening. But the work, in spite of its doubt and its rapacious "Judgment" scene, is not fundamentally depressing. Berlioz chose instead to celebrate mankind's imagination, and, in particular, mankind's extraordinary creation of God in its own image.

Completely at the other end of the spectrum is his Christmas oratorio, *L'Enfance du Christ*, which will be performed on December 10 by the Orchestra of St. Luke's, led by Roger Norrington (known for his crisp and lively interpretations of Romantic music), featuring excellent vocal soloists like Sanford Sylvan and Lorraine Hunt. The piece essentially began as a musical sketch on a party napkin: a little chorus in an antique style. Berlioz decided to expand this into a full oratorio in the tradition of Bach or Charpentier, but as it grew he chose to give up the party-napkin medium. This is a gentle and intimate portrait of a faith that Berlioz admired and perhaps even envied.

Not everything on this fall's program is by Berlioz, however. On October 7, 9 and 12, we'll be treated to the BSO's specialty, a Mahler symphony. *The Fourth*, featuring Christine Schafer as soloist, will be paired with Bartok's *Third Piano Concerto*, featuring Krystian Zimerman. This promises to be a strong program; Ozawa's interpretations of Mahler are always interesting, though hotly debated. Bartok wrote his third and final piano concerto for his wife to take on tour and perform after his impending death. However grim the circumstances of composition, the piece itself radiates nothing but vitality and life. You'll laugh, you'll cry.

Also promising are Heinrich Schiff's reading of Schumann's sobbing *Cello Concerto* (November 11, 12, 13 and 16, paired with Beethoven's *Fourth Symphony*), and a performance of Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto* conducted by Andre Previn, featuring the fierce and lovely Anne-Sophie Mutter as soloist (November 18, 19 and 20).

On the whole, a fascinating season of Romantic hope and hallucination. What a long, strange trip it will be. ❑

THE CALENDAR

Compiled by Kathy Mathieson

S • M • T • W • T • F • S

			29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12				

DANCE

Boston Ballet
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for the BB's 30th season, which begins with a production of *Sleeping Beauty* from Oct. 21 to Nov. 7. Call 695-6950 for times and prices.

New York City Ballet
Shubert Theatre
265 Tremont St., Boston
The principal dancers of the NYC Ballet come to Boston Oct. 1 and 2 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 3 at 3 p.m. in what is sure to be one of the most memorable dance performances of the year. Program for Oct. 1: All Balanchine. Oct. 2: Includes excerpts from *Sleeping Beauty*, *Rubies*, and *Ecstatic Orange*. Oct. 3: All Balanchine. Call 482-6661 or 426-4520.

PHOTOGRAPHY

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln
Noted landscape photographer Frank Gohlke captures the uneasy relationship between modern society and the environment with *Living Water: Photographs of the Sudbury River*. This stunning series of large-format color photos will be on display through Nov. 28.

NE School of Photography
537 Commonwealth Avenue, Kenmore Square
Boston's top fashion photogs—shooting the creations of the town's top fashion designers—are featured in an exhibit called *Fashion Plate* through Nov. 12.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
The PRC hosts the *New England Biennial*, a juried exhibition of area photographers on view until Oct. 17. Nineteen artists are featured, and their work covers topics from racism to high-school proms. Call 353-0700.

TOURS

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating — and free. Monday, 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m.

Art Deco Society of Boston
Government Center T stop
The ADSB hosts a walking tour of art deco architecture in downtown Boston Oct. 2 at 11 a.m. and at 1 p.m.; tours are about two-and-a-half hours long. Tickets are $12; call 787-2637. Rain date is Oct. 16.

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River, while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230.

Boston University
For you stargazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that is clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. The entrance is at 705 Commonwealth Ave.; take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Garden in the Woods
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast. Its staff offers guided walks at 10 a.m. every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31, or just come in and explore the garden yourself. The cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mount Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early-20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Odyssey Cruises
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the *Spirit of Boston* ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally recognized chef. Call 654-9700.

Gore Place
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45-acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past. This 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.



IMPROPER PICK

WILD DUCK CHASE: YOU LUCKY DUCK, FOR $5 YOU CAN SPONSOR YOUR VERY OWN YELLOW BIRD IN THE FIFTH ANNUAL UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY'S GREAT RUBBER DUCKIE RACE THIS SUNDAY, OCT. 3 BETWEEN 11 A.M. AND 3 P.M. CALL 926-5480 FOR INFORMATION.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Send an electronic message to Bill Clinton or Al Gore in the new exhibit *Become an Electronic Citizen*. In the Person-to-Person booth, make a "virtual visit" with a friend using a videophone. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit, *Robots & Other Smart Machines*. Enjoy more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Before the weather gets too cold, be sure to go see both outdoor and indoor exhibits at the FPZ: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds, and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture, and special installations, such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in *Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon*. Call 266-5151; free admission Thursdays between 5-9 p.m.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of mostly early-Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. Call 566-1401. Through Oct. 24, see photographer Dorit Cypris's exhibit, *The Body in the Picture*, about feminine identity.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's *Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT*, which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's *MathSpace*, a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The MFA is proud to host *The Age of Rubens* through Jan. 2—it's the first major survey of Flemish Baroque painting ever mounted in the United States, and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe. MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2. Contemporary artist Robert Cumming presents *Cone of Vision* through Nov. 28. An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27. Call 267-9300.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
The dinosaurs from *Jurassic Park* storm into New England Oct. 9, but you better have advanced tickets if you want to see them. Call 723-2506. But beside that, there's lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Call 589-0270.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now is *Muscle Cars*, featuring hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-'74. Call 522-6547.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The aquarium's newest exhibit is called *Catch Some Rays*, about the mysterious—and dangerous—stingray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200.

New England Sports Museum
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918—ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has *anything* to do with New England sports, including interactive exhibits, such as the one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

Old State House
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special current exhibit explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th-century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from Old Ironsides, the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Harvard Square
A tribute to six great women of music, called *The Late Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz*, runs through Oct. 9. Call 547-8300.

Cambridge Theatre Company
Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
The CTC's season opens Oct. 5-10 with *Gray's Anatomy*, written and performed by humorist Spalding Gray (*Monster in a Box*, *Swimming to Cambodia*). Also, running Oct. 12-24 is *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard*, a moving portrait of a high-school music teacher and his housekeeper. Call 496-8400 for times and tickets.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225.

Continued On Following Page



The Golden Gallery

Richard Diebenkorn
Jim Dine
Helen Frankenthaler
David Hockney
Jasper Johns
Alex Katz
Roy Lichtenstein
Robert Motherwell
Claes Oldenburg
Larry Rivers
Jim Rosenquist
Sean Scully
Frank Stella
Wayne Thiebaud

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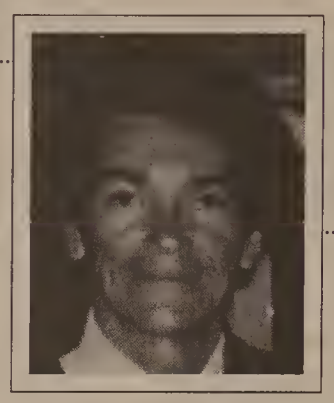
WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY LESLIE

"Recall something lucky that has happened to you?"



Meghan, 24, North End
"My wallet has been returned to me the 12 times I've lost it.That's lucky!"



Roberto, ageless, Newton
"To be alive and to understand life."



Greg, 36, Danvers
"I bought six lottery tickets and I won $500 off the last ticket I purchased."



Janice, 37, Back Bay
"I found a really nice apartment in Boston—with a parking space *included*."



Ron, 25, Yakima, WA
"I ate some of Bob's chicken loaf."



Bette, Boston, MA
"One day I did not get a parking ticket in Boston."

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
What has long hair parted in the middle, bell-bottoms and platform shoes?*The Real Live Brady Bunch*, of course! Yes, it's true, the Fab Nine have hit Boston to indulge in all the '70s kitsch we couldn't get enough of the first time around. Call 426-6912 for details.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
The Tony Award-winning musical*42nd Street* comes to Boston for a limited engagement until Oct. 10. Beginning Oct. 12, see *Falsettos*, also a Tony Award-winning musical, with the original Broadway cast. through Oct. 31. Call the box office or 931-2787 for times and ticket information.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Learn about the extraordinary experiences of an African-American woman growing up in the deep South in the HTC's production of *From the Mississippi Delta*. Performances run through Oct. 10; call 266-0800.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
The Lyric presents *From Boston to Portland*, the Fred Allen story, through Oct. 24. Call 437-7172 for times and ticket information.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of Dark Ages dining, this satirical musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its fifth year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four-course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW THEATRE
1st and 2nd Church Theatre, 66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents *Seven Day Wonder* through Oct. 17, a play that asks, "What If Faust had only the best of intentions?" In it, the main character is an ambitious missionary who sells his soul to the devil in order to save the world. Call 247-7388. Tickets are $12 & $15.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Tickets are now on sale for the New Rep's '93-'94 season, which begins with a production of *Jar the Floor* until Oct. 24. The show is a tender, funny story of four generations of women in an African-American family preparing for the great-grandmother's 90th birthday. Call 332-1646.

NORA THEATRE CO.
The Theatre, Harvard Square
Through Oct. 2, the NTC performs *Spoils of War*, a story set in post-WWII New York, detailing the efforts of a 16-year-old boy's efforts to reunite his parents after a 10-year separation. Call 495-4530 for times and ticket prices.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly
Holy Batplays! *Nunsense 2: The Second Coming* graces the stage of the NSMT through Oct. 9. In this sequel to the original, the Little Sisters of Hoboken have the show-biz bug and can't wait to get back onstage again. Call (508) 922-8500 for times and tickets. (See also listing under **Theater Lobby**.)

PILGRIM THEATRE
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
Pilgrim presents a seductive celebration of sound, song, story, image, babble and spoken languages in *Nada Brahma* ("The World Is Sound"). Runs sporadically Oct. 7-24 at 8 p.m. in the Black Box Theater. Call 426-ARTS for tickets.

RIVERSIDE THEATRE WORKS
French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
The RTW presents *Guys and Dolls*, the classic musical about gangsters, gambling, long engagements, and innocent missionaries. Through Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.; cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults, $10 for seniors and $8 for students. Call 361-7024.

SUGAN THEATRE COMPANY
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
Down the Flats is a brutally honest play about a dysfunctional inner-city Dublin family confronting crime, drugs and other problems of contemporary life. Raucous and bawdy, this work reflects the violent side of Ireland not well known to U.S. audiences. Performances run sporadically Oct. 7-23. Call 426-ARTS for times and tickets.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant/theater packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

THEATER OFFENSIVE
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
TO presents *OUT on the Edge: The Second Annual Festival of Lesbian and Gay Theater*. The group performs sporadically through Oct. 3. Call 542-4214 for titles, times, dates and ticket prices.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this fall will be for *Miss Saigon*, the tragic love story of an American soldier and the Vietnamese woman he left in Saigon. The show is a must-see, but it's only here until Oct. 9. Call 931-2222.

WILBUR THEATRE
246 Tremont St., Boston
Five Guys Named Moe, the smash musical that packed 'em in on Broadway and in London, has come to Boston for the month of October. It's a wonderfully entertaining tribute to the music of blues/jazz great Louis Jordan, and is the other must-see (beside *Miss Saigon*) in the Theater District this season. Call 931-2787 for tickets.

WOMEN'S THEATER PROJECT
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
WTP explores the complexities of being an African-American lesbian in *S.I.N.G.: Silence is Never Golden*. Runs sporadically Sept. 30-Oct. 17. Call 426-ARTS for times and tickets.

LECTURES/READINGS

ANDREW COHEN
Video presentation by controversial spiritual teacher and author Andrew Cohen at Unicorn Bookstore, 1210 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, at 7:45 p.m. on Oct. 5 and at the Seven Stars Bookstore, 58 JFK St., Cambridge at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 6. For information, call 927-3462.

FORD HALL FORUM
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Downtown Crossing
Yale law professor Stephen Carter discusses freedom of religion in a lecture entitled *Religion, Politics and the Constitution in the 1990s*. Carter's most recent book, *The Culture of Disbelief*, has been critically acclaimed. On Oct. 7 at 7 p.m.; admission is free.

GALLERIES

SCULPTURE WALK '93
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
The works of 29 sculptors complement the beauty of this recently renovated park through Nov. 8. Free catalogues and maps of the outdoor sculpture exhibition are available at the Museum of Transportation on the grounds. For directions, call 522-6140.

SPECIAL EVENTS

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL
Fan Pier
Northern Ave., Boston
This world-famous Montreal acrobatic troupe has extended its Boston tour until Oct. 3, so now there's really no excuse to miss it. This circus uses no animal acts, instead concentrating on dazzling colors, illusions and acrobatics. Call 426-0611 or 931-2000 for tickets.

CHORUS PRO MUSICA
Harvard Club
374 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
Jeffery Rink, Music Director, presents a benefit performance of selections from Lehar's *The Merry Widow*, Oct. 8th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $25. 267-7442.

CRANBERRY FESTIVAL
Edaville Cranberry Bogs
South Carver, Mass.
The cranberry harvest festival runs from Oct. 9-11, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Call 1-508-295-5799 for more details.

JIMMY FUND MARATHON WALK
Hopkinton Town Green, Hopkinton
or Wellesley High School, Wellesley
For those of us with normal physical limitations—i.e., we can't run 26 miles—here is a Boston Marathon walk to raise money for the Jimmy Fund. Held rain or shine Oct. 10, it begins in Hopkinton at 7 a.m. or in Wellesley at 11 a.m., for those who would rather do half the distance. Walkers must have $100 in pledges; call 632-3300 for details.

KING RICHARD'S FAIRE
South Carver, Mass.
Come all ye Bostonians to this Renaissance fair, filled with food and entertainment! Open every weekend through Oct. 24, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 1-508-866-5391 for ticket information and directions.

NORTHEAST MARBLE MEET
Radisson Inn, Marlborough
A varied and large selection of marbles, marble games, paper goods and marble-related items will be available for show, sale and swap Oct. 9 & 10. Admission is $2. Call 247-4754.

CLASSICAL

BOSTON LYRIC OPERA
Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St., Boston
The BLO presents the U.S. premiere of the Naples version of Vincenzo Bellini's opera *I Puritani* (The Puritans) sporadically from Sept. 29 to Oct. 10. It will be sung in Italian with projected English translations. Tickets are $18-$68; call 248-8660 for times and dates.

CAMBRIDGE STRING QUARTET
MIT Chapel
opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
MIT's chapel concert series presents the Cambridge String Quartet performing a program of Scarlatti and Schubert on Oct. 7 at noon.

JORDAN HALL
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
The Beaux Arts Trio comes to Boston Oct. 3 at 3 p.m. to perform four piano trios by Beethoven. Tickets are $25 & $27. Also, famous cellist Yo-Yo Ma performs a program that includes Schumann, Dvorak and Shostakovich on Oct. 9 at 3 p.m. Tickets are $32 & $30. Call 536-2412 or 482-6661 for tickets. Sponsored by the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
and 241 St. Botolph St., Boston
The NEC offers more than 450 concerts (classical, jazz, etc.) during the 1993-94 season, and most are FREE! Call 262-1120 for a daily program

FILMS

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film series, from classic to cult. Through Nov. 11, Mondays are *Garbo Acts!*; Tuesdays are *French Noir: Policiers*; Wednesdays are *The Films of John Woo*; Thursdays are *Kurosawa and Mifune*; and weekends are special engagements. Themes change every few weeks. For a full program, call 876-6837.

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Huh huh, huh huh, cool, huh huh! See uncensored *Beavis & Butthead* episodes and much, much more at Spike & Mike's *Sick and Twisted* animation festival, running Thursday-Sunday through Oct. 24. You must be 18 to see this. Accessible by the Green C-line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features boasts two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of independent, creative filmmakers from all over the world. Call 734-2500 for a program.

LASERIUM
Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the *Lollapalaser* show every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. The show is a combination of lasers and music from groups such as Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other days have different musical themes: for information, call 723-2500.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Best of Egyptian Cinema series continues Sept. 30 with *Night of Counting the Years* (5:30 p.m.), about discovering a cache of royal mummies in 1881, and *Alexandria, Why?* (7:45 p.m.), about a man's reflections on his adolescent years during WWII. MFA hosts the premiere of *Embracing Our Sexuality* Oct. 3 at 1 p.m., followed by a discussion with the film's production team: the film focuses on women discussing their sexuality. The *Music for Silents* series continues Oct. 1 at 6 and 8 p.m. with the band Big Trouble accompanying the 1927 silent film *The Unknown*. The *Portraits of Painters* series continues Oct. 3 at 11 a.m. with *Jason Berger: At the Edge of the World*, about a 69-year-old Brookline man who has taught his craft for 25 years in the Boston area. And on Oct. 3 at 3 p.m., take an hour-long tour of some of the most breathtaking gardens in Japan by seeing the film *Dream Windows*. Call 267-9300 for ticket prices and additional film schedules.

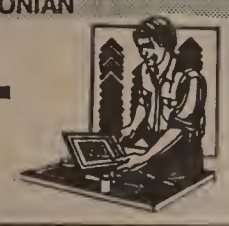
MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre, Science Park, Boston
New to the world of Omnimax is *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, which runs through October. For the more tropically oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution—and destruction— of one of nature's most important creations. Call 723-2500; purchasing tickets 24 hours in advance is advised.

CUT IT OUT NOW! The Improper Bostonian Coupon Page

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FREE BRUNCH
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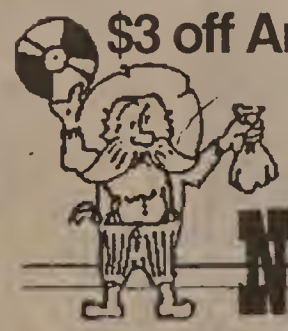
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REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

AGENCY DISCOUNTS: 15%, Call for more information.

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

BOSTON EAST New 1 bdrm, desirable Jeffries Point. Dw/d, yard w/ BBQ, w/d in building. Walk to T. $525/mo Also avail. new 3 bdrm $700/mo & new 2 bdrm $600/mo (617)569-2347

BOSTON MEDICAL AREA Newly renovated, sunny, 3 bdrm with eat in kitchen, porch, hardwood floors and full bath. $695 + utilities call 566-1813.

BROCKTON 2 and 3 bedroom, remodeled, exc. cond., Sept, util DLD no pets no wash mach. (508)583-8485.

BROOKLINE Cleveland Circle. Large 41/2 bdrm w/ 2baths in gorgeous building. Back porch, close to T & stores. Avail. Now. Call Rimma at 232-8433 or 731-3244

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

CHARLESTOWN Owner-occupied three family brownstone. Nice res. neigh. w/ on-street prkng. Conven. location. $345.00 for rmte. or $690 full rent. Call 1-800-244-2756 ext. 603 or 617-242-9632.

ROSLINDALE 2 bedroom in apt. building with heat and hot water, hardwood floors , laundry facilities on premises, disposal, on bus line. Security Deposit and References Required. $650 Call (617) 364-6585

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BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.



BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. in 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd flrs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

BROOKLINE VILLAGE M/F roommate wanted. 1bdrm avail in 4bdrm apt. Large living room & dining room. Hardwood floors & fireplace. Great location-near D-line. Avail Aug. 1st $250/mo heat & hot water incl. 277-4872

BROOKLINE/COOLIDGE CORNER Beautiful 3 bdrm 100 yards from C-line. Seeking 1 resp F for 9/1 or 9/15. Lrg corner rm. w/d, hdwd flrs. $425/mo Incl heat & hot water. Call anytime 958-1109

CAMBRIDGE - SOMERVILLE Seeking roommate to share clean & attractive four-bedroom apartment. Walk to Harvard $300. a month. Call Fred 661-0094.

DORCHESTER F student looking for M/F to share clean, mod, 3 bdrm. apt. In safe area. 5 mins. from Red line, JFK/UMASS. Recently renov. w/ w/d. $350. Incl. utils. & st. prkg. Pref. student, will consider prof. Judy 265-4838 lv. mes.

FRAMINGHAM/NATICK Great area! Roommate to share 2 bedroom furnished apartment with GWM. Parking, walk to T, non-smoker. $250/mo. + utils. Jack (508)879-1503. Available 4/1.

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NEWTON Seeking 2M/F's to share 3 bdrm house. Great yard, w/d, micro/dw. Walk to T, close to Chestnut Hill, Rtes 9 & 128. Avail 6/1. $345+utils. Call Gary at (617)244-0988 or leave message

NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted. Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old. Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utilities. Steven (508)664-4443

SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END 2 BDRM. APT. near BCH. Seeking non-smoking, prof. to share 1200 sq. ft., htd. w/d, hdwd floors on gentrified street. $550 w/ off street pkg. 236-1917 avail. now.

SUPER LUXURY APT. 2 bdrm, 2 baths, all appliances. Sky-line view of Boston. Complex has pool, health club, game room, & more! Shuttle bus to Boston & T. Call Tom 973-3877.

WATERTOWN/BELMONT 3rd F wanted for 8 rm. apt. Porch, yard, fireplace, w/d, & parking. $467+ No smoking-no pets. Avail Sept 1st please call 926-6261

WEYMOUTH Nonsmoker female for 2 bedroom apt. includes all utilities . With balcony, parking, a/c $275 call 340-2131

COMMERCIAL SPACE

CHARLESTOWN Non-live-in studio space available. 1,100 square ft. $500/mo. 242-0080

CONDOS FOR SALE

BACK BAY Copley Pl, Brand New, top quality, 2BR 2 bath, 18 windows, s/w exp, elev to garage pkng! Fr. $290k Must See! Brownstone R.E. 262-4250

CLINTON Sparkling, mint cond 2bd multi bath private end unit condo in intimate complex nr shops & Rt 495; perf. for profs. or older couple desiring condo lifestyle;only $84,900 (508)653-5252 or (508)429-7168

HYDE PARK 1 bdrm. lux. condo by owner by appt. Sun. 12-2 pm. Near T + shopping. Residential neighborhood. Price $59.900, 5% down & 71/2% financing. Monthly cost $485-incl. heat, hot water & parking. Laundry on premises. Call 522-4889.

GARAGE FOR RENT

JAMAICA PLAIN 2-car concrete garage for rent. Safe, clean, water and fire proof. Asking $200 Call (508)995-1435 Anytime

HOUSE FOR RENT

BROOKLINE Cleveland Circle, old world charm, elegant Vict. 5 working firepls, circ. stairs, natural wdwrk, hdwd flrs, 2 1/2 baths, w/d, billiard rm, din. rm 4-6 bds, 4 car prkg. Avail anytime $2800 unhtd call 232-0963

HOUSE FOR SALE

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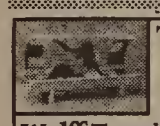
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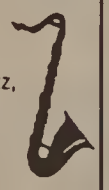
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PETITE BLACK FEMALE, 24, 5'2", 105 lbs, college student, seeks fun-toving Italian male, 24-30, who enjoys movies, dining out & weekend getaways. Must be looking for an intimate & honest relationship! EXT•6932.

SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE! Petite, brown-eyed blonde, 31, fun, athletic & intelligent. Seeks an outgoing male professional, 28-40, who has a sense of humor, enjoys participating in a variety of sports, and enjoys travel. Please Call! EXT•6924.

CROSS-CULTURE! White female, 33, 5'7", slim, professional, French, seeks black male professional, open-minded, sensitive, fit & tall, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•8005.

VERY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE, divorced white female, 46, brown hair, blue eyes, emotionally & financially secure, with passions for skiing, aerobics, fishing, dancing, animals & being romantic. Seeks white male, 36-47, with similar interests. No couch potatoes or head games! EXT•6927.

TALL BRUNETTE! attractive white female, 28, 5'10", intelligent, great sense of humor, interests include art, theatre, dance, movies, long walks & quiet times. Seeks tall & attractive white male, 28-38, with similar interests, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•6964.

ARE YOU CURIOUS ENOUGH to meet a beautiful Russian woman? I'm 44, 5'5", slender, professional & romantic, and interested in travel & art. Seeks intelligent & honest gentleman for long-term relationship. EXT•6920.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

ETHOS OF VIRTUE! White female, 36, slender, blonde professional, grad degree, reared overseas as diplomats daughter. Excellent physical condition- Nautilus & free-weights. Regard every object as contemptible except improvement of body & mind. Like only men who work out and are well educated. EXT•8006.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionate & sincere, seeks younger male for long-term retationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

LOVE MUSIC & DANCING? Italian/Syrian female, 46 (doesn't look it!), 5'5", brown hair & exotic eyes, enjoys 50's music, Jeopardy, dining out, home cooking, sports & long rides with good conversation. Seeks professional, educated male who is a sharp dresser & has similar interests. EXT•6915.

DEVOTED & COMPASSIONATE black woman, 25, 5'9", 143 lbs, seeks handsome black male professional, 25-33, 6'2"+, who is independent, sympathetic, trustworthy, respectable & creative, to seek & share excitement, adventure & laughs. EXT•6953.

ONE MAN WOMEN! Full-figured, but shapely black female, 33, 5'9", easygoing & quiet, enjoys quiet evenings, renting movies, music & billiards. Seeks unattached black male, 30-40, who is spontaneous, not afraid of a professional woman, tired of head games, and has a good sense of humor. If you are seeking friendship or possible commitment, drop me a call! EXT•6911.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, divorced white female, 49, 5'3", brown hair, blue-green eyes, smoker, social drinker, enjoys music, dancing & simple things. Seeks attractive, caring, sincere male, 5'10"+, for a long-term relationship or more. Sense of humor a plus! EXT•6914.

IMPULSIVE, ENERGETIC, casual white female, 30, 5', small-town girl, loves sunshine, music, smiling, the outdoors, Sundays & ice cream. Seeks similar white male who is intelligent, outgoing, happy, a lover of life, and has a good sense of humor. EXT•6940.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, buxom, black college student, 23, 5'6", 160 lbs, with varied interests. Seeks educated, adventurous, funny, confident, sincere, tall, dark, handsome, smoke/drug-free male, 23-33, for friendship & fun. Race irrelevant! EXT•6941.

I BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF LOVE! Young, sensitive, decadent, eclectic, well-rounded Jewish female, 26, Janet Jackson, Paula Abdul type, petite, dark brown hair & eyes, hard body. Seeks committed 1-1 relationship with an open-minded, well-rounded male, under 40. No attitudes please! Race unimportant! EXT•6897.

BOUNTIFUL, BIG, BUXOM REDHEAD, 32, sassy, smart, sensual & sweet. Seeks a rugged, unmarried, white male teddy bear type, 30-48, who is adventurous, communicative & fond of large women. EXT•6937.

VERY ATTRACTIVE & SINCERE white female, 28, seeks white male, with dark hair & eyes, who is honest, romantic, funny, knows what he wants from life, and is not afraid to go after it. Please respond! EXT•6809.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable white male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

MS.CLEAN SEEKS MR.CLEAN for friendship & hopefully more! Light-skinned black female, 48, petite (5'5", 120 lbs), with beautiful blue eyes, enjoys dancing, dining out, bowling & weekend trips. Seeks energetic male, 45-60, who shares similar interests. EXT•6811.

DIVORCED WHITE FEMALE, 50, 5', blonde hair, hazel eyes, enjoys movies, walks on the beach, good conversation & more. Seeks a gentleman, 45-55, to share interests with. EXT•6864.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. WANTED: White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relationship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

WARM, WITTY, FIT, PRETTY, compassionate, creative, open, adventurous, intuitive, substantive, and only occasionally verbose Jewish female, 35, seeks kindred spirit for the duration. EXT•6837.

SEEKS SOMEONE FUN! Not necessarily a perpetual smiley face! I'm a 36yr old female struggling with an egoless path through Buddhist meditation, Roy Masters listener, smoker, enjoys camping & travel. Seeks male, 30-45, for friendship, relationship & possible marriage. EXT•6841.

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING black female, 27, with nice sense of humor, loves going to movies & late night walks. Seeks a sincere, caring & romantic male, 25-35, for friendship plus whatever comes naturally. EXT•6863.

IF A TALL, SHAPELY, full-figured, intelligent, witty black female, mid-40's, with a great voice, doesn't intimidate you, Read On! You're a non-smoking white male, 35-45, intelligent, thoughtful, romantic, with a sense of humor, who enjoys movies, theatre, jazz, dining out, and much more. If you desire an honest, exciting, monogamous relationship, feel free to call! EXT•6801.

SINCERE & HONEST! Boston area, divorced white female, 35, 5'6", dirty blonde hair, hazel eyes, slim, enjoys long walks, dancing, music, cooking & much more. Seeks white male, 30-40, who wants a fun-loving relationship. EXT•6883.

EXTREAMELY PRETTY! White female, great shape, very fit, hard body, outgoing, with a positive attitude & champagne taste. Seeks an extreamly handsome white male, 28-36, big build (bodybuilder/weightlifter), who's outgoing & a genuine nice guy. EXT•6803.

SEARCHING FOR 1 SPECIAL MAN! Quality female, 38, brown hair, blue eyes, professional, non-smoker, attractive, full-figured, affectionate, kind, sensitive & caring. Enjoys the arts, travel, ocean, mountains & dining. Seeks that special, sensitive white male, 35-48, with a willingness to enrich his life, for a possible long term relationship. All answered! Stoneham! EXT•6835.

JEWISH DESIRES ITALIANO! Preferred for woman of chocolate eyes, black hair, 30's, 5'4", widowed, sensual & passionate. Marriage minded if chemistry exists. Seeks blue collar or self employed male. Age, height & weight unimportant. Interests range from slow dancing to beer to theatre. Let me spoil you in a Jewish way! Yellow roses? Call! EXT•6889.

DOWN TO EARTH, BLONDE WOMAN, 38, 5'8", 125 lbs, seeks laid-back male, 30+, for walks through the woods with my dog, ethnic foods, beaches & movies. EXT•6900.

SEXY, SENSUAL, PASSIONATE woman of substance! White female, 45, 5'5", 125 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes, great shape, compassionate in & out, emotionally secure, secure job. Seeks physically fit white male, 38-50, 5'9"-6'1", dark hair, who is ready for a 1-1 relationship with me. Serious replies only! EXT•6881.

HEY YOU!- with the sense of humor to match your intelligence, sincerity & good looks! This alluring, shapely, spirited, pretty Jewish female, young at heart & looks, 43, wants to meet her match if you're 37-49 and still believe in true love & beyond! EXT•6836.

ATTRACTIVE, CLASSY, Cape Verde black female, 23, 5'3 1/2", well-built, easygoing, loves the movies, skating, travel, dancing, dining, kids, nights on the beach, and quiet nights alone together. Seeks down to earth, fun, energetic, white or Hispanic male with similar qualities & a great sense of humor. Don't be shy, give me a try! EXT•6773.

LISTEN UP! Full-figured, attractive white female, 25, seeks a 1-1 relationship. If you have a great sense of humor, like quiet nights at home & walks along the beach with an old-fashioned girl, give me a call! EXT•6806.

PASSIONATE WOMAN WHO'S READY, sexy, pretty & blonde, would like to share the summer season, maybe more, with a successful, strong, attractive & loving man, 46-56. Together we can experience life's simple joys! EXT•6732.

FUN & FIESTY, green-eyed girl next door! White female, 28, sales professional, loves sailing, skiing, rollarblading, movies, museums, traveling, Vermont & The Cape. Seeks like-minded fellow to laugh with & share life! EXT•6814.

WHAT CAN I TELL YOU? The truth is I'm gorgeous, slender, voluptuous & passionate. My academic credentials & creative achievements are impeccable. This 37yr old, divorced white female would like to meet you. Your attributes: intelligence, stability, loyalty & looks. White male professional, 38-48, desired. EXT•6671.

DIVORCED WHITE MOM, 40, 5'2", 115 lbs, 13yr old daughter. Seeks white male, 35-45, who enjoys dining, slow dancing, movies, camping, fishing, walks, music (country, rock-n-roll), and all kinds of fun. EXT•6638.

PRETTY, divorced white female, 40 (looks much younger), 5'2", short brown hair, green eyes, nice smile, college educated, great sense of humor, fun-loving, will try almost anything once. Seeks sincere man, age & race unimportant, for friendship first, then who knows! EXT•6774.

DON'T READ THIS, unless you are an honest, sincere, down to earth, gentleman interested in meeting a 44yr old blue-eyed blonde with a great sense of humor. I enjoy music, movies, good conversation & much more. EXT•6718.

PRETTY, BLUE-EYED BLONDE, female professional, 30's, 5'3", physically fit, seeks male, 35-50, for chemistry, compatibility & commitment. I enjoy long walks along the ocean, swimming, skiing, biking & romantic dinners. Please call soon! EXT•6750.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 35, 5'4". enjoys golf, hiking, skiing, sporting events, the beach, gardening, cooking, movies, billiards & travel. Wishes to hear from a white professional male, 35-45, with similar interests. EXT•6731.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

VERY TALL, ATTRACTIVE, articulate white male, early 30's, 6'5", 200 lbs, seeks slim & pretty white female, 25-35, 5'11"-6'3", who enjoys the outdoors, fine dining & life. EXT•7493.

HANDSOME, ATTRACTIVE, blond male professional, 29, 6'1", 190 lbs, intelligent, warm, caring, down to earth, active & athletic. Seeks very pretty, down to earth female, 22-29, for friendship & possible romance. No smokers please! EXT•7496.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR COMPANIONSHIP & LAUGHTER? Handsome, clean-cut, professional white male, 31, with varied interests, seeks a white female. Let's get together! EXT•7521.

FREEZE: I NEED YOU! If your a natural woman not lost in too many worldly ways. One who sees beyond. One who can feel my heart & know my mind. Be open, wise, at peace, tree, healthy & under 40! EXT•7494.

EASYGOING WHITE MALE, 52, 190 lbs, good sense of humor, enjoys dancing, short trips, dining out & quiet evenings at home, seeks white female, 40-53, with similar interests. Let's talk & see what life could bring! EXT•7530.

KIND HEART BENEATH GRUFF EXTERIOR! White male, 38, in good shape, suffers for having spent too much time alone. Seeks patient female for growth & relationship. EXT•7524.

JUST ARRIVED ON BEACON HILL! Attractive, intelligent, fun-loving, honest white male, 33, 6', 180 lbs. Seeks intelligent, personable, very attractive older female, 40+, for friendship & possibly more. Let's explore Boston together & have all kinds of fun! EXT•7507.

SINGLE PARENT! Handsome white male professional, 6', 185 lbs, who is sincere, honest, trustworthy, athletic, and a gentleman with character. Seeks pretty, trim, single mom or single woman who is family oriented. No bad habits. Race or culture unimportant! EXT•7517.

HANDSOME, professionally employed white male, 39, enjoys theatre, movies, fine dining, dancing, tennis & travel. Seeks pretty woman who is intelligent, communicative, and fun to be with, for a serious relationship. EXT•7516.

NORTH OF BOSTON! Happy, healthy, handsome, honest, successful, tall, divorced white male, 48, seeks an attractive older woman who enjoys music, dancing, fine dinning, monogamy, romance, adventure, the ocean, intimacy, fireplaces, high heels, communication & laughter! EXT•7463.

HANDSOME, ROMANTIC, ATHLETIC, adventurous, Jewish male professional, 38, blonde hair, blue eyes, many varied interests. Seeks sincere, attractive woman for friendship hopefully leading to a lasting relationship. North of Boston! EXT•7512.

FRAMINGHAM WHITE MALE, 39, 5'8", blonde hair, mustache, trim muscular build, entrepreneur, home owner, enjoys biking, boats, quiet times, children & my black lab. Seeks slim "girl next door", long hair a plus, to make a life together. Honesty & kindness is the basis for any relationship. Let's explore Block Island together hand in hand. EXT•7523.

TOM CRUISE SEEKS NICOLE! White male, 29, 6'1", 195 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks fun-loving, attractive white female, 21-30, who enjoys dining, dancing & good conversation. EXT•7511.

WANTED: ONE ATTRACTIVE LADY! If you like sailing, motorcycles, travel, music, dancing, movies & dining out, call this handsome, divorced white male, 37, 6', 220 lbs, for a possible life-long relationship! EXT•7529.

SAFE, SINCERE & SECURE white male professional, 6'3", fit, romantic & passionate about life. Seeks female, 28+, to listen to my poetry, sample my hugs, taste my cooking, and laugh at my silly jokes. All calls answered! EXT•7514.

SPECIAL LADY WANTED! Successful, white businessman, 40ish, 5'7", 170 lbs, med. build, brown hair, blue eyes, moustache, enjoys dining out, movies, travel, wine & cheese. Seeks a lady with a pretty face & great smile! EXT•7418.

JEWISH MALE WIDOWER, 5'6", trim build, sincere, honest, intelligent, affectionate, with fun-loving attitude. Seeks warm, affectionate Jewish lady, 50's-60's, to share the good things in life, long drives, theatre & dining out. EXT•7451.

REVERE AREA! White male, 41, 5'9", 175 lbs, enjoys golf, walks on the beach & cooking for the right woman. Seeks white female with similar interests. Let's have some fun in life! EXT•7453.

OH NO! CULTURE SHOCK! White male, 26, 6", 175 lbs, seeks black, Asian or Hispanic female with a great sense of humor, sexuality, sensitivity & self esteem. I'm very artistic, athletic, enthusiastic & out of the ordinary. Give me a call! EXT•7423.

TALL, HANDSOME, financially secure, professional, white male, 44, with brown hair & blue eyes. Seeks attractive, slim, physically fit female, 32-43, to share travel, hikes, plays & romantic evenings. I am looking for a friend & soulmate! EXT•7420.

ROCK & REGGAE! Adventurous & caring, lobster eating Jewish male, 32, 5'11", 170 lbs, attractive, affectionate, spontaneous, playful, traveller. Loves hiking, mountain biking, frisbee, back rubs & concerts. Are you good-looking, unpretentious, 23-35ish, independent, smart, happy & aware? EXT•7480.

HANDSOME WHITE MALE, 35, 6'2", very muscular, body builder, brown hair, hazel eyes, light drinker, non-smoker, intelligent, nice, caring, cheerful, financially secure, home & business owner. Seeks cheerful, attractive white female for possible relationship. EXT•7416.

A WOMAN SHOULD BE HONORED, respected & valued for herself. You will be spiritual, musical, fun, fiercely independent, and can say no! I'm uniquely individual, curious, fun, trusting, energetic & self-employed. Let's meet soon! Braintree! EXT•7455.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7462.

LETS SHARE SOME QUALITY TIME! Divorced white male, 49, 5'9", 172 lbs, Scorpio, considered good-looking, seeks attractive female, age unimportant, for a lasting relationship. Intimacy & communication are very important. EXT•7244.

HUMOROUS, ATHLETIC, attractive white male professional, nearing mid-30's, 5'9", 160 lbs, very physically fit, enjoys many sports. Seeks an attractive, athletic woman, 28-37, who sees the lighter side of life, has a lot of energy, but also likes quiet times to share feelings & thoughts. EXT•7342.

READY TO SETTLE DOWN! Tall, dark & handsome white male, 39, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair & eyes, honest, sincere, great sense of humor. Seeks the girl next door, for love, marriage & family. So, what are you waiting for? Serious replies only! EXT•7274.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7381.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

©1993

BY ROCKIE GARDINIER — SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 12, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST: (If you know your ascendant, read it, too.)

Full moon, empty arms? The Harvest Moon on the Libraries' axis emphasizes duos, duality, deals and diplomacy through Friday night, but that Arian impulse to go it alone, to graze and play the field could be a problem.

Get past it because the rest of the weekend is pure pleasure. due to a sensual Taurus moon. The affectionate Libra sun makes everyone wanna be somebody's special playmate, Venus's willing victim. So when Venus trines Uranus and Neptune, thrills, chills and confusion somehow work in your favor, support your fondest wishes and, if you're an artist, your aesthetic values as well. Cash is freely disbursed, kisses, too. Altogether a lovely week except for a moment on Tuesday when the words you've been dying to hear cut through your psychological armor. Mercury and Mars meeting in Scorpio could also bring covert investigations or medical research to light, reveal secrets from your dark side and inspire ghostly, ghastly costume ideas for Halloween.

Even scarier stuff the weekend of the 9th, when Saturn and Pluto, the big bad boys, duke it out in a difficult square aspect. Challenges continue through Columbus Day as the Libra sun squares the Uranus-Neptune conjunction. Who takes the fall this time?

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

Anybody waiting on the word, the go-ahead on a deal, a wake-up call from your muse, can relax until Tuesday, which is when chatty Mercury meets your Mars ruler. That should bring plenty of paper, faxes and files to your partnership. And whila you might feel like flying solo this weekend while the Aries moon is so full, you'll quickly realize that for now, two heads are better than one. Be

particularly nice to a beautiful person at work, the gym or health food store; this kind soul can be a big help.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Once again you get to enjoy "the time of your time." In June, when your loving Venus ruler was in Taurus making you feel good about yourself and your career goals, there wasn't much activity in your house of romance. However, this week Venus in that cherishad location trines Uranus and Neptune at the top of your chart and sees that your lovelife and your other life complement each other, gratify your ego and spruce up your image. Artists are exposed to welcome surprises and what seems to be "divine" intervention.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

One more brilliant perception, when your Mercury ruler joins forces with fearless Mars as the week begins, and then there's no stopping you. (Well, not until Mercury turns retrograde on the 25th—consider this fair warning.) So, with energy and desire propelling you forward, take the initiative, go for the jugular, make your points and then split. Because romance and other risky entertainments are especially appealing, slightly dangerous and totally addictive right now, it would be wise to maintain some sort of balance.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

Full-moon fever raging in your head? Heating up the hormones? Your best (new?) bet for romance and recreation can be found at the neighborhood newsstand or your best friend's table. Candidates for your affections this week are good-looking, remarkably clean, wall-dressed and crafty, because, for a change, loving Venus wants Crabs to have the cream of the crop. This improvement in planetary vibrations will not last longer than a week, so enjoy pleasant, peaceful relations and these pretty people while you can.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

Most of the benefits Venus brings us hapless mortals this week land in your money house. Be prepared to give and receive the best, not necessarily the most expensive stuff. Swapmeeters stumble upon mind-boggling surprises, shoppers fall in love. Artists are inspired to create works that work and sell well too. Sheer joy? Not quite. A certain amount of brain power is called for as the week begins and you have to dig up dirt on a topic or a person you normally wouldn't touch with a 10-foot pole.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

Popular, poised and about as pretty as you get. Venus in your sign attracts both weird and wonderful people and projects, so don't let your sublime good taste fail you now—discriminate. Artistic types find enormous satisfaction in their latest creation, a new game or an old-fashioned romance. Life seems lovely and easygoing, a respite from the day-to-day cares, but if you need to feed an anxiety to feel alive, look into a financial matter that's been puzzling you. Solve it on the 12th.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22)

Birthday bliss and not only because the sun is highlighting your day. No, the cause of such joy is your loving Venus ruler soothing the erratic scene at home, with other family members. Finally, you get a real reward to go along with peaca of mind. Some Librans buy something great for the house, some buy a great house, some house a great guest. Whatever makes you feel good is exactly what you need. Remember this week and its blessings; they'll return in mid-January after the holiday rush.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Incisive and insightful, sharp-tongued, sarcastic and super-smart. This is what happens when Mercury's mental power merges with your Mars co-ruler as it does early in the work week. Discoveries are made, self-exploration becomes salf-explanatory as you journey through past history. If you're interested in past lives as well, this is a good time to investigate Your social life becomes more interesting as friendly people do nice things for you and your siblings. What's tha connection?

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21)

The full moon in fiery Aries raises your spirit and expectations for the weekend activities, so the enjoyment you get from every little thing that happens could have some "higher" meaning. (Other than getting you high.) A woman prominent in your profession can be a big help financially—either easing the corporate purse strings or ensuring that what you buy for yourself is the best of show. Take a chance, break new ground, introduce (ingratiate) yourself into a social scene that feels like a secret society.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

The Harvest moon weaves its magic spell on cardinal signs like yours, the babes born as the seasons change. You become enlightened about a career matter and how it could affect your homelife. Some of the info may be unpleasant, but fight for your right to know the truth anyway. Only pleasure and praise midweek as loving Venus trines (supports) the planets in Capricorn that are moving you along, shaking up your idea of yourself. This change is healthy and pleasant, the squares to those planets on the 11th are not. Keep cool.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

When it's not being weird or disruptive, life can be simple and lovely as it is this week. While Venus trines your Uranus ruler midweek, you'll feel delicious, desirable and appreciated, too. How you manage to cash in is not quite clear, but since Venus is in Virgo, it'll be done with impeccable taste. Sexual favors, more power and other people's money are rewards for enduring the ups and downs of the past year. Don't blow them by being too nosy, too aggressive. Somebody should tell Boris Yeltsin, Aquarian extraordinaire, not to take risks on the 11th.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

Ask for the money owed, the favor promised. As Mercury and Mars meet in Scorpio, you'll know intuitively just how bold you can be, how persistently you can push. With affable Venus in your marriage house, coloring everyone's view of you in pretty pastels, you'd have to be truly disgusting to offend. The only things that might turn us off is your gooey romanticism, goofy idealism and artsy-fartsy aesthetics. These traits might get totally out of hand on the 11th. Expect to be slapped down then.

Call (900) 933-0033 for Rockie's daily forecast, 18 years old or over only; Touch-Tone phones, $1.25 per minute. L.A. Weekly, (213) 667-2620.

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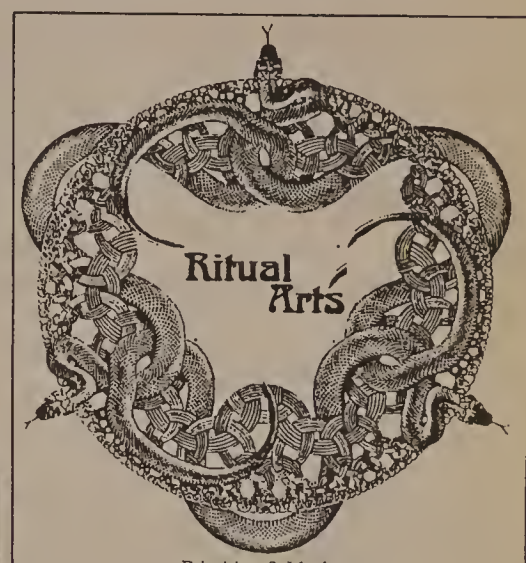
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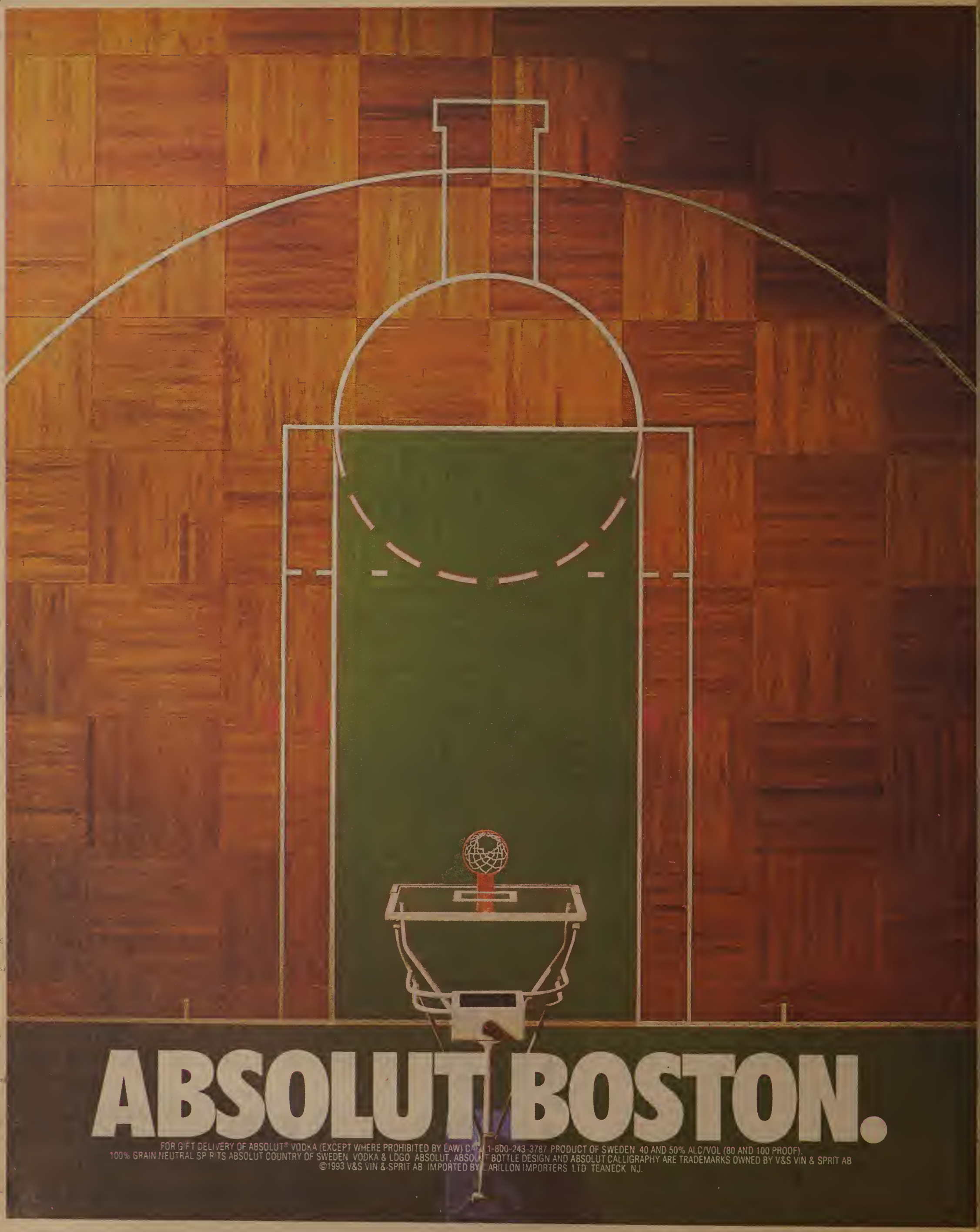
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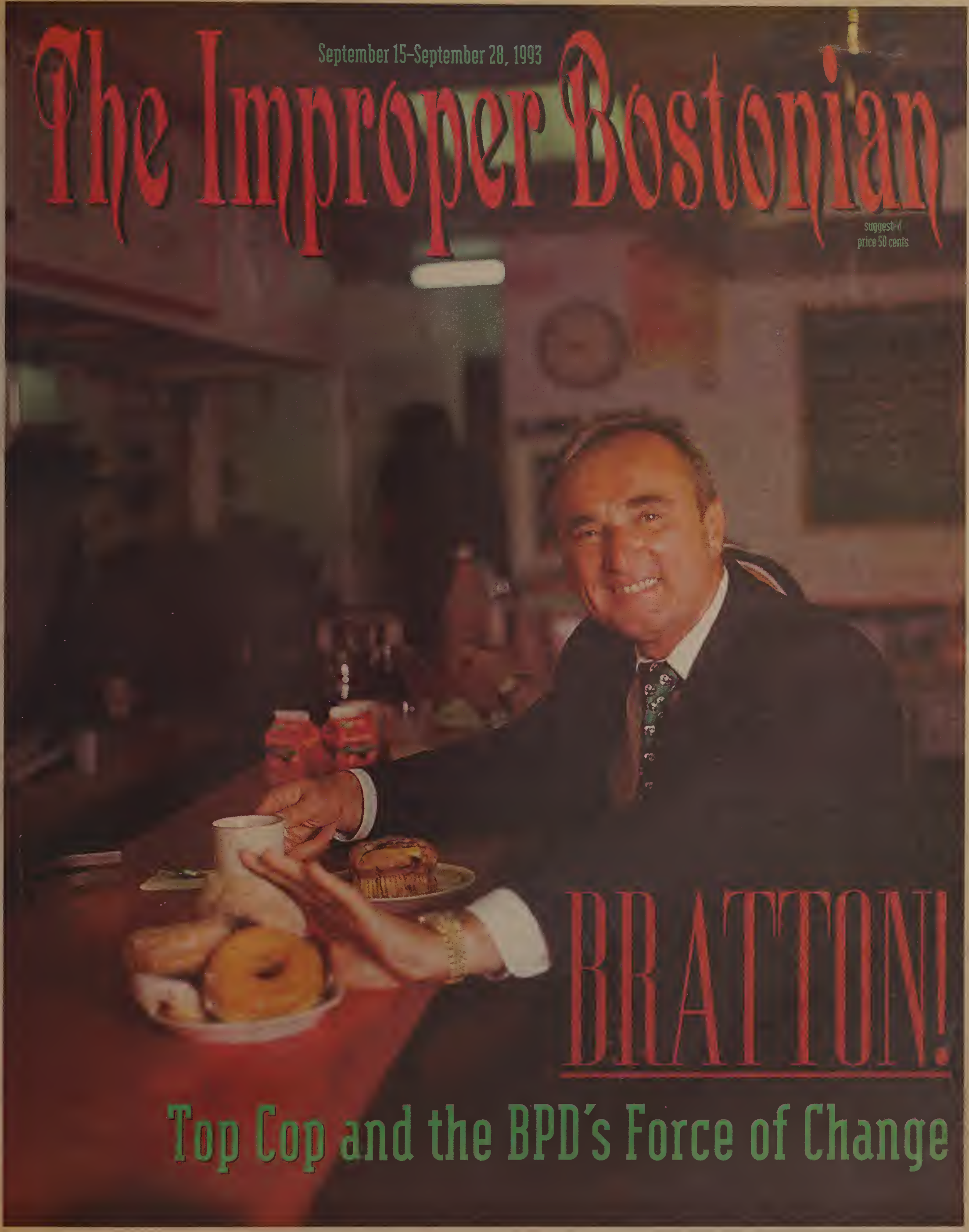
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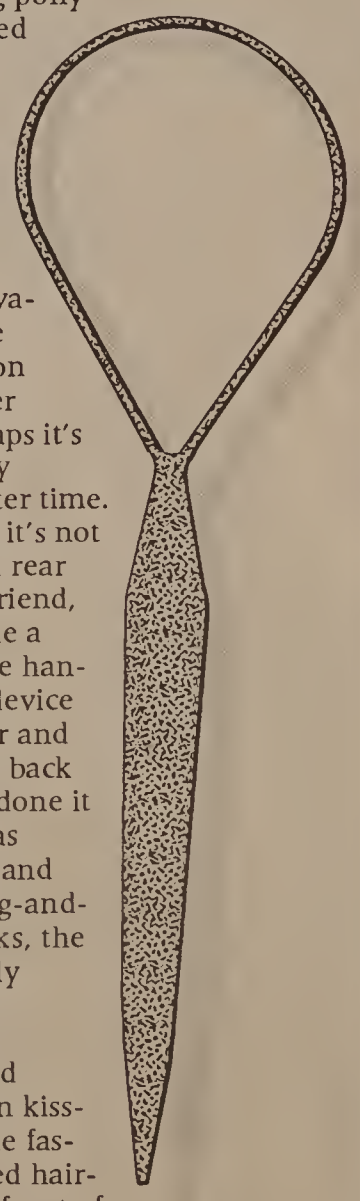
Top Cop and the BPD's Force of Change

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

O Tell Me How Is Fancy Flipped?

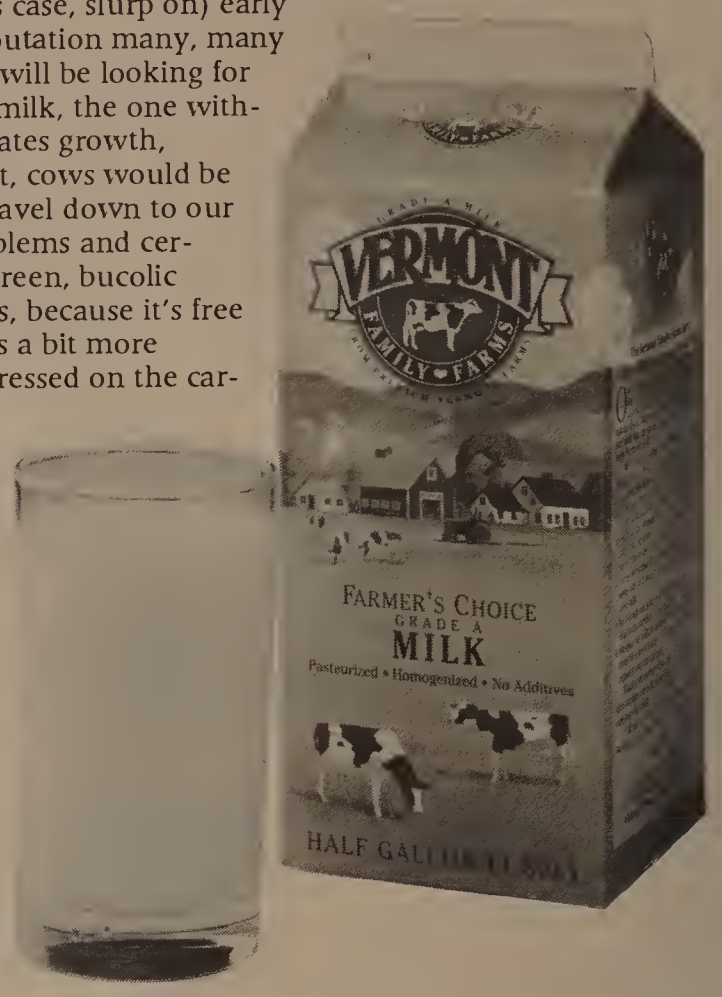
Looking rather like some sort of IUD for a cow, this creator of the inward-looking pony-tail has swept, brushed and flicked the nation—and its long hair. And, no, it is not the invention of my sister. But the Topsytail produces the most graceful, feminine, gently curvaceous effect since the more billowing Gibson Girl hairdo of another century's turn; perhaps it's a way of symbolically returning to that softer time. You simply (actually it's not all that simple, and a rear mirror, better yet a friend, should be used) make a ponytail and stick the handle of the Topsytail device up the furrow of hair and thread your ponytail back through it. Hillary's done it (with the hair she has left); so have Vanna and Ivana. The more long-and-rainy your given locks, the more soft and sweetly knotted the results. Topsytail's inventor, Tomima Edmark, had written two books on kissing when she became fascinated by the twisted hairdo of the woman in front of her in line for a movie ("When Harry Met Sally"), and, being a knitter, fiddled with circular needles for an hour until Tomima Met Her Fortune. Five million have been sold to the tune of $50 million. Like braided bread, the plain effect lends itself to numerous variations, which come in a book that may justify the price of something that costs 50 cents to manufacture.



Topsytail
Available at: Filene's
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How Now Natural Cow

That primal, comforting, most numinous of liquids—our first, in fact, milk—is currently embroiled in a controversy between dairy farmers who favor BGH (Bovine Growth Hormone, also called BST) and purists who don't. The purity crowd—and the merely cautious who don't want to sign on (or in this case, slurp on) early to something that might develop a bad reputation many, many white-mustached glasses down the road—will be looking for Vermont Family Farms Premium-Quality milk, the one without BGH. This hormone artificially stimulates growth, which can be udder-unfriendly. As a result, cows would be treated with antibiotics that would then travel down to our innocent and hopeful glasses, causing problems and certainly anxiety. A solution is to go for the green, bucolic milk carton labeled Vermont Family Farms, because it's free of the hormone and the worry. The milk is a bit more expensive, but the ecological idealism expressed on the carton—both about the cows and the customers—is comforting. You've heard, perhaps, of Ben and Jerry? Although of course "big," they are part of this group, and therefore also participants in something small, endangered and precious—the family farm.

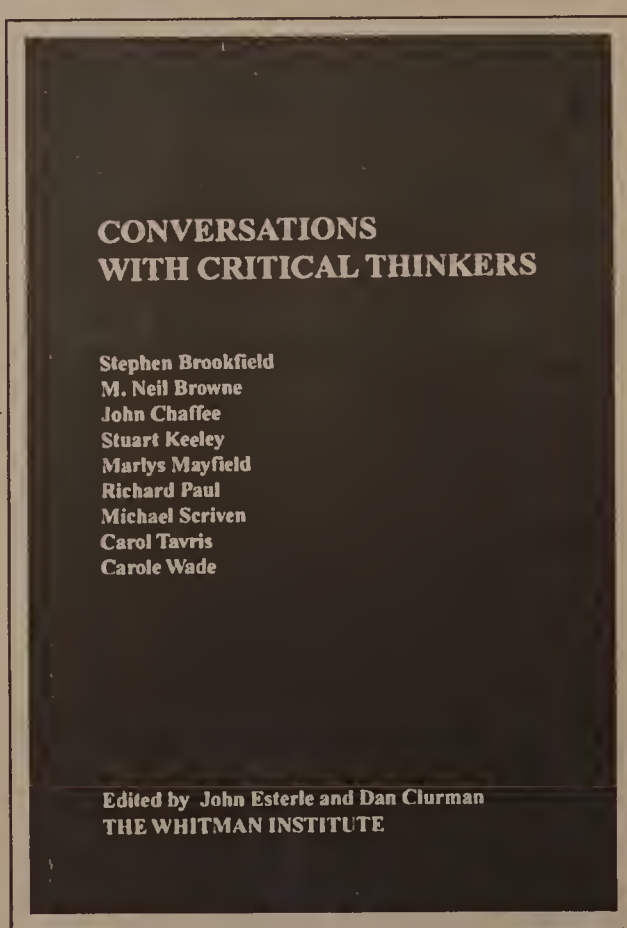


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Thinking About Thinking

Outside of philosophy or logic courses in the glassed-in environment of college, many of us have no watchbird observing our own thought processes. But something known as 'Critical Thinking' has turned into a movement in which logic, modes of reasoning and argument analysis are the order of the day, offering their tools to all sorts of fields—education, computers, English, psychology, not to mention simply thinking about ones' life, beliefs, and values. As an introduction, this book 'Conversations With Critical Thinkers' was produced by the Whitman Institute, a nonprofit that is concerned with large life concerns. The word 'critical' implies both significance and alert scrutiny. The educators, writers, psychologists, etc. interviewed here discuss the ways that rigor, curiosity, an adept grasp of the abstract, a good nose for incongruities, and a developed ability to truly enter into other perspectives, or different sides of an argument than ones' own (this without resorting to debater-like rigidity of outlook) make up this thing called Critical Thinking, but each heavy-hitter interviewee has his or her unique take on it. And though this is the land of the rational, where the sinews of clear and deep thinking are developed, the emotions and the unconscious have their place here too, as does the virtue of keeping alive fruitful uncertainty on the road to problem-solving.



Conversations With Critical Thinkers
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Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A Brookline, MA 02146

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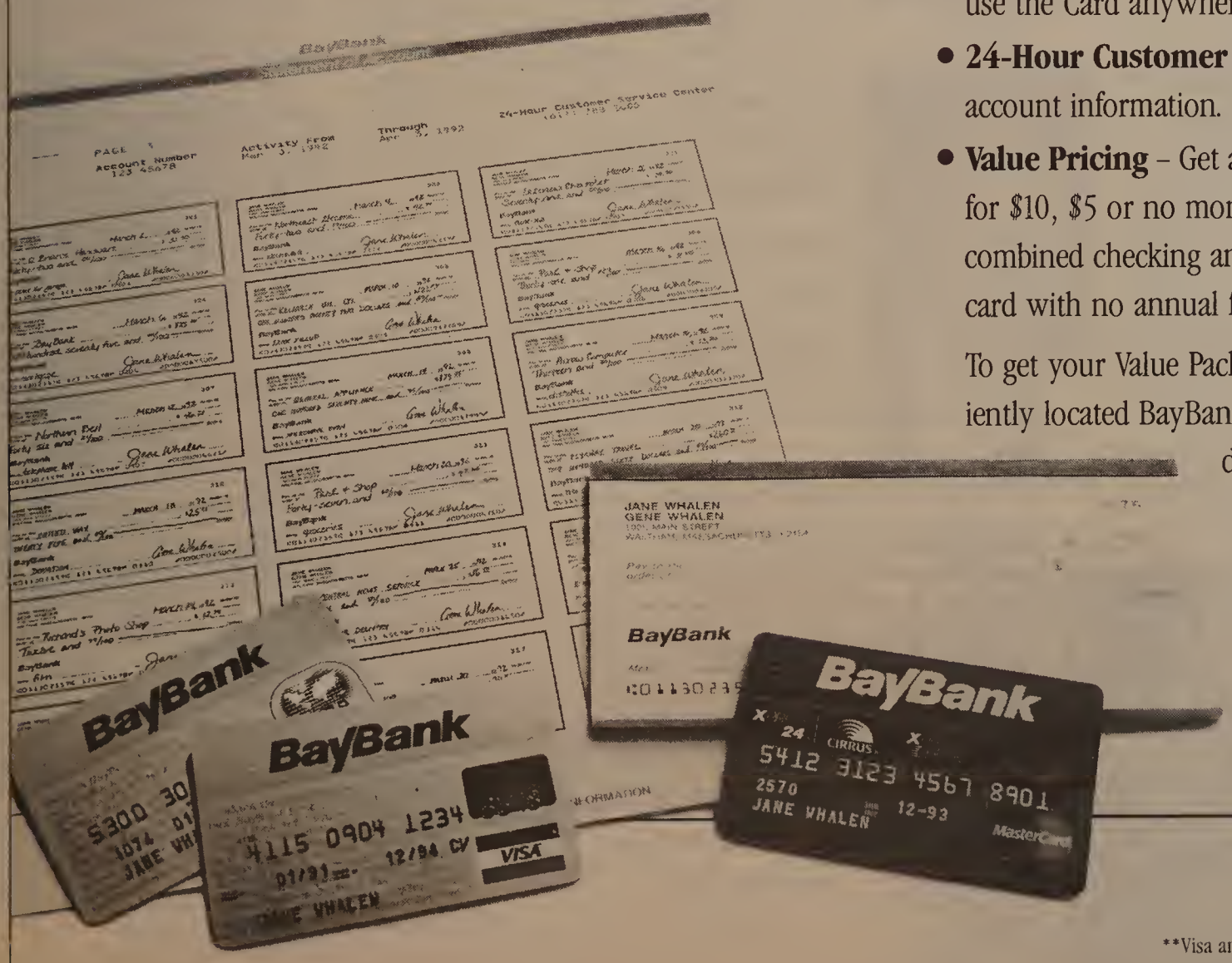
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New top-cop William J. Bratton brings past experience and a vision to the troubled Boston Police Department. "I'm living proof that even in the most politicized worlds, that you can get ahead on ambition, talent, skill and knowing how to play the game."

BY CHRIS FRANCESCANI

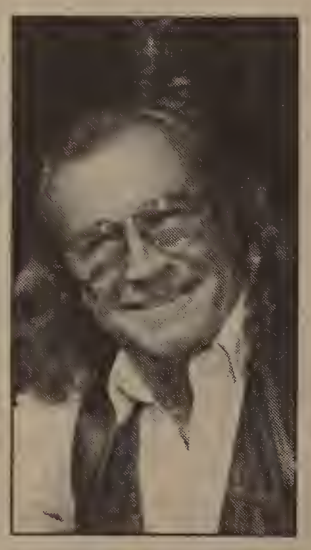
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FAILED ROMANCE



Loner Clarence and inexperienced prostitute Alabama meet, discover they love Elvis and kung fu movies, and fall in love. in Quentin Tarantino's latest effort, *True Romance*. The two jump in a purple Cadillac and drive through a wasteland of too-cool cultural references and gut-wrenching violence. Too bad, says film critic Kaj Wilson.

BY KAJ WILSON

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THE GODFATHER OF BOSTON COMEDY



"Dirty" Dick Doherty disses everyone in his shows, and the audiences love it. "I'm here to be me—not the audience's judge," explains the owner of five successful comedy clubs. Doherty talks about his life and his formula for success—on and off the stage.

BY LINDA VENTURE

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ON THE COVER

Police Commissioner, William Bratton
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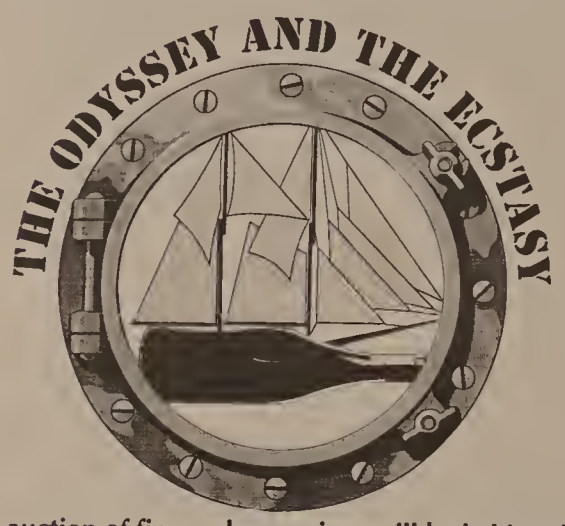
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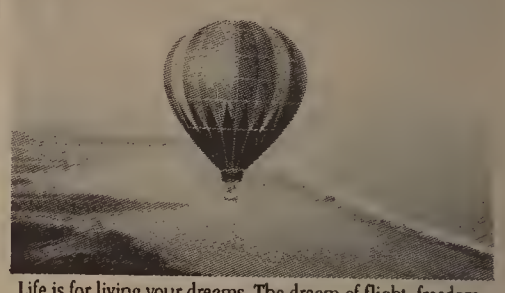
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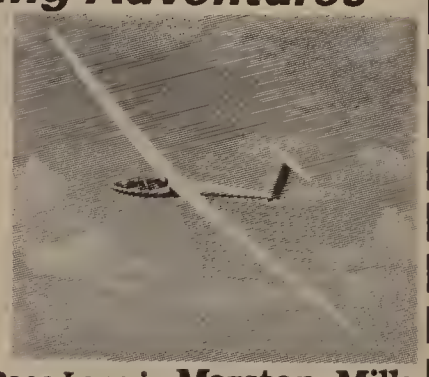
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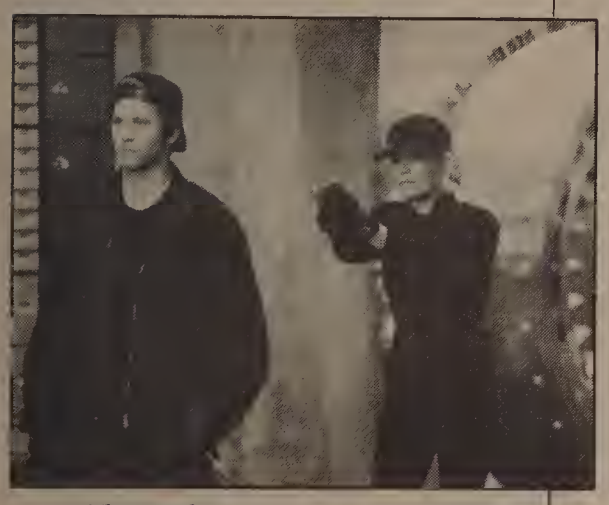
CITY RAVE

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

COMEDY

Bobcat Goldthwait. Wildman Goldthwait checks himself into Nick's Comedy Stop to unleash his extremely individual sense of humor September 24 -25. Featured on the TV hit show *Married With Children* and films such as *Scrooged*, and his own mime-bashing *Shakes the Clown* (heralded as the *Citizen Kane* of alcoholic-clown movies), Goldthwait should be a howl. Tickets are $16. Call 482-0930 for information.

MOVIES



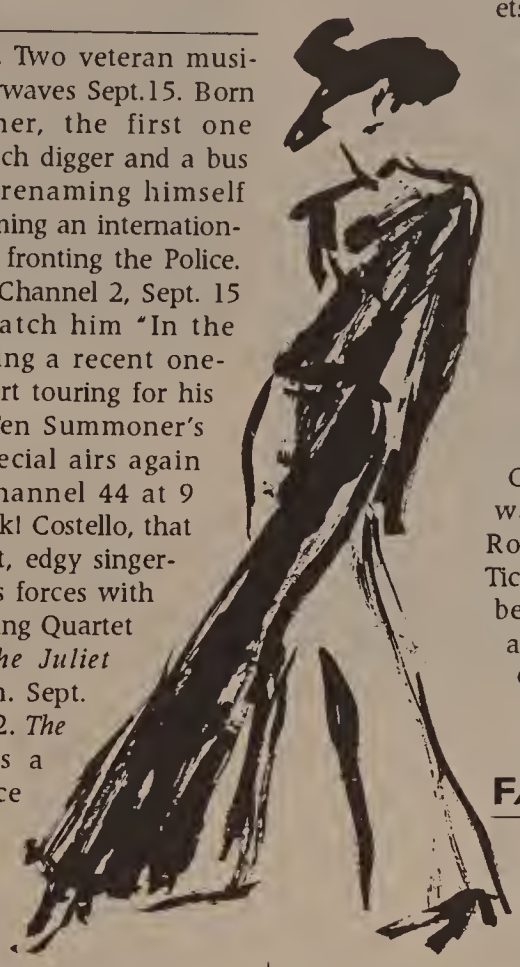
The Real McCoy. Kim Basinger stars as Karen McCoy, a professional cat burglar who wants to hang up her catsuit and go straight. The problem? She's too good to retire, according to her former associates, and she soon finds herself banking on her professional skills to pull off the heist of a lifetime: $18 mil. In cash. *The Real McCoy* opens Sept. 17.

"Garbo Acts!," the Brattle Theater's enticing Sunday night series, showcases the face and voice of one of the most beautiful and mysterious actresses in the history of cinema. Starting September 19 with her first talkie, *Anna Christie* (in which Greta Garbo delighted audiences with her unforgettable opening line: "Gif me a whiskey, ginger ale on the side ... and don't be stingy, baby."), the program also includes *Queen Christina* and *Ninotchka*. For information, call 876-6837.



TELEVISION

Tune into Two. Two veteran musicians hit the airwaves Sept.15. Born Gordon Sumner, the first one worked as a ditch digger and a bus driver before renaming himself Sting and becoming an international pop celebrity fronting the Police. Flip to WGBH, Channel 2, Sept. 15 at 9 p.m. to catch him "In the Spotlight" during a recent one-hour live concert touring for his new album, "Ten Summoner's Tales." The special airs again Sept. 16 on Channel 44 at 9 p.m. Elvis is back! Costello, that is. The eloquent, edgy singer-songwriter joins forces with the Brodsky String Quartet to perform *The Juliet Letters* at 10 p.m. Sept. 15 on Channel 2. *The Juliet Letters* is a "song sequence for string quartet and voice" inspired by a newspaper item about a Veronese teacher who answered letters from the public addressed to Juliet Capulet, the tragic heroine of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet.* The show airs again Sept. 17 at 9 p.m. on Channel 44.



BENEFIT

Shhhh! If you know the secret password, sneak into the speakeasy and drink in the sights and sounds of the 1920s during SpeakEasy Stage Company's first gala fund-raiser Sept. 18. Enjoy the hors d'oeuvres, cabaret entertainment, comedienne Mary Ellen Depetrillo, and a silent auction filled with original art work, theater tickets, restaurant certificates and more. SpeakEasy Stage Company is a non-profit theater group hoping to establish a resident theater company in the Boston community. Slip into your favorite flapper dress, tell 'em Joe sent you, and Charleston your way back to the Roaring Twenties. Tickets are $20. The benefit takes place at the VillaVictoria Cultural Center. Call 728-1411 for information.

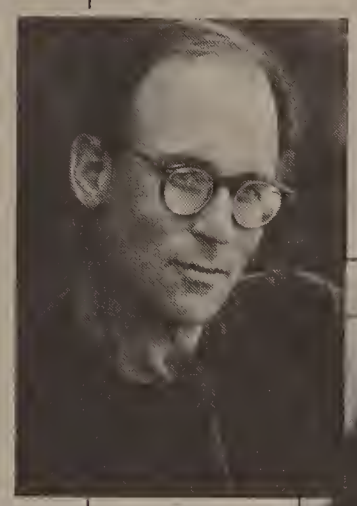
FASHION

Clothes Encounters: Don't drive yourself crazy trying to figure out what to wear this fall. Hop in the car and take your last warm-weather road trip to ... the mall. But not just any mall, a designer outlet mall in New Bedford that promises discounts of up to 75 percent on Calvin Klein and Alexander Julian fashions. Wear comfortable shoes — with more than 35 stores, the Howland Place Designer Outlet Center promises to keep you on your toes for the good part of a full fall shopping spree. Here's a tip from the Calvin Klein boutique about the perfect staple outfit: "Comfortable suiting dominates the look. Flared pants, paired with a vest, a white broadcloth shirt topped by a single or double-breasted jacket." Call (508) 999-4100 for directions and information.

ART

Art Newbury Street. Newbury Street galleries open their doors Sept. 19 for an art-browsing extravaganza during the 14th annual Art Newbury Street: New Beginnings. Between 1 and 5 p.m., the only traffic allowed will be foot traffic as Newbury Street dedicates itself to the fine art of gallery hopping. Jazz and classical musicians and dancers will serenade you from the sidewalk as you peruse the paintings, sculpture, photographs, prints and ceramics on display at the 34 exhibitions. Program guides for Art Newbury Street will be available at the information booth located at the corner of Dartmouth and Newbury Streets. Parking available. Call 267-7961 for information.

BOOKS



Tracy Kidder. Nonfiction master writer Kidder trains his insightful, eloquent sights on the elderly in his latest book, *Old Friends.* The author, above, who documents the stories and lives of the residents of a Northampton, Mass., nursing home in his Pulitzer-Prize winning, mesmerizing style, will discuss his work at a free lecture September 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the Brattle Theater as part of the WordsWorth Readings author series. Complimentary tickets must be acquired in advance. Feminist scholar and Harvard professor Carol Gilligan, above, and co-author Lyn Mikel Brown read from their book *Meeting at the Crossroads* on September 29. *Meeting at the Crossroads* examines women's psychology and girls' development. Call 354-5201 for information.

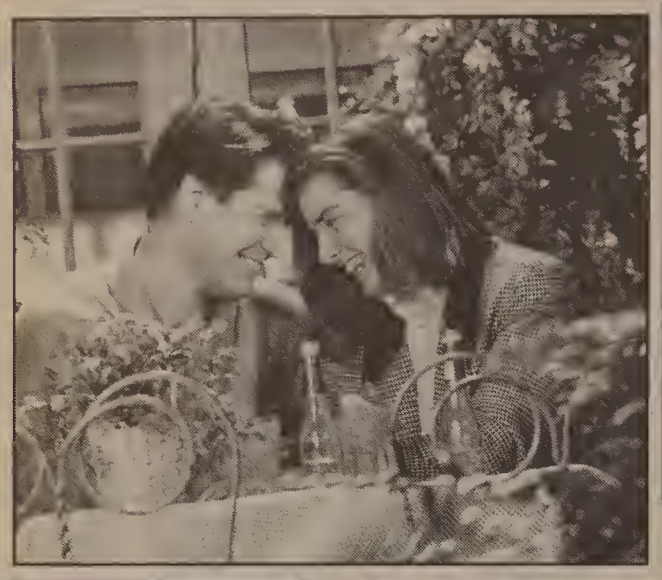


VIDEO



Fire in the Sky. Based on the true story of an Arizona logger whose abduction by a UFO is one of the best-documented claims of an alien encounter on record, the film features James Garner as an Arizona state investigator on the case. Also due for release are: *Children of the Corn II* and *National Lampoon's Loaded Weapon,* a spoof on *Lethal Weapon.*

Hiding Your Smile?

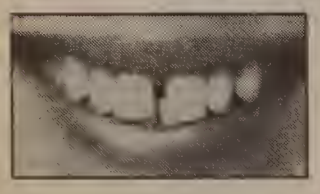


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HOT TICKET

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WEDNESDAY

15 If you were touched by **The Joy Luck Club** or **The Kitchen God's Wife**, both novels by Amy Tan, then you should check out two shows by the **Asian-American Theater Project**, *Living in Infamy* and *Unbinding Our Lives* at the Boston Center for the Arts through Sept. 26. Call 426-ARTS for details or check the *Improper*'s "Calendar."

THURSDAY

16 The highly touted **Cirque du Soleil** is scheduled to end Sunday, but there is a slight chance its show *Saltimbanco* may be extended until October. To be on the safe side, phone today for tickets! Call 426-0611.



FAREWELL SHOW: *Catch performance-artist Betsy Salkind's impression of Maggie Thatcher Sept, 17.*

FRIDAY

17 Performance artist **Betsy Salkind** does a *Farewell to Boston* show tonight and tomorrow night at 8 at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. After that, she's off to the Big Apple. Come find out about the Terrorist Bridesmaids (or Four Comediennes Determined To Get a Second Use Out of Those Dresses), and see her Margaret Thatcher impression (see photo). Tickets are $15; call 734-6600.

SATURDAY

18 Forget Foxwoods, it's so far away! Gamble away all your money for a good cause from 7-12 tonight at the New England Medical Center's fifth annual **Casino Night** to benefit leukemia and bone-marrow transplant research. Roulette, blackjack and craps are among the draw at this event at the Essex Sea Grill, 600 Atlantic Ave., Boston. Call 956-5144.

SUNDAY

19 Get in shape for a good cause by riding 10, 20 or 45 miles to benefit the Arthritis Foundation in the **Second Annual Suburban Classic Bike Tour.** The benefit, which requires participants to collect a minimum of $75 in pledges, features three routes beginning on Wells Avenue in Newton and wheeling through Weston, Wayland, Sudbury and Lincoln. Everyone gets a slice of Dominos Pizza at the finish line. Call 244-6050 for information.

MONDAY

20 The works of 29 sculptors are a natural site for art lovers' eyes at their new exhibition spot, the recently renovated **Larz Anderson Park**, located at 15 Newton St. in Brookline. **Sculpture Walk '93** was curated by the DeCordova's Sculpture Park curator and is on display through Nov. 8. The park is open sunrise to sunset. Call 566-0685 for information.

TUESDAY

21 What has long hair parted in the middle, bell bottoms and platform shoes? ***The Real Live Brady Bunch***, of course! Yes, it's true, the groovy Bradys kick off a run with a benefit to help the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts at the Charles Playhouse tonight. Indulge in all the '70s kitsch we couldn't get enough of the first time around. Call 426-6912 for details.

WEDNESDAY

22 The designing women — and men — of **DIFFA** (Design Industries Foundation for AIDS) create dazzling tablescapes and fantasy fashions and hairstyles at a swanky 1940s supper club benefit at the **Roxy** Chris Calloway sings cabaret classics at the gala event. Tickets $100 or $200. Call 261-0234 for information.

THURSDAY

23 Today is the last day to catch the **Ninth Annual Boston Film Festival** at Loews Copley Place, where you'll see some of the best up-and-coming independent films of the year. Call 333-FILM for titles.

FRIDAY

24 **Creature Features!** The Brattle Theater screens the original (1921) Dracula film, ***Nosferatu,*** today at 4:30 and 8 p.m. as well as ***The Company of Wolves,*** a cinematic re-telling of *Little Red Riding Hood* by **Neil Jordan (*The Crying Game*)**, at 6 and 9:20 p.m.



HERE'S THE STORY: *The Bradys have a family reunion and you're invited. Hang out with Greg, Marsha and the gang at the Charles Playhouse.*

SATURDAY

25 Police chiefs across Massachusetts lace up their running shoes today and race through 30 cities and towns to raise money for cancer research. The **Run for Jimmy**'s finish line is the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. To sponsor a police chief or for information, call 632-3300.



CHANTEUSE: *Chris Calloway, daughter of the legendary Cab Calloway, sings at DIFFA's L'Club Roxy: Celebration of the 1940s, a benefit for AIDS on Sept. 22 at 6 p.m.*

SUNDAY

26 A lazy Sunday like today is the perfect day to time-travel back to the Renaissance days of lords, ladies, knights and jousts at **King Richard's Faire.** Less than one hour from Boston, the fun is located in Carver, Mass. and is open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (508) 866-5391.

MONDAY

27 Fall is fast approaching, which means that the **Red Sox** are about to wrap up another season and the **Bruins** are about to start theirs. The Sox play Detroit at Fenway tonight at 7:30, and those hard-to-get Bruins tickets went on sale Sept. 7. What are you waiting for?

TUESDAY

28 Get a taste of New York in Boston! Tonight is opening night for the Tony Award-winning musical ***42nd Street*** at the Colonial Theatre. The show has a limited engagement and only runs through Oct. 10, so buy your tickets now. Call the theater's box office or 931-2787.

Bratton

The New Force Behind Boston's Police

By Christopher Francescani

Inside the Boston Police Department Headquarters, an extensive internal cleanup is taking place. Fresh coats of paint are being splashed over peeling walls; floors thick with generations of grime and muck are being buffed until they shimmer; a new air-conditioning system cools the sweltering halls and stairwells of the old building at 154 Berkeley St.

Supervising the spring cleaning is newly minted Commissioner William J. Bratton, the former No. 2 man recently promoted to the top post at the BPD. When Francis "Mickey" Roache resigned in June to run for mayor, then Superintendent-in-Chief Bratton must have let out a massive sigh of relief when he heard the news: He had attained a lifelong career goal.

Having rocketed through the ranks—at 34, he was the youngest ever to rise to second-in-command of the department—in 1982 Bratton was next in line for the commissioner's job, when he was demoted—according to local legend—after having made some improvident remarks about his ambitions. "My personal goal is to become commissioner," he had told *Boston Magazine* earlier that year. "Be it one year or four years, that's what I want."

Now, 23 years after he entered the Boston Police Academy, Commissioner Bratton is finally and unequivocally in a position to reinvent one of the most troubled public departments in the city.

◆ ◆ ◆

From all indications, Bratton seems capable of doing just that.

His resume is impeccable. The typically skeptical *New York Times* has heralded his hands-on leadership style. Wherever he works, he generates respect as a tough, intelligent and effective leader, gaining a reputation for excellence by pulling slipshod organizations back from the edge of collapse and redirecting them toward success. Only Bratton's ambition supersedes his abilities. His career in law enforcement is a testament to the concept of ambitious self-promotion, both of himself and of his department. There is no one who believes in Bill Bratton as much as Bill Bratton.

"I'm living proof that even in the most politicized worlds, that you can get ahead on ambition, talent, skill and knowing how to play the game in what I feel is an appropriate way by how you position yourself.

"I've never dropped a dime to any campaign. I've never kissed anyone's ass in this city or anywhere in this country. I'm good at what I do, but I have the satisfaction of sitting in this chair, knowing I earned it."



Tracy Aguiar

MORNING COFFEE: New Commissioner William Bratton scopes the news and the regulars at a favorite morning haunt, the Freedom Trail Coffee Shop.



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In typical Bratton style, his first move on June 30, 1993, was to embark on a whirlwind high-profile cop campaign: introducing newly marked cruisers, shiny badges and uniforms, a pricey Crime Scene van, and high-tech equipment, such as an electronic fingerprinter, to resurrect morale and jettison the department into the 1990s.

"I think I know cops," says Bratton. "I know what turns them on, know what motivates them, and I'm willing to take the hits from the Howie Carrs of the world for the uniforms, and the cars, and that type of stuff, because that's what motivates cops.

"You'll see a lot of new cars, a lot of new radios, new computers, because you've got to take care of the internal situation, and the happier those cops are, the better they're going to treat the public."

Some critics contend that what they see as merely a marketing campaign to make the new boss look good is peripheral to the real issues—such as the lack of a contract for more than three years, the entrenched political bureaucracy in the department, and the firestorm of drugs and violent crime sweeping through big cities across America.

However, advocates of the commissioner's plans see it as typical Bratton renovation: A rush of momentum within the department to ease it through the larger, often-difficult transformations Bratton believes are necessary to its growth.

"He identifies with the average police officer," says one cop who has worked under Bratton. "He gets out there himself, he talks to the officers one on one, and he finds out what their needs are—and he does that through all the different ranks...He addresses those needs so that they have the safest environment, so that they can protect the city."

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Installed in January of last year as superintendent-in- chief, the No. 2 position in the department, which he had held previously in the early 1980's under Commissioner Joseph Jordan, Bratton was viewed as the last hope of reviving an organization fairly drowning amid widespread contentions of misconduct and mismanagement.

Conditions were such that former Mayor Ray Flynn, prompted by an unflattering Globe series published in the spring of 1991, commissioned attorney James D. St. Clair of the law firm Hale & Dorr to investigate police professionalism at the BPD.

"I've never dropped a dime to any campaign. I've never kissed anyone's ass in this city or anywhere in this country. I'm good at what I do, but I have the satisfaction of sitting in this chair, knowing I earned it."

The St. Clair commission found that an absence of leadership and vision had resulted in "divisive 'turf wars' between different segments of the Department" and an inability to "implement new programs or effectively manage many existing [ones]." The report recommended that "a new Police Commissioner with vision and experience be appointed when Commissioner Roache's current term expires in April 1992." The report was submitted to the mayor in January 1992.

Two weeks after the release of the report, Bratton was brought in as the No. 2 man.

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"Community policing," largely a buzz word during the Roache administration, has been a part of Bratton's philosophy of policing since the early eighties, when he fought and won a lawsuit against the police unions to gain authority to split up existing patrols into one-man units. The move freed up several hundred officers who were redistributed throughout the department on mounted, motorcycle and foot patrols. Without spending a single tax dollar Bratton was able to increase demonstrably the Boston's police's presence in the public eye.

More than a decade later, Bratton continues to argue the case for more cops, calling for 300 more.

"I don't need those cops to knock the crime rate down. The crime rate is going down. I'm feeling pretty good about the climate, but I don't have the resources to address fear, and if I can't address fear ... would people in Boston feel any better? No."

"[Fear] is so amorphous. How do you corral a cloud? How do you corral fear and deal with it? One of the essentials to stabilize the situation is more cops."

Since the 1982 lawsuit, the police unions have accused Bratton of compromising their members' safety by splitting them into single-man units. The department responded by prioritizing 911 calls, sending "rapid response" two-man units to crimes in progress.

The president of the Police Patrolman's Association, Richard Bradley, opposed the plan, calling it "utopian." He points out that the BPD is perennially understaffed, and calls to 911 inevitably back up, forcing the department to send individual officers out to respond to potentially dangerous situations.

"Most of our officers who have been injured have been on one-man patrols," he maintains.

Bradley, head of the largest of the three police unions, constituting about 1,500 of the approximately 1,900 Boston police officers, says that while he and his fellow officers would like to stand behind their new commissioner, Bratton must first put his feet on the ground and get down to the real issues.

"Don't get me wrong," Bradley explains. "My people would like to get on board with him. We think he's got some good ideas."

Most crucial, according to Bradley, is the issue of a new contract. The Boston Police Department has gone without a contract for more than three years, pitting the ranks of Boston police officers against the new commissioner since he took office in June.

Referring to him as "an obstructionist," Bratton "really dropped the ball on [contract negotiations]," says Bradley.

While Bradley neglects to acknowledge that the police-department contract is negotiated with City Hall and not the commissioner, Bratton willingly concedes that "the [City] Hall will not do anything without my acquiescence in terms of working conditions. The money end of it the Hall controls completely, but working-conditions issues are things that I and my command staff will get involved with."

Asked if he expects an agreement to be reached in the coming months, Bratton replies, "I would be surprised if it isn't."

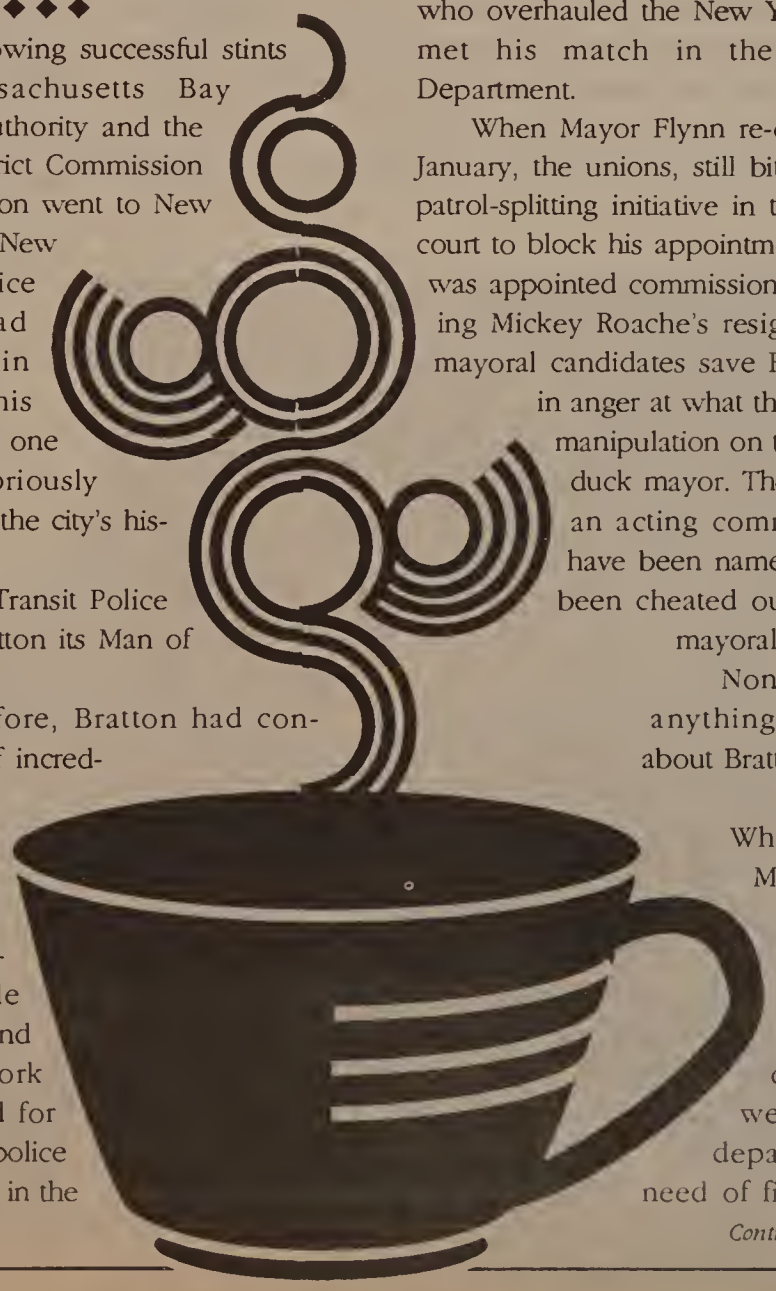
Not having a contract is costing Bratton, says Bradley. "I can't market his [neighborhood-policing] plan without a contract. [Bratton] hasn't got the support of 1500 officers. I know I do. Nothing can be done without their support, and he doesn't have it."

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In 1989, following successful stints with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and the Metropolitan District Commission police force, Bratton went to New York to head the New York Transit Police amid widespread skepticism within the ranks over his ability to manage one of the most notoriously troubled forces in the city's history.

In 1991, the Transit Police Union named Bratton its Man of the Year.

The year before, Bratton had convinced an array of incredulous NYC officials to let him arm his subway cops with Glock 9mm pistols, a significant upgrade from the six- round revolvers New York cops have carried for years. The transit police were the first force in the city, with the exception of special units, ever to carry the 9mms.



NYPD Lieutenant Detective Jack Maple explains, "It really became an uphill battle. The NYPD was not recommending it, the police commissioner at that time, Lee Brown, was against it, the deputy police commissioner at that time, Ray Kelly, was against it.

"Bratton had to build a case and show the advantages of the 9mm to not only City Hall, but to the MTA board and the Commissioner's Office, and he had to persevere in dealing with the editors of all the major newspapers. So, it was really dramatic that he was able to accomplish that."

On August 20 of this year, New York Police Commissioner Ray Kelly and Mayor David Dinkins announced that the New York Police Department would begin distributing the Glock 9mm pistols to its officers, replacing the standard 6 round revolvers.

Bratton's reputation for rehabilitative leadership has become nationally recognized. On August 12, 1993, President Clinton invited Bratton and a handful of other police executives to a Rose Garden unveiling of the president's new crime program, and Bratton's name has appeared on short lists for top-cop positions in major cities throughout the country.

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Back in Boston, some contend, the man who overhauled the New York Transit Police met his match in the Boston Police Department.

When Mayor Flynn re-called Bratton last January, the unions, still bitter over Bratton's patrol-splitting initiative in the '80s, fought in court to block his appointment. And when he was appointed commissioner in June following Mickey Roache's resignation, all of the mayoral candidates save Roache spoke out in anger at what they saw as political manipulation on the part of a lame-duck mayor. They contended that an acting commissioner should have been named, and felt they'd been cheated out of a significant mayoral appointment.

None, however, had anything critical to say about Bratton.

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While Acting Mayor Menino's recent attempts to block the passage of a hefty teacher's union contract does not bode well for a police department badly in need of financial looking-

Continued on following page

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after, Bratton says he has no favorite for the Mayor's race. He would "work well with any of them."

In each of his three previous efforts—the MBTA police, the Metropolitan District Commission force, and the New York City transit police—Bratton has received the money to implement his ambitious plans He now faces a tight budget and a winnowing pool of officers: Eighty to 100 cops, five percent, of the force have been retiring per year without replenishment for the last three years.

Bratton isn't worried. He will petition Washington for the money to buy more cops.

"The big bucks are in Washington. The state has only so much money to spend, the city has no money to spend ....The typical way Washington operates is: "We'll give Boston a grant to study youth violence, we'll give L.A. a grant to study .... What I'm going to be proposing to Boston is that I will offer the BPD as an experimental site to do everything, all at once.

"I'm offering Boston up as a big laboratory. Let's do everything in Boston."

While Bratton is widely considered to be the best man for the job here in Boston, his unabashed ambition has elicited skepticism throughout the department over whether or not the commissioner is committed to his position.

Where he will go from here, if anywhere, is anyone's guess, although sources watching Bratton closely seem to be winking and smiling, with one finger on their lips and another pointing toward City Hall, where an 11-year incumbency (read: power base) has recently been vacated with Ray Flynn's political passing-on to the "next world" of Vatican politics.

One officer reports that, "Everyone's wondering where Bratton is going to be hanging his hat next week. I don't even think he knows."

But Bratton dismisses any talk about his keeping his bags packed and his resume ready.

"(Staying on) is my intent," says Bratton, "I don't see anything at this time that would pull me away.

"This is going to happen."

Skepticism remains in this city, which has watched a half-dozen commissioners come and go in 20 years. "(Bratton) claims some people think that he can walk on water," notes a veteran officer. "We would like to see him do it. Providing the department with the reforms it needs and restoring morale would be equal to walking on water."

The messianic mantle has been placed on Bratton before. The successful reform of the BPD is the toughest job he has ever faced—do you believe in miracles?



Tracy Aguiler

Stage Notes / Nancy Leonard

Tune into Theatre

Downtown theaters take note of musicals this fall.



SOUTHERN STARS: *Ebony Jo-ann, Mona Wyatt and Melody Garrett star in* From the Mississippi Delta, *which opens at the Huntington Theatre Company September 15.*

Song and Dance

Musicals, old and new, kick off the downtown theater season this year: *42nd Street* returns to Boston September 28-October 10 at the Colonial Theatre. The Tony Award-winning musical *Falsettos*, by William Finn and James Lapine, plays October 12-31. The Wilbur re-lights October 1 with *Five Guys Named Moe*, a song-and-dance celebration featuring the music of jazz-great Louis Jordan. The musical runs through October 31. *Miss Saigon*, meanwhile, continues performances at the Wang Center until October 9.

Brady Bunch

The Real Life Brady Bunch, the staged presentation of the popular 1970s TV series with an all-adult cast, begins performances at the Charles Playhouse Thursday. A different television episode will be presented every other week. The rest of each evening is filled out with *The Real Live Game Show*, an original segment where contestants chosen from the audience compete for prizes.

ART Fall Schedule

The American Repertory Theatre's eclectic Fall Festival begins with *Time on Fire*, actor Evan Handler's monodrama about sickness, health and the medical establishment. *Time on Fire* runs through Sunday. Performance artist Karen Finley appears in her latest provocative work, *A Certain Level of Denial*, Monday and Tuesday. Eric Bogosian's revamped "Dog Show (Pounding Nails on the Floor With My Forehead)" plays September 22-26. Sandra Reaves and the All Star Jazz Band present *The Late Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz* September 28-October 9. This is her musical tribute to Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, Ethel Waters, Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington and Mahalia Jackson.

Boston Premiere

The Boston premiere of Dr. Endesha Ida Mae Holland's exuberant autobiographical play, *From the Mississippi Delta*, kicked off the season at the Huntington Theatre Company last week. Filled with the music, humor and rich language of the deep South, the work portrays one woman's personal triumph over poverty and oppression amid the turbulence and challenges of the Civil Rights era. Three actresses, Ebony Jo-Ann, Mona Wyatt and Melody Carrett, portray all the characters —black and white, Northern and Southern, male and female—across a 40-year period ending in the 1980s. Kenny Leon, artistic director of Atlanta's Alliance Theatre Company, directs. The play runs through October 10.

Family Dramas

The New Repertory Theatre in Newton Highlands is also beginning the season tomorrow with a play about an African-American family. Cheryl L. West's *Jar the Floor* is a tender, funny story of four generations preparing for their great-grandmother's 90th birthday. Amid the preparations and family bickering, they each learn about their expectations, aspirations and disappointments. The work, which runs through October 24, has already enjoyed successful productions in Chicago and Washington D.C.

Nora Theatre

In Cambridge, the Nora Theatre Company is presenting Michael Weller's *Spoils of War* through October 2. The play is set in post-World War II New York, where a teen-age boy dreams of reuniting with his parents but finds that their revolutionary idealism has given way to alienation and self-involvement. Daniel Gidron directs the six-person cast.

Trinity Repertory

The Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, R.I., is presenting the world premiere of *Mrs. Sedgewick's Head* as its season opener. This "dark and funny take on loyalty, betrayal and the movie business" is by company actor Tom Griffin (author of *The Boys Next Door*) and plays Friday through October 24.

New Horovitz Play

The second season at Sudbury's Chiswick Park Theatre begins with the Kander-Ebb dance musical *Chicago*, which plays through October 3. *Fighting Over Beverley*, Israel Horovitz's latest play in his Gloucester series, is on view at the Gloucester Stage Company through September 26. The title, by the way, refers to one of the characters, not the nearby North Shore town. ❑

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER



ART AND MONEY: *Twentysomething art student Andrew Berger jumped at the opportunity to make $100 a day as an extra on the set of* Blown Away.

Andrew Berger

Extra! Extra! Read all about him

BY NICOLE L. MILLS

Twenty-three-year-old Andrew Berger sits on a bench in 95-degree heat on the set of the movie *Blown Away*, where he is working as an extra. He looks out from under the beginnings of the dreadlocks he is twisting on his head, and says, "I'm fearless at making changes."

Three years ago, Berger, who was at that time a social-psychology/political-science major in the first semester of his senior year at the University of Rochester, had a revelation. He was not going to go to law school, as he had lightly assumed throughout his college career. He was going to be an artist. Was this merely a responsibility-avoidance maneuver typical of a member of the X Generation? Another "Gee, Mom and Dad, I don't want a solid, money-making career—I want to go find myself and do something artistic and interesting?"

Berger smiles at the thought that his early-life crisis was motivated by the drifting purposelessness that seems to overcome so many twentysomethings. His decision took many months to make, but was all the more firm for its having taken so much deliberation. "I always knew that I wanted to do this, but I didn't let myself know that I knew," he says. He moved to Boston and enrolled in the Museum School, an experience that was "... like Candyland; you got to play with everything, touch everything, use all the tools."

Berger turns out his prodigious works in various styles and media. He creates everything from huge, computer-graphics-produced canvases to small, intricate woodcuts and bold acrylic and collage works. He is currently showing at the Framery in Cambridge, and several local galleries, including the North End's Gallery Absinthe, are also interested in his work.

Berger doesn't see himself making another drastic life change any time soon. Art has become his life, and this is definitely how he wants it. But life is a twisting stream, and he doesn't want to burn any bridges or close any doors along the way. Despite his commitment to his art, Berger says, "How I want to live my life is like how I found the movie. I was walking down the street to feed the meter for my car, and this guy said, 'How'd you like to make $100 a day?' I said 'Sure,' and here I am."

A Few Good Girls

Moved by hip-hop

BY MEGAN GILMARTIN

James Brown may hold the title as the hardest-working man in show business, but Boston's own hip-hop dance troupe, A Few Good Girls, is closing in right behind him. These four sisters of Alpha Chi Funk, Sherry Michelsen, Kristen Burke, Andrea Salerno and Alyssa Perry, have been performing together for less than seven months and already have earned a reputation as being a unique, versatile and hard-working troupe.

"The group has definitely taken off in the short amount of time we've been together," says the group's manager/dancer Sherry Michelson. "I think it's because people get excited when they watch us; it's like going to Disney World." Assistant manger/dancer Kristen Burke adds, "We all have so much energy on stage that people can't help but watch us and get into it."

Warming up in meat lockers and performing on surfaces that are soaked with beer or riddled with rock fragments isn't exactly what one would expect from dancers who have been formally trained in ballet and modern dance. But, as the Girls explain, it's all part of the sacrifice you make when you're dancing on the cutting edge. While they all acknowledge and appreciate their classical roots, they can't help but touch on that certain quality that draws them to a funkier beat.

"I love ballet, but it's old," explains one as the others Girls nod their heads in agreement. "Hip-hop is more of a primal dance."

Searching for the time to pump out fresh choreography while they try to hold down full-time day jobs and college careers is the biggest obstacle the Girls must overcome. Also difficult is creating exciting, original new works and at the same time tightening their old pieces. According to dancers/choreographers Andrea and Alyssa Perry, one of their techniques is to incorporate simple, everyday gestures and churn them into movements that are unique to the group.

"I see choreography everywhere," explains Salerno, "I walk down the street and I see someone scratch their ear and it's in my next piece."

The Girls are all self-described perfectionists. So much so that they insisted on training with the Army National Guard to prepare for their opening number, which involves a military rifle drill.

"We all want our performance to be very tight and clean," Salerno says. "We'll stop a rehearsal to ask if it's open-hand or closed," adds Michelsen.

The Girls are not limited to live performances. They can also be seen funking their way through the halls of Massachusetts public schools on a videotape that teaches young students how a bill becomes a law. "We're really proud of each other and our accomplishments," Michelsen says.

Adds Salerno, "We are so fortunate to be able to do what we love. This group makes my life!"



TROUPERS: *The members of dance troupe A Few Good Girls were trained classically but prefer the "primal" nature of hip-hop. "I love ballet, but it's old," says one of the Girls.*

FLICKS IN A FLASH

Highlights of the Ninth Annual BOSTON FILM FESTIVAL *by John Hall*

This year's Boston Film Festival, running from September 13-23 and now in its ninth year, has captured a number of new films by some of the most respected directors working outside of mainstream Hollywood. For the Bostonian attuned to the independent and foreign-film scene, many of these names recall some of the best films of the last few years: Mike Leigh, Stephen Frears, Diane Kurys, Abel Ferrara, Krzysztof Kieslowski, Nancy Savoca and David Cronenberg.

The festival offers a nice mix of American and international films, with some works by promising new directors such as Richard Linklater, Victor Nunez and Jay Craven. For the second year, the festival includes a laudable sidebar of eight films addressing human rights issues worldwide that are distributed by the Human Rights Watch organization. Several directors and actors are expected to make appearances.

Only two significant caveats prevent this festival from being one that Bostonians can truly enjoy: first, the quality of the festival entries continues, as in years past, to be highly variable, with amateurish dreck filling out much of the schedule; second, there is the usual dearth of female directors represented in the festival (three out of 44 directors.) The festival committee could do better on both counts.

While many of the films by the above-mentioned directors had not been screened by press-time, expectations run high. Mike Leigh, surely a great director of actors, brings his latest film, *Naked*, to Boston after winning awards for directing and best actor (David Thewlis) at Cannes. Another winner at Cannes, Chen Kaige's *Farewell to My Concubine*, which shared the Palme d'Or, will be making an appearance.

Stephen Frears, after a disappointing excursion to Hollywood with *Hero*, returns to his roots with *The Snapper*, an adaptation of Roddy Doyle's (*The Commitments*) novel about an Irish family disrupted by their pregnant daughter's refusal to name the father of her child. Cronenberg brings his creepy-yet-humane sensibility to David Henry Hwang's adaptation of his acclaimed play *M. Butterfly*, a Ripley's Believe-It-or-Not story if there ever was one. The still-hot Jeremy Irons is cast against John Lone. Another well-known horror-/schlock-meister, Abel Ferrara, will be showing his re-make of a re-make, *Body Snatchers*—this time set on a military base.

Look for a decidedly more feminine sensibility in new films by Nancy Savoca and Diane Kurys. Savoca's *Household Saints* drops in on three generations of Italian-American women trying to live together in post-war Little Italy. *Love After Love* (*Apres L'Amour*), Kurys's latest, follows the love life of a female novelist, played by Isabelle Huppert. Also promising from the female perspective is *Blue*, directed by Kieslowski, starring Juliette Binoche as a woman trying to pull her life together after losing her husband and child in an accident.Finally, the festival will be the scene of Robert De Niro's directorial debut, *A Bronx Tale*. Going with what he knows best. De Niro plays the father of a 9-year-old boy attracted to the lifestyle of the neighborhood mobster.Following are the pick of the litter of films screened to date:

Dazed and Confused

Richard Linklater, director

Perhaps this year's funniest bit of nostalgia, this ode to the '70s is an irrefutable argument that that decade was the nadir of fashion. Linklater, director of the microbudget cult-hit *Slacker*, takes his Generation X sensibility and relocates it to 1976, probing the endless search for beer, bongs and sex among the new seniors and incoming freshmen of a mid-America high school. It may not be as good as the two films it most closely resembles—*American Graffiti* and *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*—but it fills their generation gap nicely. A must for '70s hard-rock aficionados.

Living Proof: HIV and the Pursuit of Happiness

Kermit Cole, director

Living Proof documents the lives of the cheery HIV-positive people captured in Carolyn Jones's extraordinary black-and-white photographs, which counter the usual AIDS image of doom and gloom. The film attempts to put a happy face on those living full lives despite HIV, and it is somewhat convincing, at least for these individuals. The array of "victims"—gays, heterosexuals, mothers, fathers, children, Boy Scouts, policemen, the homeless, the wealthy —again shows how AIDS does not discriminate. *Living Proof* is a bit long and redundant at 70 minutes.

Ruby in Paradise

Victor Nunez, director

A big winner at Sundance, this rather slight film captures the ennui of off-season life in a Florida beach town like few other films. Ruby (the beautiful Ashley Judd) is a rudderless twentysomething, seeking both questions and answers as she bumbles along on her own as a clerk in a souvenir shop. Over the course of the very leisurely paced film, she learns a few things about her ambitions and needs; for example, she could do without the men she meets. Nunez shows that some male directors can capture the female sensibility.

Where the Rivers Flow North

Jay Craven, director

An excellent adaptation of Howard Frank Mosher's novella about a cantankerous Vermont logger, Noel Lord (Rip Torn), who refuses to sell out to the power company that wants to build a dam on his land. In his directorial feature debut, Jay Craven has made an independent film that captures the stunning autumnal beauty of Vermont's woods and the depth of Mosher's intriguing characters (Torn is particularly good).

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

A Failed Romance

"... It thinks it's better than what it spoofs and believes that the glory and coolness of all its cultural and film references will rub off on it..."

There's a moment in *True Romance* that best captures the movie's spirit: Patricia Arquette picks up the top of the toilet tank and slams it over her attacker's head. In a just world, someone would do the same to the makers of this movie.

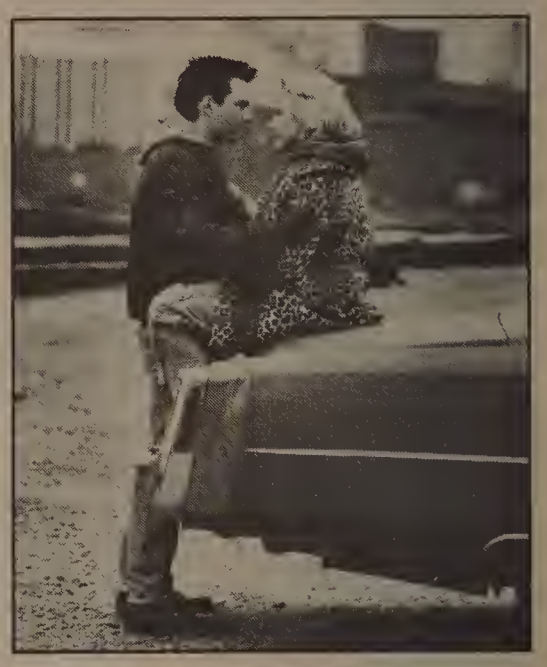
Loner Clarence (Christian Slater) and inexperienced call girl Alabama (Arquette) meet, discover they both love Elvis and kung fu movies, and marry. Alabama giggles, wiggles, and bounces in her tight pants and off-the-shoulder blouses. Clarence talks fast and acts like a heat-seeking missile. Alabama thinks Clarence is soooo cool. They make out a lot. After a bloody run-in with Alabama's pimp, the pair flees with a suitcase full of cocaine in the trunk of their purple Cadillac. They arrive in L.A. with plans to make a big score. The Mob and the LAPD have their own plans.

There is nothing fresh or cool about these two *Badlands* rip-offs. But what really makes you want to grab the toilet lid and start swinging is the movie's relentless, gut-wrenching violence combined with its smart-ass, we-are-soooo-cool attitude.

It must have seemed like a sure thing: a script by Quentin Tarantino that follows in the footsteps of his critically acclaimed film *Reservoir Dogs* and takes macho posturing and violence to its logical, absurd conclusion and a powerhouse cast that includes masters-of-the-lunatic-fringe Christopher Walken, Dennis Hopper and Gary Oldman. But director Tony Scott and Tarantino don't know when to quit.

Reservoir Dogs worked because of its tightness and deadpan delivery, which kept the staginess and the impact of the outrageous violence in check. *True Romance*, however, is a mess. It's loud, sloppy and pretentious. It thinks it's better than what it spoofs and believes that the glory and coolness of all its cultural and film references will rub off on it. Scott and Tarantino try to sell you on the idea of reverse coolness: Clarence and Alabama's marrying, becoming a nuclear family, and living happily ever after is so uncool, it's cool.

The toilet, genital and puke jokes fall in this category, as well. The first time we meet Clarence's friend, Dick, he's sitting on the john yelling for toilet paper. His name, of course, is an inspiration for many clever jokes. And what's funnier than a wimp puking on himself after a wild roller-coaster ride?



LOVERS ON THE RUN: *Christian Slater and Patricia Arquette star in* True Romance.

Among the worst scenes is a poorly executed showdown between Slater and Gary Oldman. As the music throbs, Oldman hams it up as a scar-faced pimp with dreadlocks. O for the good old days when Oldman's excesses—banging his head against a brick wall in *Sid and Nancy*—conveyed genuine emotion.

Another baffling confrontation involves Dennis Hopper as Clarence's good-guy, working-class dad, and Christopher Walken as a counsel to the Mob. Hopper somehow manages to maintain his dignity while goading Walken with bizarre racist taunts. The soundtrack and the insults swell and peak. Hopper to Walken: "You're part eggplant!" Walker to Hopper: "You're part cantaloupe!" Perhaps the scene is meant to show the absurdity of racism and how racism and violence are inextricably linked to eating fruits and vegetables while listening to classical music. Or, maybe, Hopper's character is nuts after all.

What's most infuriating about *True Romance* is that, for a moment, it makes you wonder if art that depicts violence—verbal, emotional or physical—is worth the price. If Scorsese never made *Mean Streets* or David Mamet never wrote *American Buffalo* or *Glengarry Glen Ross*, maybe we wouldn't have to deal with so many tough guys with New York accents shouting "FAWK YOU!" "NO, FAWK YOU, YOU FAWK!" at each other.

What to do with *True Romance*? Just flush. ❑

IF YOU GO

True Romance

★

Directed by: Tony Scott
Written by: Quentin Taratino
Playing at: Loews Theaters

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

REVISIONISM ON THE RANGE

"...Politically correct agenda saddles female western..."

What kept Clint Eastwood's *The Unforgiven* from being a really good movie was probably what landed the film its Best Picture Academy Award: the unforgivably heavy-handed revisionism of the script. Speech after speech from traditional westerns were rewritten in the most cynical, anti-western way, and Eastwood's old-fashioned, tight-lipped, hard-butted *Man With No Name* became the feeble, candy-assed "Man Who Falls Off His Horse." About half-a-dozen times, Clint!

Again, the revisionism is excruciatingly self-conscious in Maggie Greenwald's *The Ballad of Little Jo*, which informs the audience in dozens of self-congratulatory ways that it's a *woman* this time who is riding the range, a *woman* who is coming to the rescue of stranded immigrants, a *woman* who is rifling bad men dead, and then, being a *woman* , crying over the loss of human life!

Also, there's a too-timely 1990s cross-dressing theme, *Orlando* in the Montana badlands, as nice girl Jo Monaghan (Suzy Amis) protects her virtue in cowpoke trousers. Finally, there is a too-obvious hint of *The Crying Game*, when the townsfolk, sure they've been talkin' to a fella all these years, pull off Jo's clothes and discover... OOPS, that scene is a secret!

And yet, *The Ballad of Little Jo*, for all its annoyances, is a pretty slick, entertaining little picture. Director Greenwald sticks with her story, for 120 minutes, and pulls it off. Suzy Amis, interestingly cast as Jo, walks a fine androgynous line between young Katharine Hepburn (schoolmarm, New England frame) and dirty old Mick Jagger (midnight-rambler lips). Bo Hopkins, acting veteran of rough Sam Peckinpah movies such as *The Wild Bunch*, practically steals the movie as Little Jo's blithely racist and red-neck neighbor.

Finally, there is a genuinely touching romance between Jo and her Chinese helper, Tinman (David Chung). A really nice cross-cultural love story.

Just enough good stuff to keep an audience from grumbling, "Where the hell is John Wayne?"

P.S. For those interested in films about women in the West, a few videos are worth investigating:

- *The Ballad of Cable Hogue* (1970), a sublime romance between ex-whore Stella Stevens and prospector Jason Robards Jr., in Sam Peckinpah's gentlest western.
- *Annie Oakley* (1935), in which Barbara Stanwyck's sharpshooter marries non-sexist Pat Butler (Preston Sturges), who agrees, happily, to give up his own shooting and manage her career.
- *Duel in the Sun* (1946), ending in an immortal love-hate shoot-out in the desert between lovers Jennifer Jones and Gregory Peck.
- *Johnny Guitar* (1954), an all-woman gun battle between bad Mercedes McCambridge and good Joan Crawford.

IF YOU GO

THE BALLAD OF LITTLE JO

DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY: *Maggie Greenwald*
PLAYING AT: Loews Theaters

TOKYO DECADENCE

DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY: *Ryu Murakami*
PLAYING AT: Museum of Fine Art Sept. 15 - 19



WESTERN WOMAN: *Jo, played by Suzy Amis, right, and Hollander, played by Rene Auberjonois, relax in a kinder, gentler Old West.*

SKIN FLICK AT MFA

To this day, nice polite people are embarrassed to admit any interest in pornographic films. Suckers for pseudo-porn with lofty pretensions, they race to see X-rated movies that they can claim, if caught in the theater, are allegedly "Art."

I predict great crowds at the MFA for *Tokyo Decadence*, something to slip into at the end of a healthy day with Monet and Manet. Will anyone then admit what a bogus film this is, a straining-to-be-sensitive tale of a young Tokyo prostitute (Miho Nikaido) brought down, down, down by her degrading sadomasochistic trade?

There is only one reason to see this movie: skin. Well, there's not enough of that, and not enough on screen sex. Only one scene, a seemingly genuine encounter between a real dominatrix and her client, has any kind of erotic tension. As for the poor hooker, she's whiny and unhappy in the first scene and stays whiny and unhappy throughout. She should quit whoring and find a more "honorable" profession. Like filmmaking. ❑

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY

★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
Free Willy	★★★	★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
The Firm	★★	★★	★	★	★★★	★	★★
In the Line of Fire	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Fugitive	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Manhattan Murder Mystery	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★		★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★
Rising Sun	★★★	★★★	★	★	★	★★★	★★
Hard Target	★★	★★	★★★	★	★★	★★★	★★
Secret Garden	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★		★★★

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Life's Funny Lessons

". . . The Godfather of Boston Comedy finds humor in personal experiences . . ."

Adorned in biker garb and a T- shirt that states "It's wrong but I do it anyway," "Dirty" Dick Doherty, as he is infamously called, begins his freewheeling comedy shows by "dissing everybody," hitting on such controversial subjects as child molestation and invalids. Who is this man with the striking panache and biting repartee? None other than Dick Doherty, owner of five successful local comedy clubs, whose advertising logos boast "30 Years of Leadership and Experience in New England Comedy."

Doherty's illustrious career has taken him on a whirlwind tour around the nation and through time: from happy-hour folk singing in the early '60s, to rock-n-roll with his band, the Majority, in the mid '60s, to headlining performances at New York's renowned Copa Cabana in the '70s. Doherty's music gave him the opportunity to present his comedic talents to "rooms across the country prior to the advent of the 'comedy club.'"

At the peak of his aggressive career, he owned a successful nightclub on the Cape, recorded several albums and was offered the chance to appear on national television. Ironically, Doherty describes how the same aggressiveness that made him great also left him with feelings of inadequacy that he ineffectively tried to medicate with drugs and alcohol. He realized, however, "that the drugs were like cheating: they never created anything that wasn't there inside me already."

After years of rehabilitation and rebuilding in the '80s, Doherty realized that "how you feel about yourself is not based on what you have achieved. We all have choices—some are victims of their choices; others are masters. There is no evidence that getting what you want makes you happy and that not getting what you want makes you unhappy."

These words echo the resilient nature evident in Doherty's pursuit "to do what can't be done" purely for the challenge and the fun of it, rather than for the money or fame.

He proved that he could do what others felt couldn't be done. He opened at Boston's Comedy Vault in 1987, and headlined in 1990 at the Improv in Atlantic City. Soon after Doherty's return to both the New England and the national comedy scene, he became an operating partner in a "new improvisation franchise slated for Boston" with his old friend Budd Friedman, owner of the Improvisation Comedy Club chain. The subsequent impact of Doherty's clubs on the local scene was so great, that he quickly became known as the Godfather of Boston Comedy.

He performs, he says, because he likes his audience, not because he needs them to like him. "By not walking on eggshells when speaking to my audience about taboo topics, I establish that I am not repulsed by the limitations of others, but rather enjoy the presence of everyone. I tease the audience but only to make them feel special, not to belittle them."

Perhaps this is why his comedy is so successful; he celebrates the fact that we all see things differently. "I'm here to be me—not the audience's judge; when they realize this, they have a little more permission to be themselves.



GO AHEAD, TOUCH IT: *"Dirty" Dick Doherty "teases the audience ... to make them feel special."*

"If the audience has had a hard day, it's my job to get them out of their bad mood. I want to party with them. I do the best I can with the tools I have." These "tools" have made him "rich for a second time," he adds, explaining that making money is easy. Right now, he's more concerned with deciding where he wants to be. Doherty hopes to act and direct in the future, and plans to develop a variety-show concept for clubs and theaters that combines magic, vaudeville and comedy.

Life for Doherty is not about good or bad, but about character and passion, his tools for living. "The world apologizes for passion. I have no fear of death, only the fear of being alive and not living. I'm getting younger, not older, and I'm having a ball because I now know it's OK to be me."

❑



Clubs and Showtimes

Catch a Rising Star at the Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton St., Boston, 426-3737. This legendary comedy club has a new location, but has not changed in bringing top rate performers to Boston. Located in the Charles Playhouse, it's Boston's oldest remaining home of standup comedy. Every Mon. thru Wed.: Live music from regional bands. Every Thurs. at 8:30 p.m.: The Comedy Lab. Every Sun. at 7:30 p.m.: Comedy Underground. Admission $8-$12.
Thurs. 9/16- The Comedy Lab. Fri. 9/17 & Sat. 9/18- Tom Gilmore and Billy Martin with TBA. Sun. 9/19- "Men of Boston." Thurs. 9/23, Fri. 9/24, & Sat. 9/25- The Comedy Lab. Sun. 9/26- "Unconventional Acts" with Jim McCue.

The Comedy Connection at Faneuil Hall
248-9700. Voted "Best Comedy Club in the Country" by USA Today, it showcases national and local comedy 7 nights a week. The only club in Boston that offers reserved seating. Their beautiful showroom has no obstructed views and there is no waiting outside in the cold. Located in the heart of Boston's historic Faneuil Hall. There is $3 validated parking and no service fee for charging tickets. Every Sun at 9:15: Black Comedy Showcase. Call for times and ticket prices.
Wed. 9/15- Maria Falzone, Dave Fitzgerald. Thurs. 9/16- Frank Santos. Fri. 9/17 & Sat. 9/18- Stephanie Hodge. Sun. 9/19- Dave Fitzgerald, Chris Zito, Jimmy Smith. Mon. 9/20- Kevin Knox, Steve Hurley. Tues. 9/21- DJ Hazard, Steve Hurley. Wed. 9/22- Jimmy Smith, Steve Hurley. Thurs. 9/23- Jeff Dunham, Frank Santos. Fri. 9/24- Jeff Dunham. Sat. 9/25- Kevin Knox, Chance Langton. Sun. 9/26- Jim Lauletta, Billy Martin. Mon. 9/27- Kevin Knox, Jackie Flynn. Tues. 9/28- DJ Hazard, Jackie Flynn.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Hut at Aku Aku
149 Alewife Brook Pkwy., N. Cambridge, 491-2422. Loosen your belt, sit back and get ready to howl at this comedy club, showcasing local talent. Show times: Fri. at 9p.m., Sat. at 8p.m. & 10:30p.m. Admission $8. Always packed and second hand smoky.
Fri. 9/17 & Sat. 9/18- Bob Seibel. Fri. 9/24 & Sat. 9/25- Charlie Daly.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault at Remington's
124 Boylston St., Boston, 267-6626. This club which showcases local talent is now also the location of Boston's only non-smoking comedy club. Show times: Fri. at 9 p.m. & Sat. at 9 & 11 p.m. Admission $8-$10.
Fri. 9/17, 9/24 & Sat. 9/18, 9/25 Steve Dacrl's Comedy Magic show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston, 482-0930. A Boston comedy tradition, stop by Nick's to see local favorites and national headliners. Rated #1 Comedy Club in Boston Globe Reader's Poll, Nick's is one of the towns more popular comedy locales. Call for times and ticket prices. Box office: 1-800-441-JOKE.
Wed. 9/15- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Nardizi. Thurs. 9/16- Paul D'Angelo, Chance Langton. Fri. 9/17 & Sat. 9/18- Don Gavin, Paul Nardizi, Steve Sweeney. Mon. 9/20- Billy Martin. Tues. 2/21- Kevin Knox. Wed. 9/22- Vinnie Favorito, Paul Nardizi. Thurs. 9/23- Paul D'Angelo, Johnny Pizzi, Eddie Brill. Fri. 9/24- Jay Charboneau, Tom Hayes, Eddie Brlll. Sat. 9/25- "Bobcat" Goldthwait, Tony V., Paul Nardizi. Mon. 9/27- Billy Martin. Tues. 9/28- Kevin Knox.

Stitches,
835 Beacon St., Boston, 424-6995.
Stitches is closed for renovations.

Something Useful. (Maybe.) / Anthony Tedesco

Body of Knowledge

A guide to the actions and expressions that speak louder than words

The meaning of some gestures are obvious: you pass a car on the right at 80 mph, swerve dangerously back into the left lane; the driver catches up with you and flips you his middle finger. Right away, you know what he's trying to say: "You're No. 1!" Likewise, the driver is completely attuned to your textbook body-language response, thanking him for the compliment (a nod of your head), and consoling him with your opinion that although he's not quite No. 1, you're pretty darn sure he's a close No. 2 (the extension of the middle fingers on both of your hands).

Not all motor-skill parlance is this self-explanatory, however. Some statements manifest themselves via subtle shifts of posture or physical intonation. Interpreting first-date nuances is one of the more opportune applications of body-language cues. Is your would-be cupid coyly aloof, earnestly disinterested or so sick of your spiel that he or she is ready to crack you in the head? Important distinctions to decipher.

Here's your body-to-English translator, a quick-reference guide, courtesy of doctor and author Doe Lang through *Ladies Home Journal*.

- **Crossed arms** has always been the omen for "keep away," but context is everything, according to Dr. Lang. If you're doing your opening-conversation, standup routine for someone who is vehemently jutting crossed arms and elbows at you, then perhaps he or she is on the defensive. On the other hand, if someone who seems detached from the scene has his or her arms crossed, there's a good chance that he or she is merely apprehensive about jumping into a conversation. That's your cue to saunter toward the bar and break the ice with one of your stellar opening lines.
- **Licking lips, fidgeting, averting eyes** all indicate nervousness with the situation at hand. If you *are* the situation at hand, don't fret—once again, context is everything, according to Dr. Lang, who gets paid big bucks to keep repeating the same answer. Unless you're interrogating your jittery counterpart, his or her nervousness could be founded in the pressure of trying make a good first impression. Licking lips can indicate a wishful anticipation of a kiss.
- **Jutting the chin out, trying to stand taller, taking deep breaths** all indicate that he or she is probably not interested. In fact, the chin's jutting out says "Not only am I not interested, but you're making me awfully defensive, which could lead to some serious bodily harm for you.'

One should also be attuned to one's own body language. Here are some cues to common monologues.

- **Hunched shoulders** indicate fear, discouragement or a heavy burden, often in the form of actual bricks stacked on your shoulders ("That explains it!").
- **Biting your nails, biting your lip**, or gnawing on yourself in general is a sure sign of self-reproach—this is an angry action, a lashing back at your perception of frequent criticism. Stop doing it; it's not fair to you. Biting someone else is fair to you.
- **Fake smiles,** aside from being one of the most annoying, patronizing expressions, are relatively simple to spot: a smile etched for an awkwardly long time or a smile that doesn't involve the muscles around the eyes, is fake. And annoying and patronizing.

With a decent understanding of body language, recognizing a lie is easy. One way to tell if someone is fibbing is to smack him or her around until his or her body opens his or her mouth and says "I'm lying! I'm lying! Stop smacking me around!" This can be fun (until you're arrested) and is a lot more effective than saying "Look me in the eye and say that," because, according to a University of Virginia study cited in *Young and Modern* (Was I reading *Young and Modern*?), liars are just as likely to give you eye contact as someone who is telling the truth. The only sure-fire method is to sneak a peak at his or her pupils: research shows that whenever a person lies, his or her pupils dilate. ❑


Photo of J.F.K. © Mark Shaw, 1963. Photo of J.F.K. Jr. © Paul Pilcher, 1992

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Iceland is surrounded by endless miles of seething ocean. It is pummeled by Arctic winds and perilous storms. Its latitude and longitude converge in as desolate a place as any on the planet. And while no one can say for certain what could have possessed the Vikings to come to this place we call Iceland over a hundred centuries ago, we do know what they found once they got here.

The Vikings braved 50-foot seas, gale winds and sea monsters to discover our water. Surely you can manage a trip to the corner market.

A valley. A mountain. And a spring surging up from a place deep beneath the surface of the earth. Forcing its way upward, through ice, solidified layers of lava, and rock. Until, finally, it burst through into the sunlight. A water of such improbable purity, there are those among us who, even now, fervently believe that it surely must have sprung up from the very gods themselves.



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No other spring water, after all, comes from a place so completely and utterly removed from the compromising influences of civilization. To put it mildly, Iceland is as far off the beaten path as any place on earth.

As a result, our Akva spring water is remarkably soft. Clear. Without so much as a trace of sodium or other impurities. We hope you will try Akva.

You will find that it's available now on the shelves of your favorite corner market or delicatessen.

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ALL THAT SPARKLES

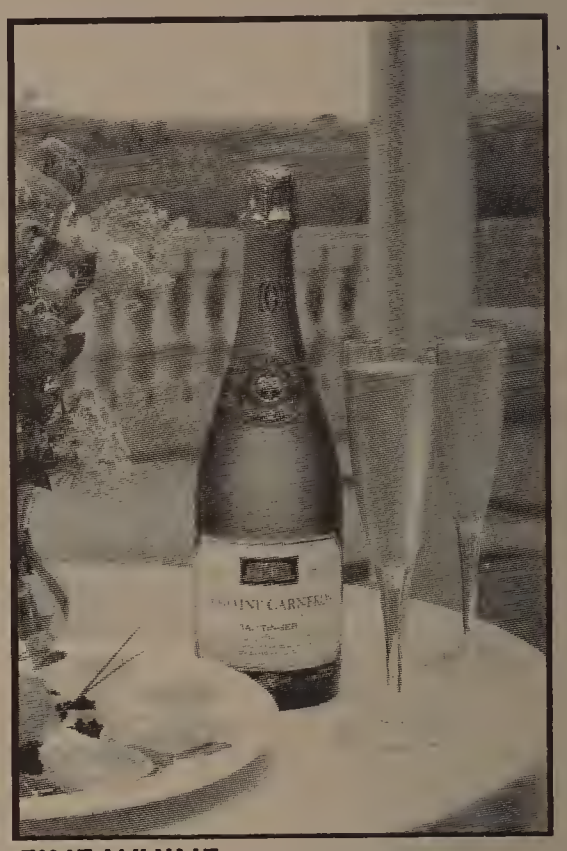
"Americans associate the name 'Champagne' with either cheap, sugary, anonymous fizz or flashy displays of excesss; in either case, we are far from anything the public considers fine wine."

As a nation, America has long consumed such legendary quantities of carbonated soft drinks that one might logically expect the fine-wine drinkers among us to show a marked preference for the bubbly. Instead, sparkling wine as a category is vastly neglected and misunderstood here. Although many of our European cousins regularly enjoy sparklers with food, we avoid them except on "special occasions" where more attention seems focused on the loud pop than on the subtleties of aroma and flavor.

The wines have an image problem stemming partly from widespread confusion over what is and what is not champagne. First and foremost, the name denotes a geographic region in the cool northeast of France where chardonnay and two red grapes, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier, struggle each season barely to ripen. The term also describes the rigorous , time-consuming and costly process employed to introduce bubbles in a wine by inducing a second fermentation inside the bottle. This method originated in the Champagne district but is now adhered to by virtually all of the world's best sparkling-wine producers. The word "Champagne" should therefore indicate that a wine was made by a time-honored practice in the Champagne region where the grapes compromising it were grown. Many domestic companies, however, "borrow" the prestigious name and, to the consternation of the French, use it as a generic term to label wines they make by the much-inferior bulk process called the Charmat method. These "Champagnes" appear on a retail shelves for as little as 3 or 4 dollars.

The genuine article is expensive for a variety of reasons , including the cost of growing grapes so far north, the labor-ntensive production requirements, and the amount of time (four years on average) even the most basic non-vintage blends must age before public release. Outside of holiday-season-selling promotions, a top Champagne rarely sells for less that $20 — $25 to $30 is the usual range. The greatest Champagnes, produced in the finest vintages from vineyard-selected grapes and then aged for six years or longer, can cost three times this amount. Wonderful as these can be, they are often treated as status symbols and consumed uncritically, without regard for the very qualities that justify their expense . People learn to associate the name "Champagne" with either cheap, sugary, anonymous fizz or flashy displays of excesss; in either case, we are far from anything the public considers "fine wine."

Heavy taxation on sparkling wines places another roadblock to wider appreciation. Since lawmakers regard any wine with bubbles as a luxury item, the rate imposed is three times higher that that of table wines. The tax is a flat regressive levy on gallonage, so — especially in the case of the least expensive sparklers— it contributes more to the final cost than the liquid in the bottle.



FINE WHINE: *Our European cousins drink Champagne with lunch, whereas we avoid them except for special occasions. Why?*

Despite these limitations, the wide diversity of sparkling wines currently available and the versatility of styles and flavors they represent offer open-minded consumers a wonderful opportunity. Because it is easy to overlook, the most important thing to remember in evaluating sparklers is that the bubbles are only one component. The best are smooth and creamy in texture, with persistent streams of pinpoint bubbles. The worst taste coarse and aggressive with harsh, rasping flavors.

The quality of any sparkler is only as good as that of the "base wine" that produces it and contributes most to its character. Depending on the grape varieties and where and how they are grown, fine sparkling wines can range from light, floral, elegant, and crop in nature (German Riesling Sekt) to rich, smoky and vaguely berry-like (Californian or Australian Bland de Noir). Those that age the longest generally show the most subtlety and finesse, with aromas of grilled bread and vanilla, with a pure lingering finish. As with all wine, the proper balance of fruit flavor and acidity is crucial. And there is one final requirement:: whatever their other traits, sparklers should, above all, be refreshing. In other words, Champagne is exactly the type of wine to serve with so much of today's food. ❑

Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

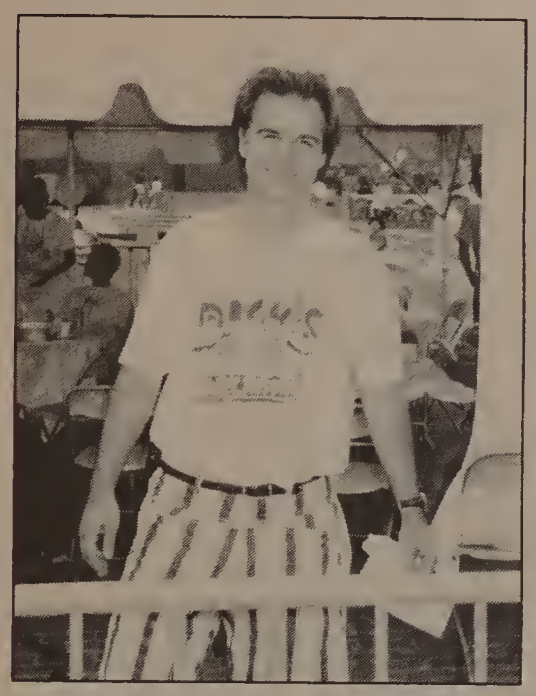
APPETEASERS

A novel look at *cucina Italiana*

La Buona Cucina

Our friend and colleague **Lotte Mendolsohn** has recently written a wonderful new cookbook, ***Italian Regional Cookery: A Culinary Travelogue.*** When Lotte moved to the Boston area after many years in Mexico, she met **Bea Lazzaro** whose years of experience and love of *buona cucina* led to a collaborative effort on Italian cooking. Many of the recipes come from Bea's professional experience in the kitchen, as well as those learned from her mother and grandmother.

The book starts with a discussion of the courses of the Italian table and continues with a practical section on how to stock a proper Italian pantry and how to make pasta. The remaining chapters tour all the regions of Italy, offering history and recipes along with a listing of the wine and cheeses native to each region. Interviews (*chiacchierate*) are placed throughout the book and provide interesting insight into the lives of many Italian-American immigrants who came to New England. The book is available at local bookstores.



PRIME OPPORTUNITY: *Bob Reinke, General Manager of* Dick's Last Resort, *soon to open in the new Prudential Center Mall, ribs the candidates as a judge for the Great Yankee Rib Cook-off last week.*

Boston Brew

Boston Beer Company is celebrating the renovation and expansion of its brewery on Germania Street in Jamaica Plain with an **Octoberfest** celebration on Saturday, September 18. The site will be rededicated as the **Boston Beer Museum** with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon, immediately followed by a party that lasts until 5p.m. that will benefit the **Spinazzolla Foundation**. Admission to the event is $5.

Food from local restaurants and live music will be offered as well as clowns and face-painters for the kids. Visitors will also have the opportunity to dunk brewer **Jim Koch** into a tank of Samuel Adams. Free transportation to and from the brewery is available with shuttles picking up and dropping off at **Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Bull and Finch Pub, Whiskey's** restaurant, and the **Coolidge Corner Clubhouse**. For more information or directions call the brewery at 522-6661.

Also brewing is an autumn brewery dinner Wednesday, September 15, at **John Harvard's Brew House** in Cambridge. The dinner features hors d'oeuvres and a four-course meal; each course is accompanied by a lager or ale. The price is $25 per person, including gratuities. Call 868-3585 for reservations.

Table talk, Italian-style

Maurizio and Linda Loddo recently opened **Maurizio's Ristorante Italiano** at 364 Hanover Street in the North End. The restaurant's bone-white walls and colorful abstract paintings exude a more sophisticated New York atmosphere than the average Italian eatery. **Icarus** will present, **Tastes of Tuscany,** a gala five-course wine dinner that will salute Tuscan wines. The dinner will be held Tuesday, September 21, and is $55 per person. Across the river in Cambridge, **Jodi Adams** is introducing a new dinner menu at **Michela's** that features the flavors of Naples and the Campania region of Italy. And finally, the owner of one of our favorite Italian restaurants, **Trattoria Il Panino**, will soon open a new establishment, **Ristorante Il Panino** at 295 Franklin Street near the Financial District. The five-story building will house a casual restaurant, serving bistro fare and brick-oven pizza, a fine-dining Italian restaurant, and a two-level nightclub with a dance floor. This will be the hottest opening since Armani Express came to Newbury Street.

The Greenhouse Effect

What does one do with the pots of rosemary, thyme and other culinary herbs now that winter is on the way? Don't send your plants into the snow because an interesting new product, **Gro-Window,** provides them a home throughout the year. Gro-Window creates a small greenhouse out of a storm window, is easy to install and costs around $130. It is available from **Green Bay-New England Garden Products**, 247-6282, and from **F. Diehl & Sons**, 235-1530.

Fine wine and dine

For the serious wine lover, the **Leukemia Society of America** hosts a benefit aboard the cruise ship **Odyssey** on Sunday, September 19. A four-course dinner cruise is on the itinerary, along with wine tastings led by **Burton Anderson**, author of ***The Wine Atlas of Italy***, and **Josh Wesson**, co-author of ***Red Wine With Fish***. **John Boyajian** of **Boyajian Caviar** will also host a caviar tasting accompanied by Veuve Clicquot champagne. **Olives** will supply the food. The cruise will be followed by a fine-wine auction (how about a '55 Latour?) in the **Wharf Room** of the **Boston Harbor Hotel**. Tickets range up to $175 per person, depending upon which tastings are attended. Call (800) 688-6572 for reservations. ❑



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"The best value in Italian food."
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207 Endicott St.
North End, Boston 617-523-5959

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DAVIO'S
202 Washington St., Brookline - 738-4810

Restaurant Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A Steak In The Neighborhood

39 Dalton St., Boston. In the Sheraton Hotel and Towers. 262-1822.

Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve it up in a relaxed style, set it to music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'til1a.m.daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer or a 12 oz, New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

Akbar India Restaurant

1248 Cambridge St. Cambridge 497-6548.

Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting, 7 days/week, 12 p.m.-11 p.m. Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including Thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music (no cover) Thursday through Saturday nights. Akbar also oifers a full bar. If you're in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available on premises.

Bennett St. Cafe

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.

We invite you to visit Bennett St. Cafe to try our brand new exciting and delicious menu. Chef Peter Davis, formerly of The Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills CA has just arrived at The Charles Hotel. He has created a totally new menu, including new Rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit the casual outdoor patio area for drinks and dinner, plus try our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made-to-order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are!

Blue Wave

142 Berkeley Street, Boston, 424-6711

The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative "West Coast" style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:30 and is one of Boston's best.

Bob the Chef's

604 Columbus Ave., Bos., 536-6204.

Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's Restaurant is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy Fall Off the Bone Bar-B-Qued Spareribs, Chicken and Dumplings, or Soul Chitterlings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7.00 to $9.00 and include a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies. Hours are Sunday through Thursday 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 8 a.m. -11.p.m.

Cafe Rubino

266 Newbury Street, Boston. 247-2080

No credit cards accepted.

At Cafe Rubino, Newbury Street's only pasta bar, there is something for everyone. A favorite is the New Orleans Italian sandwich, the *muffelatta,* as well as authentic pasta dishes. Stop in for morning coffee or afternoon espresso, and try the delicious cakes and tortes. Take out available. Hours are Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Canestaro Pizzeria

16 Peterborough At., Bos., 266-8997

Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so stop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer thirty different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. If you don't feel like going out to dinner, just call Canestaro Pizzeria for free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

Cityside At The Circle

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.

The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining available weather permitting

Cornucopia on the Wharf

100 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-0300.

New American / New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are always spectacular here - Cornucopia won the coveted Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for Tastiest Dessert; Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar in Boston". Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served on Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised.

The Daily Catch Restaurants

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.

215 Elm St. Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.

261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093. 441a Harvard St., Nr. Coolidge Corner, 734-5696.

This original 20-year-old Sicilian Style Seafood & Pasta Restaurant is best known for its specialty in classic calamari. Dine here and you will see for yourself why Bostonians and tourists alike are "washing up" to "The Catch." The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989

Davio's

269 Newbury St. 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810. 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.

Davio's in Boston captures the true flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal, and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, while the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

Green Briar Restaurant

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.

Brighton's best Irish restaurant. Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads, burgers, etc. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. Also try our new exciting brunch every Sunday 10-2:30. All of this enjoyed in our casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Call for details.

Grendel's Restaurant and Bar

Major credit cards accepted.

89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160

Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

The Harp at the Garden

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010.

Words that come to mind when you dine at the Harp include variety, affordability, and great taste! Boneless Buffalo Wings, Grilled Chicken Caesar and Cobb Salads, Boston's Biggest & Best Burgers, Irish Beef Stew, Fish & Chips, Corned Beef & Cabbage and gourmet specials that will "knock your socks off!" Summer 2-for-1 dinners served Sat. -Wed: two people enjoy dinner, dessert, and beverage for only $16.95! Sunday Brunch features Traditional Irish Breakfast. Serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Entertainment Wed.-Sun. Reservations accepted for parties of 6 or more. Casual dress. North Station stop on the Green line.

Icarus

3 Appleton Street, Boston. 426-1790

Major credit cards accepted.

Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including best restaurant from *The Improper Bostonian.* Chef/owner Chris Douglass' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include

Polenta with Braised Exotic Mushrooms, Grilled Shrimp with Mango and Jalapeño Sorbet, Juniper and Pepper Crusted Venison, and a Wellfleet Littleneck Clam Roast with Tomatoes, Basil, and Zucchini. A sumptuous list of homemade desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level dining room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly and Sunday brunch. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Mon.-Sat. Reservations recommended.

Jose's Mexican Food

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, (off Rindge Ave. in the Fresh Pond area.) 354-0335.

For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into their super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible. Lunch specials 11am - 4pm M-F, Sat. 12pm-4pm. Dinner M-Th 4pm-10pm, Fri. & Sat. 4pm-11pm, Sun 4pm-9pm.

The Last Hurrah! Bar and Grill

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street Bos. 227-8600.

This popular turn of the century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston Creme Pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Noon -5 p.m. Sat. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Mon- Sat. and 2-11 p.m. Sun. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

Lucia Ristorante

415 Hanover St., North End, Bos., 367-5915

Since 1877 Ristorante Lucia has followed a basic philosophy– to present authentic Cucina Italian as well as innovative dishes with a pledge towards freshness & quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere and offers true European service. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Mon. thru Thur., 4pm to 11pm, Fri. & Sat., 11:30am to 11:30pm, Sun., 1pm to 11pm.

Mamma Maria

3 North Sq. North End, Boston, 523-0077

Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code

If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 People's Choice Award for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's Best of the Best, offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a superb menu which includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu and fresh bread, baked daily. And whatever you do, be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Hours: 7 nights/week M.-Th. 5:30-10 p.m.; F.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana

207 Endicott St., Bos., 523-5959

You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the Chicken Florentina - chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Full liquor. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Mon.-Sat., 11a.m.-10p.m. Very close to North station trolley stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront

85 Atlantic Ave., Bos., 367-6425

Step into Michael's Waterfront to check out what's new from under the sea. We've added to our menu Blackened Tuna with Curried shrimp and Jicama Slaw, Seared Salmon with Dalmation Bean cakes and Native Crab, Grilled Lobster with Seafood Summer relish, Wild Mushroom Raviolis with Shrimp, Pancetta, Roasted Peppers and Garlic Olive Oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in The Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended.

Mineo Ristorante

69 Prince St., North End, Boston, 248-8814

$7.95-14.50, cash only

This restaurant will take you back to Southern Italy with its cooking style. If you're looking for the right mixture of contemporary and traditional Italian cuisine you found it. Mineo offers you outstanding portions of food such as the Mussels Marinara: mussels in a tasty marinara sauce served over linguini. The Rigatoni Alla Donna is a perfect pasta dish with eggplant and dry ricotta cheese in a plum tomato sauce. Last is the Veal Milanese: Veal cutlet pan-fried and topped with fresh arugula and balsamic vinegar. Mineo is located in the heart of Boston's North End. So come enjoy a different dining experience in Italian cooking. Open Mon.-Thurs., 4p.m.-11p.m., Fri.,-Sun., 11a.m.-11p.m. No dress code, validated parking.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049

Relax, dine and socialize in this authentic pub atmosphere. Newly opened on lower Beacon Street, O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Dinner hours: Sun.-Wed. 5-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904

This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This authentic establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbecue is the name of the game here, they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 7 days a week.

Rubino Caffe

226 Newbury St., Bos., 247-2080

Caffe Rubino were there is something for everyone. Specializing in authentic Italian food caffe style. The menu includes 8 different pasta dishes daily., 8 grande sandwiches, including New Orleans Italian favorite 'MuffeLatta.' Caffe Rubino also offers a wide variety of salads and Sicilian pizza. Stop in and enjoy an expresso or cappuccino. If you don't feel like cooking—stop in on your way home and pick up dinner to go. Call ahead for large orders.

Mon & Tues, 8am-10pm, Wed-Sat, 8am-11pm, Sun, 10am-8pm.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel

Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston, 523-3600

Major credit cards accepted.

Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials like Duckling with Sesame and Ginger, Grilled Atlantic Salmon with Finnan Haddie Creamed Leeks, and Peppered New York Sirloin with Stuffed Potato and Roasted Vidalia Onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday thru Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656

Spasso is Italian for fun - in Boston, it also means great food. We've captured the flavor and excitement of Italy and brought it fresh to you. Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. So join us for lunch, brunch or dinner under the stars at Spasso!

Strombolli's

187 North Street Newton, 630-0002

12 Green Street, Woburn, 935-0070

Are you longing for contemporary Italian cuisine with a warm, friendly atmosphere? If so, Strombolli's meets all of your dining requirements. This casually upscale restaurant offers a variety of the most delicious brick-oven pizza as well as sumptuously fresh, homemade pasta. Their tender chicken calabrese with broccoli, simmered in wine sauce, is just one of the exquisite dishes available 7 days a week, in both of their locations. You can also call them for delivery and enjoy their meals in the comfort of your own home. Use their gourmet catering service for your next f· ction!

Taj Mahal at Kenmore

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266. All major credit cards accepted.

Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as Chicken Tandoori and Thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection of South Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon , served from 12-3p.m. , is for you at just $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights/week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar

290 Congress St., 423-6166

Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best including fresh seafood, poultry, veal and pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to individual order, and one of the best hamburgers in town. The Sunday brunch buffet offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

Dining Review / Ed and Ruth Feldman

Colombian Comfort Food

Homey and authentic, eat at Deleitese and feel like you're at *casa*

Yes, there is a reason to venture over to East Boston other than catching the next commuter flight from Logan. Deleitese Restaurante is a new storefront, mom-and-pop operation serving some of the best authentic *comidas Colombianas*. Deleitese was recommended by a homesick Colombian and was everything he promised: not fancy but very good traditional Colombian fare.

Since we stopped by for lunch early in the week, not all of the selections were available. Nevertheless, we enjoyed a hearty sampling of their specialties. We began with *empanadas de carne* ($1.00) a sizable, fried, hand-formed creation filled with potatoes, beef and vegetables. This was served with a crock of tasty *salsa verde*, which we used on other dishes as well. The *arepa con quesito* ($2.70), a thick, handmade corn tortilla served with a pat of sweet butter and a chunk of (farmer-like) cheese, was delicious and almost could have been a satisfying dessert.



The plastic-looking photos of the entrees on the menu did not do justice to what was ahead. The *plato típico* ($9.00) is a generous array of well-seasoned pink beans, a rice timbale topped with a fried egg, fried plantain and a thick slab of bacon cooked to a nicely rendered crispness. An accompanying wooden board was brimming with marinated grilled beef, salad, avocado and a cornmeal type of biscuit. Everything was seasoned delicately and cooked to perfection—a massive amount of Colombian comfort food.

A second entree, the tamale ($5.00), was ordered as a true barometer of quality South American food. After a short wait, a massive tamale was delivered, freshly made, steaming and wrapped in a banana leaf. The consistency of the masa dough is delightfully light and yet hearty enough to hold its shape and surround all of the filling, which consisted of mixed vegetables, potato, cassava and a braised pork rib.

To help wash it all down, we enjoyed Columbiana, a carbonated beverage which reminded us of the no-longer-available Fanta Red Cream soda. Other beverages available are a variety of local and exotic fruit juices and shakes.

This relatively new storefront restaurant seats only 20, but with its framed travel posters and paraphernalia from Colombia, in addition to the gentle ethnic music in the background, Deleitese is sure to be packed often. The atmosphere is homey and authentic, so be prepared for a worthy cultural immersion.

Travel tip: Exit the Blue line at Maverick Station and walk 4 blocks. Deleitese is on the right side of the rotary (Central Square). If traveling by car, exit the tunnel and take the local-street exit. ❑

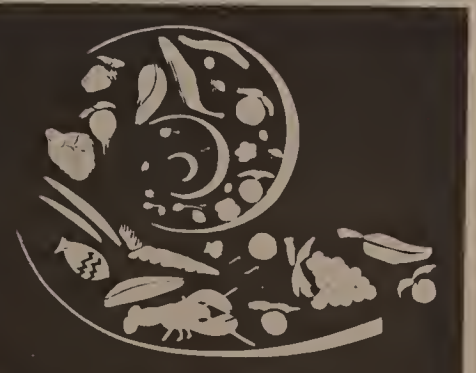
IF YOU GO

Deleitese Restaurante

12Central Square
East Boston
569-4114

Alisan Arnett, Bastan Globe

"...the food can take your breath away ...inventive, sensuous and just plain delicious."



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–Robert Levey, *The Boston Globe*

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3 APPLETON STREET
BOSTON 426-1790

BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705. Menu items and Buffet prices subject to change.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave.
Allston-Boston, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include Chile Poblano Relleno, Roast Chicken Enchiladas, Fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band.
Brunch Sun 12-3p.m.

THE BAY TOWER ROOM
33rd Floor- 60 State Street- Boston, 723-1666
This great restaurant has an unsurpassed, breath-taking view of the Waterfront and Boston Harbor. The Bay Tower's new chef Raoul Jean-Richard will delight the senses with a buffet of salads, raw bar, terrine cheeses, and fruits. Diners receive a complimentary flute of Moet and Chandon. You then decide between 12 sumptuous entrees to be served at your table. Delightfully tempting desserts include tiramisu, creme caramel, Black Forest kirsch cake, and crepes filled with your desired ingredients.
$32 per person/$16 for children under 12
10:30 to 2:00 Sundays, reservations recommended. Major credit cards welcome. Garage pkg $4 at 60 State St.

BELLO MONDO
236-5800, C-6
Enjoy a lavish Sun. brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sun 10::30-2 p.m.

CACTUS CLUB
939 Boylston St., Bos., 236-0200
Stop in Sunday morning from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and try our homemade pecan corn waffles with pineapple butter, huevos ahogados ("drowned eggs" - poached eggs with a smoky tomato sauce, melted cheese with black-eyed peas and flour tortillas), fresh fruit tacos topped with toasted almonds and cinnamon, or create your own omelette. Reservations suggested.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional eggs benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225
1815 Mass. Ave., Camb., 661-7440
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

ICARUS
3 Appleton Street, Boston. 426-1790.
Major credit cards accepted.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates,; hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

SPASSO ITALIA
160 Commonwealth Ave., Bos., 536-8656
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like eggs benedict done the "Spasso" way.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., 423-6166
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About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

A Hair-Raising Experience at Perry's

"...I had to turn down the best offer I'd had that night, because how the hell was I going to get home from Quincy the next morning?.."

The bigger the hair, the closer to God. If this is true, then Perry's is surely filled with saints, because baby, there is some big ol' hair to be found at this Faneuil Hall bar/club/meat rack. And you thought that big hair went out with Debbie Gibson's last concert. Shame on you! If you have a yearning to see reminders that the '80s created a middle-class fashion statement that brought us such treasures as acid-washed jeans, fringe, and lace-trimmed bobby socks worn with high heels, head over to Perry's. Please. Every bar has its own character, its own type of clientele, its own, shall we say, milieu. Perry's seems to have carefully culled its patrons from south suburban Boston (as someone once referred to it, the "Irish Riviera." Oh, dear me, how **un**-politically correct!).

IF YOU GO

Perry's Saloon

199 State Street
367-1297
Last Call: 2:00 a.m.

Saturday night. There's a line out the door. Monosyllabic, no-necked bouncers are checking IDs (why bother, pray tell, when half the people they let in here are obviously just emerging from the ravages of puberty?), a fight is brewing on the street outside (there's always a fight brewing outside), and last-minute applications of hair spray are destroying yet another piece of the ozone layer.

Once inside, the upstairs bar beckons, mostly because it's right in front of you. It's a good idea to load up at the upstairs bar where you at least have a fighting chance of attracting the bartender's attention, and you can still remember why you thought coming here might be amusing. After a few bevies, you should be primed to head downstairs into the pit, uh, excuse me, the dance floor. It's a jungle down there, and only the strong survive. The music is right off of WJMN 94.5's top-10 play list, and groups of girls are dancing in circles around piles of pocketbooks on the floor while guys with Southie haircuts and baggy pants cruise by, offering tempting pick-up lines. In the dark corners off the dance floor, couples are locked together like Chinese puzzles, and if you look closely, I think you can see "This space for rent" signs on anybody who is not specifically attached to someone yet. If you can't get laid at Perry's, then you should simply move to Antarctica and explore the joys of oneness. This is not to say that you necessarily will **want** to get lucky here, but, should you have the inclination, the opportunity is sure to present itself.

Someone is almost always dramatically ill in the vicinity of the bathrooms—whether from the copious alcohol intake Perry's seems to provoke or from the aerosol fumes, it's difficult to tell for sure. While I was in the Ladies' Room, I tried to bribe someone into giving me a lesson on how to make my hair achieve that gravity-defying height, but I just couldn't get the hang of it. I felt so left out with my hair clinging so persistently to my skull, that I almost wanted to leave, but with my usual fortitude, I ordered another shot of Jaegermeister and toughed it out.

Seemingly in the blink of an eye, somewhere between my second and fourth shots, the lights started coming on. I had to turn down the best offer I'd had that night, because how the hell was I going to get home from Quincy the next morning, and settle for one of the Italian sausages thoughtfully provided outside for everyone whose taste buds have been heavily sedated. I need a little recovery space before I head back to Perry's, but at least it will give me time to practice on my hair. ❑

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Sept. 19	Silver Spears (Traditional Irish Music)
Sept. 20	SAM ADAMS Promo
Sept. 22	Tim Crandall
Sept. 23	Bruce Jacques & the Invisible Band
Sept. 24	Tim Crandall & the N.S.Connection
Sept. 25	Toad House

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Kinvara Pub

On the Allston/Brighton Line

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Sept. 16	Jack McCoy & Karaoke/Dance
Sept. 17	Broadcast
Sept. 18	Swinging Johnsons
Sept. 19	Coopla & D.J.Tom
Sept. 20	Luck O'the Draw
Sept. 21	Free Jukebox
Sept. 22	The Grinning Lizards
Sept. 23	Jack McCoy & Karaoke/Dance
Sept. 24	Poco Loco
Sept. 25	Da Mud Hens
Sept. 26	Donegal Corderoy & D.J.Tom
Sept. 27	Luck O'the Draw
Sept. 28	Free Jukebox

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
617-783-9400

Brighton's Best Irish Pub

The Green Briar

Sept. 15	Karaoke Finals
Sept. 16	The Lime Rockets
Sept. 17	Da Mud Hens
Sept. 18	Standing Hamptons
Sept. 19.	D.J. Ed
Sept. 20	Irish Sessiun
Sept. 22	Karaoke
Sept. 23	Fat City
Sept. 24	The Swinging Johnsons
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Sept. 26	James Gate & D.J. Ed
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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Cactus Club
236-0200, 939 Boylston St., Bos, Get sautéed, jelloed and bit with their firewater menu, including Aztec Tea (dark rum, lemonade and cranberry juice), Coyote Killer (light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Boa Constrictor (Malibu rum, white rum, banana liquor and fruit juice). Of course, you could always have a tangerine, raspberry, mango, strawberry or traditional margarita, and the daring can go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Full menu available at bar.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe
227-9660, 300 Faneuil Hall Mkt., Bos, In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Live music nightly during outdoor cafe season. Casual atmosphere and dress.

The Rowes Wharf Bar, Boston Harbor Hotel
439-3995. 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." *The Improper Bostonian*. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Also, lunch is served from 11:30am to 4pm.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Featuring Karaoke, comedy great music and more! When looking for a fun night out, don't miss the Mystery Café Dinner Theater. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Café Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m..

Dancing

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar
277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your dad-daugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "HI" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
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If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2am and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

RARE-ING TO GO

"...It's not surprising that Swinging Steaks would end up promoting its national debut in an odd way: by flat-bed truck..."

Swinging Steaks is an odd-enough name that many record labels balked at signing the Boston group by that moniker. "If everybody says, 'You got to change it,' nothing makes you hang onto it harder that that," observes bassist-singer Paul Kochanski.

So perhaps it's not surprising that Swinging Steaks would end up promoting its national debut in an odd way: by flat-bed truck.

In five days surrounding the Sept. 14 release of *Southside of the Sky* (Capricorn), the group will play 11 shows, most from atop a parked truck.

"I don't know where the idea originated, but it was something we had definitely thought about for years," Kochanski says, "the idea of going around on a guerrilla tour, on the back of a flatbed truck, just setting up and playing."

"This isn't quite so guerrilla," he admits. "It's more structured and organized — and legal, actually."

Among stops on the Swinging Steaks tour will be the U-Mass/Boston campus at noon today, the Hard Rock Cafe (indoors) at 9 p.m. tonight, Boston University's George Sherman Union at noon tomorrow, HMV Superstore in Harvard Square at noon Friday and Strawberries Records in Kenmore Square Saturday, at a time still to be announced.

"In Boston, I think more people have heard of us than have actually heard us," Kochanski says. "It's kind of a way to introduce ourselves to people at little or no risk."

There is little risk that people will not like the Steaks' smooth, rootsy sound, which has pleased fans of both rock and country.

"We're perceived around here as a country band, but we're not really a country band," says the bassist, who co-founded the Steaks with singer-guitarist Jamie Walker." It became real obvious when we went over the Mason-Dixon line."

That's where Swinging Steaks went for a record deal, signing with the Nashville-based Capricorn, which has been reborn with a diverse roster — after long carrying a Southern-rock reputation from being the '70s label of the Allman Brothers and Marshall Tucker Bands.

The Steaks' album was produced by Gary Katz, known for his work with Steely Dan. "You can't say there's really a Gary Katz sound," Kochanski contends. "It's just the sound of a band playing. That's what we went for."



ROADSIDE TOUR: *The Swinging Steaks' schedule includes 11 shows from a parked truck.*

Katz helped mix the Steaks' 1992 independent CD "Suicide at the Wishing Well" as part of a used-sound-equipment swap with a friend of the band. He was so taken with the Steaks that he signed them to a production deal and helped the group land its record deal.

Now things look brighter for the Steaks than they did for the Drive, an early '80s group fronted by Walker and Kochanski, which, oddly enough, played mainstream pop. In 1989, the two began playing acoustically with guitarist Tim Giovanniello and keyboardist Jim Gambino, before drummer Joe Donnelly (Del Fuegos) solidified the Steaks line-up.

"It was just 'Let's do this and have fun. We're not making any money anyway,'" Kochanski says.

That could change with the widespread release of songs like "Beg, Steal or Borrow" and ballad "Circlin,'" a previous WBOS hit aimed at AAA, which stands for adult alternative airplay. Then again, you could settle for a roadside assist from the flat-bed Steaks.

Elsewhere: In addition to Rod Stewart's Great Woods dates Sept. 18-19, consider the again-odd but great pairing of smooth Marc Cohn and feisty Melissa Ferrick at the Paradise Sept. 18. ❑

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

BOYS, BOMBS AND BITONALITY

An introduction to composer Benjamin Britten (part II)

Our modern notions of political correctness contort and topple when faced with a figure like Benjamin Britten, one of our century's greatest composers of choral and operatic music. While it's easy to applaud the late Britten for his outspoken commitment to pacifism and plurality, his penchant for young boys leaves, as it were, a bad taste in the mouth. We find ourselves at a loss. He was a paradoxical figure, called both "child-like" and "Satanic"; but several recent explorations on disc and in print somewhat clear the ambiguities.

Humphrey Carpenter's new biography of Britten (Charles Scribner's Sons, $30, 677 pp. with photographs) sketches the lineaments of Britten's life in lucid detail: his early rise to fame, his pacifistic self-exile in America during the Second World War, his lifelong romance with principal-tenor Peter Pears, and, finally, his quite Olympian creation of the Aldeburgh Festival.

While Carpenter's biography marvelously details every aspect of Britten's life, public and private, the author obviously believes that Britten's sexuality lies at the root of much of his music. This, needless to say, makes for very lively reading. Carpenter regards Britten's music as a struggle between poles of innocence and corruption. His analysis stresses these biographical connections at the expense of purely musical considerations.

The musical analysis may be idiosyncratic, but the biographical information is invariably absorbing and informative. Carpenter's treatment of Britten's homosexuality is frank but never grimy—he works largely through innuendo when dealing with the boys (as Britten seems to have done himself). And there are any number of delightful cameos: Britten, Auden, Pears and Thomas Mann's son, Golo, dancing up and down curtains and hot-water pipes in their Brooklyn apartment; Britten spending Christmas Day playing "Happy Families" with Shostakovich; and Britten scribbling for Rostropovich a brief cantata for tenor, soprano and cow. On the whole, a delightful biography in the modern psychoanalytical vein—it makes one want to hear to the music.

The obvious recommendation for those interested in sampling Britten's pacifistic works would be Richard Hickox's cinematic recording of the *War Requiem* , paired with the orchestral *Sinfonia da Requiem* and the *Ballad of Heroes* (released last year, Chandos 8983/4). These pieces portray war, not simply as a waste of life, but as a grotesque absurdity. The sardonic battle scene scherzo in the *Sinfonia*, for example, ends not with a clean classical flourish, but with a series of repulsive gasps and convulsions that only later are transformed into something noble.

Most of Britten's pacifist works have this gritty, fragmented feel to them. London Records, which offers many of the composer's recordings, has just released *Owen Wingrave* (London 433 200-2), a gripping adaptation of a Henry James ghost story in which a militant young pacifist defies his family and flees an army career. He is subsequently done in by the baleful family specter. As in the celebrated *War Requiem*, the message is grim: Aggressive drives may be repellent, but they're inextricably bound with human nature, and so can only be expunged in death.

Britten felt similarly uneasy about his sexual drives. His first substantial opera, *Peter Grimes*, depicts an unstable fisherman accused of murdering his boy-apprentices. Once again, the central character, dolefully conscious of his own aggression and perversion, opts for a release in death. Bernard Haitink's recording, just released (EMI 7 54832-2), adequately conveys that bleak-and-hounded sense of despair; but Britten's own recording, with Peter Pears in the title role, catches the flux of innocence and brutality more keenly.

Britten's characters, innocent and appalled in the face of their own brutal yearnings, may have sought escape; the composer himself, however, faced his drives through his music. His greatest works have a heroic frankness, exploring themes still vitally relevant: prejudice, ostracism and peace. The apparent contradictions in Britten's character shouldn't frighten us away. On the contrary, they're what make his work so valuable. ❑

THE CALENDAR

Compiled by Kathy Matheson

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

DANCE

Ballroom Dance Week
Various locations
No, this is not a joke; this is your U.S. Congress at work. Sept. 10-19 has been declared National Ballroom Dance Week, and there are 11 different events you can attend to get into the swing of things (pun very, very much intended): lessons, performances, films, lectures, etc. And it's all FREE. Call 491-7153.

Boston Ballet
at the Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for the BB's 30th season, which begins with a production of *Sleeping Beauty* from Oct. 21 to Nov. 7. Call 695-6950 for times and prices.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston
Mobius presents several dance/performance artists in the upcoming weeks. Nancy Adams presents *Bringing Home the Bacon & Other Labors of Love* Sept. 16-18 at 8 p.m. Marilyn Arsem and friends present *Dreams (breathe/don't breathe) of Home* and *The Beginning or the End* Sept. 23-25 at 8 p.m. Call 542-7416 for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHY

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln
Noted landscape photographer Frank Gohlke captures the uneasy relationship between modern society and the environment with *Living Water: Photographs of the Sudbury River.* This stunning series of large-format color photos will be on display through Nov. 28.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
The PRC hosts the New England Biennial, a juried exhibition of area photographers on view until Oct. 17. Nineteen artists are featured, and their work covers topics from racism to high-school proms. Call 353-0700.

Smart Resumes
338 Newbury St., Boston
Although we're not sure about the gallery's name, the exhibit sure does look enticing. Smart Resumés presents a photography show called *Bodily Desire & Interior Visions* through Oct. 29. Parts of the human body are juxtaposed against other natural elements, making second and third glances a necessity if you're trying to figure out what's going on and what it means.

TOURS

Boston Helicopter Company
Hanscom Field, Bedford
Imagine a perfect aerial view of metro Boston, including Fenway Park, Cambridge, MIT, BU, Harvard, Northeastern, Bunker Hill monument and the Charles River, while you circle overhead. Bring your camera and capture the beauty of New England in a one-of-a-kind adventure: a helicopter tour. Call 274-1230.

Art and Architecture Tours of the BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating — and free. Monday, 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m.

Boston University
For you stargazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that is clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. The entrance is at 705 Commonwealth Ave., take the elevator to the fifth floor.

Garden in the Woods
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast. Its staff offers guided walks at 10 a.m. every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31, or come in and explore the garden yourself. The cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

Gore Place
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45-acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mount Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early-20th-century life in Boston's Historic Beacon Hill District. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

Odyssey Cruises
Rowes Wharf, Boston
This new luxury dinner-cruise line recently opened to compete with the *Spirit of Boston* ship. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while you choose lunch, brunch or dinner from a menu prepared by an internationally recognized chef. Call 654-9700.



Painting by Ed Stitt, Photographed by Alan Weller

IMPROPER PICK

Gallery NAGA at 67 Newbury St., Boston presents New Paintings of Boston *by Ed Stitt, through October 2.*

Twilight Mystery Tour
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past. This 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
Send an electronic message to Bill Clinton or Al Gore in the new exhibit *Become an Electronic Citizen.* In the *Person-to-Person booth,* make a "virtual visit" with a friend using a videophone. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit, "Robots & Other Smart Machines." Enjoy more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.

Franklin Park Zoo
Franklin Park, Boston
Now that the weather is warm, you can enjoy both outdoor and indoor exhibits: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds, and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400.

Higgins Armory Museum
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015 for hours and admission prices.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture, and special installations, such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in *Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon.* Call 266-5151; free admission Thursdays between 5-9 p.m.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of mostly early Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. Call 566-1401. Through Oct. 24, see photographer Dorit Cypris's exhibit, *The Body in the Picture,* about feminine identity.

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Also, see the White House exhibition, an amazingly detailed 50 feet by 25 feet replica of the building that celebrates its 200th birthday. Now you can take a water shuttle from Long Wharf (Quincy Market) to the museum. Call 929-4523.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's Crazy *After Calculus: Humor at MIT,* which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's *MathSpace,* a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
MFA presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings from the Collection* through Jan. 2. Contemporary artist Robert Cumming presents *Cone of Vision* through Nov. 28. An art nouveau exhibit featuring the work of Klimt, Munch, Kandinsky and Bradley is on view through Oct. 3. Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture,* with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. Through Sept. 26, see *Building a Collection: The Department of Contemporary Art, Part 2.* Call 267-9300.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
On exhibit through Sunday is *Science in Toyland,* where visitors can discover how toys and play can introduce children (and adults!) to science. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Call 589-0270.
Museum of Transportation

Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now are *Muscle Cars,* hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-'74. Call 522-6547.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
The aquarium's newest exhibit is called *Catch Some Rays,* about the mysterious — and dangerous — stingray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200.

New England Sports Museum
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 — ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has anything to do with New England sports, including interactive exhibits, such as the one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

Old State House
206 Washington St., Boston
This State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special current exhibit explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

Paul Revere House
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th-century Boston. Paul Revere lived there from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338.

The USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from Old Ironsides, the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

American Repertory Theatre
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Harvard Square
Through Sunday, see *Time on Fire,* a "raucous romp through hell" that details Evan Handler's often hilarious experiences as he tries to cope with the medical establishment. *A Certain Level of Denial* is performed by artist Karen Finley Sept. 20 and 21; Eric Bogosian performs *Dog Show* Sept. 22-26; and the tribute to six great women of music, called *The Late Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz,* runs Sept. 28 to Oct. 9. Call 547-8300.

Asian American Theater Project
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston
The tale of a concubine who wins her freedom in a poker game is one of the poignant stories told in *Unbinding Our Lives,* a play that traces the lives of Chinese women during the Gold Rush era. (Sept.15-18, 22-25, at 8 p.m. in the Leland Center.) Also, see the story of a Japanese-American family at an internment camp during WWII in *Living in Infamy.* (Sept. 19 & 26 at 2 p.m. in Leland Center.) Call 426-ARTS.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225.

Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
What has long hair parted in the middle, bell bottoms and platform shoes? *The Real Live Brady Bunch,* of course! Yes, it's true, the fab nine return Sept. 21 to indulge in the '70s kitsch we couldn't get enough of the first time around. Call 426-6912 for details.

Colonial Theatre
106 Boylston St., Boston
The Tony Award-winning musical *42nd Street* comes to Boston for a limited engagement from Sept. 28 to Oct. 10. Call the box office or 931-2787 for times and ticket information.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Comedienne/performance artist Betsy Salkind says farewell to Boston in two shows at the Coolidge, Sept. 17 & 18 at 8 p.m. After that, it's off to the Big Apple. Her credits include two comedy TV shows, a one-woman show at the ICA, and several comedy troupes. Tickets are $15; call 734-6600.

Continued On Following Page



The Golden Gallery

Richard Diebenkorn
Jim Dine
Helen Frankenthaler
David Hockney
Jasper Johns
Alex Katz
Roy Lichtenstein
Robert Motherwell
Claes Oldenburg
Larry Rivers
Jim Rosenquist
Sean Scully
Frank Stella
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WOMAN ON THE STREET

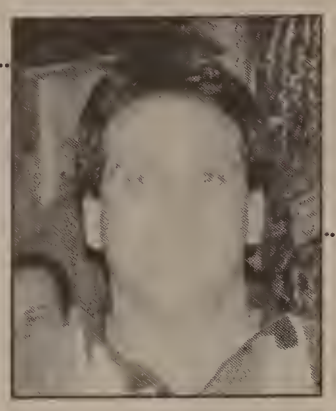
"Recall the best party you ever threw or attended"

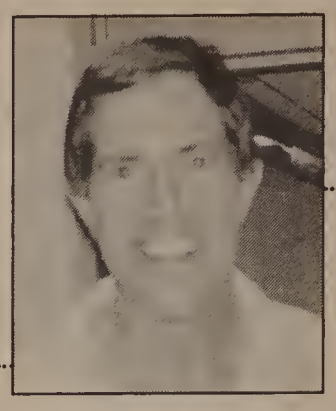
BY LESLIE



Gary, 28, Allston
"The Belcherjam on Lake Arcadia at UMASS Amherst in 1988. We had 4 bands, 22 kegs, and not one problem."

Mike, 27, North End
"A Boston Harbor booze cruise that I threw because I got lucky..."

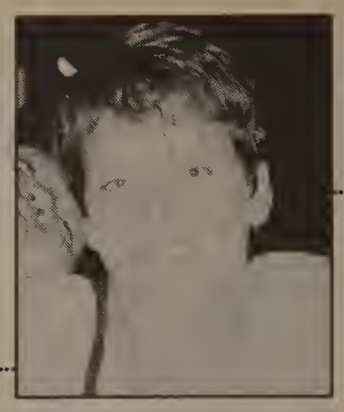




Rick, 42, Allston
"Without a doubt, it has to be the annual Snowball, a holiday benefit dance for inner city youth."

Caryn, 25, Brighton
"My surprise Sweet Sixteen party. I had absolutely no idea that it was going to happen."





Kelly, 28, Brookline
"Suzy's Swinging Seventies party because everybody was Kung Fu Fighting."

Lisa, 26, Brookline
"A semi-formal Christmas party where everybody had to bring handmade ornaments."



HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Learn about the extraordinary experiences of an African-American woman growing up in the deep South in the HTC's production of *From the Mississippi Delta*. Performances run through Oct. 10; call 266-0800.

MEDIEVAL MANOR
246 E. Berkeley St., Boston
Combining the bawdy tradition of burlesque vaudeville with aspects of Dark Ages dining, this satirical musical transports its audience back to a comedic castle cabaret. There is no silverware for the six-course meal, customers have to raise their hands to leave the room, and everyone must pay homage to the king. Call 423-4900.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its fifth year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four-course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW THEATRE
1st & 2nd Church Theatre, 66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents *Seven Day Wonder* from Sept. 23 to Oct. 17, a play that asks, "What If Faust had only the best of intentions?" In it, the main character is an ambitious missionary who sells his soul to the devil in order to save the world. Call 247-7388. Tickets are $12 & $15.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Tickets are now on sale for the New Rep's '93-'94 season, which begins with a production of *Jar the Floor* from Sept. 16-Oct. 24. The show is a tender, funny story of four generations of women in an African-American family preparing for the great-grandmother's 90th birthday. Call 332-1646.

NORA THEATRE CO.
The Theatre, Harvard Square, Cambridge
Through Oct. 2, the NTC performs *Spoils of War*, a story set in post-WWII New York, detailing the efforts of a 16-year-old boy's efforts to reunite his parents after a 10-year separation. Call 495-4530 for times and ticket prices.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly
Until Sept. 18, the NSMT presents the classic musical *Brigadoon*, a love story about a magical town that emerges from the mists of Scotland just one day each century. Call (508) 922-8500.

RIVERSIDE THEATRE WORKS
French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
The RTW presents *Guys and Dolls*, the musical about gangsters, gambling, long engagements, and innocent missionaries. Through Oct. 30 at 8 p.m.; cocktail hour begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are $12 for adults, $10 for seniors and $8 for students. Call 361-7024.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. For times, prices and reservations, call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant/theater packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872. For times and prices, call Ticketmaster at (800) 382-8080.

THEATER OFFENSIVE
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston
TO presents "OUT on the Edge: The 2nd Annual Festival of Lesbian and Gay Theater." The group performs about six different shows between Sept. 16 and Oct. 3. Call 542-4214 for titles, times, dates and ticket prices.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAY THEATER
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
The URT examines both the humorous and serious sides of the 50-something crowd in *Washed-Up Middle-Aged Women*. In the Black Box Theater Sept. 16-18 and 23-25 at 8 p.m. Call 426-ARTS.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Of course, the hottest ticket in the theater district this fall will be for *Miss Saigon*, the tragic love story of an American soldier and the Vietnamese woman he left in Saigon. The show is a must-see, but it's only here until Oct. 9. Call 931-2222.

LECTURES/READINGS

ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL
736 Cambridge St., Brighton
Stop smoking! For only $65, you can enroll in an eight-session course that gradually weans smokers off cigarettes. It's a weekly class, beginning Sept. 27, that runs from 7-8:30 p.m. Call 789-2430.

WORDSWORTH BOOKS
Brattle Theatre, Harvard Square, Cambridge
Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tracy Kidder speaks about his newest book, *Old Friends*, Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m. The book chronicles the tales of several residents of a nursing home in Northampton, Mass. Admission is free, but tickets must be picked up at either Wordsworth or the Brattle box office. Bring canned goods for the Food Pantry, if you can. Call 354-5201.

GALLERIES

GALLERY NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston
NAGA presents *New Paintings of Boston* by Ed Stitt, a young realist painter whose depictions of Boston buildings, both famous and mundane, would make you swear they were photographs. Also on view are works by Elizabeth Rosenblum on the theme *Pathologizing Desire*. Through Oct. 2.

SCULPTURE WALK '93
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
The works of 29 sculptors complement the beauty of this recently renovated park through Nov. 8. Free catalogues and maps of the outdoor sculpture exhibition are available at the Museum of Transportation on the grounds. For directions, call 522-6140.

SPECIAL EVENTS

AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE
Copley Square, Boston
Find what you've been looking for at the AAC's first annual Attic Sale and Artisan Fair on Sept. 19 from 12-6 p.m. The event will be a combination of flea market-type bargains on jewelry, appliances, CDs, books, etc., as well as a showcase for some of Boston's finest artisans.

AIWF
Sakonnet Vineyards, Little Compton, RI
Julia Child and the Boston chapter of the American Institute of Wine and Food invite you to "The Last Great Barbecue of Summer" Sept. 19 between 1-5 p.m. The $70 ticket allows you to eat a wide variety of grilled food, award-winning wine from Sakonnet, a tour of the winery, live music and beer by Sam Adams. Call 427-0538.

ASID
Various locations
This is for all those wanna-be peeping Toms out there. Come tour seven stunning homes of well-known and nationally published interior designers in Wellesley, Weston, and Newton. Sponsored by the American Society of Interior Designers; call (508) 897-3784 for tickets or more details.

BOSTON GARDEN
Causeway St., Boston
You don't have to brave the crowds at Buckingham Palace to see the changing of the guard. Come see the Royal Regiments Sept. 22 at 8 p.m. in all of their English, Welsh and Scottish splendour (yes, with a "u" - they are British, you know). Call the Garden box office or 931-3100 for tickets.

CHOWDAFEST
Charlestown Navy Yard
All chowdaheads will be thrilled to attend the Chowdafest Sept. 19, 12-6 p.m. All proceeds benefit Horizons for Youth, which provides environmental education and camping for kids in need. The event will be held rain or shine; $6 for adults and $3 for kids and seniors. Live music. Call 828-7550.

LEUKEMIA SOCIETY
The Odyssey, Rowes Wharf
The Massachusetts chapter of the Leukemia Society hosts *The Odyssey and the Ecstasy: A Fine and Rare Wine Auction, Tasting and Dinner Cruise* Sept. 19 from 4-8 p.m. aboard the Odyssey luxury yacht. Tickets run $80-$175, and all go to benefit the society. Call 329-9944 for more information.

THE OTHER SIDE
World Trade Center
Northern Ave., Boston
Check out *The Other Side: A Virtual Reality Arena* at the World Trade Center. Tickets are $7; some rides and attractions are extra. The event is the largest gathering of virtual reality entrepreneurs this summer. Call 1-800-367-9822 or 439-5000.

SYJP
Avenue C
25 Boylston Place, Boston
It's New Year's in September for Boston's Jewish community, and the Society of Young Jewish Professionals is having a party Sept. 19 at 8 p.m. Jewish singles, ages 22-39, are invited. Tickets are $12, $15 at the door. Call 376-3939. Proper dress and ID, please.

CLASSICAL

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy also sponsors classical music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

FILMS

BOSTON FILM FESTIVAL
Loews Copley Place
Copley Square, Boston
The Ninth Annual Boston Film Festival runs through Sept. 23. Call 333-FILM for a daily program.

BRATTLE THEATER
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theater presents a variety of film series— from classic to cult. Through Nov. 11, Mondays are "Garbo Acts!"; Tuesdays are "French Noir: Policiers"; Wednesdays are "The Films of John Woo"; Thursdays are "Kurosawa and Mifune"; and weekends are special engagements. Themes change every two months. For a full program, call 876-6837.

COOLIDGE CORNER
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the Green "C" MBTA line (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features boasts two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of independent, creative filmmakers from all over the world. Delightfully air-conditioned. Call 734-2500 for a program.

LASERIUM
At the Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the *Lollapalaser* show every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. The show is a combination of lasers and music from groups such as Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other days have different musical themes; for information, call 723-2500.

MIT.
Corner of Massachusetts Ave. and Memorial Drive, Cambridge
MIT hosts Japanese film night Sept. 17 in room 1-390. At 7 p.m., see *Tampopo*, the first Japanese noodle western; at 9 p.m., it's *Rashomon*, a 1950 classic set in 12th-century Kyoto; finally, at 10:30 p.m., see *Street of Shame*, a 1956 film of sensitive vignettes of the women who work in a brothel called "Dreamland." All are subtitled; call 253-2839 for details.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Mugar Omni Theatre, Science Park, Boston
New to the world of Omnimax is *Grand Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, which runs through October. For the more tropically oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution, and destruction, of one of nature's most important creations. Call 723-2500; purchasing tickets 24 hours in advance is advised.



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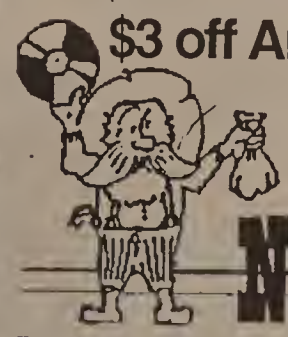
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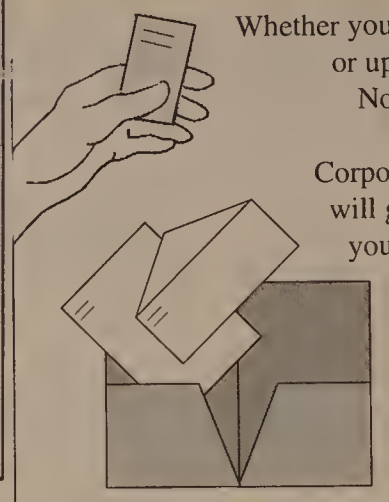
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BOSTON EAST New 1 bdrm, desirable Jeffries Point. Dw/d, yard w/ BBQ, w/d in building. Walk to T. $525/mo Also avail. new 3 bdrm $700/mo & new 2 bdrm $600/mo (617)569-2347

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BROOKLINE Cleveland Circle. Large 41/2 bdrm w/ 2baths in gorgeous building. Back porch, close to T & stores. Avail. Now. Call Rimma at 232-8433 or 731-3244

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APT. SHARES

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BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

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BROOKLINE VILLAGE M/F roommate wanted. 1bdrm avail in 4bdrm apt. Large living room & dining room. Hardwood floors & fireplace. Great location-near D-line. Avail Aug. 1st $250/mo heat & hot water incl. 277-4872

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DORCHESTER F student looking for M/F to share clean, mod, 3 bdrm. apt. in safe area. 5 mins. from Red line, JFK/UMASS. Recently renov. w/ w/d. $350. incl. utils. & st. prkg. Pref. student, will consider prof. Judy 265-4838 lv. mes.

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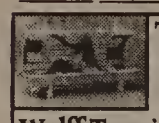
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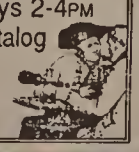
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JEWISH DESIRES ITALIANO! Preferred for woman of chocolate eyes, black hair, 30's, 5'4", widowed, sensual & passionate. Marriage minded if chemistry exists. Seeks blue collar or self employed male. Age, height & weight unimportant. Interests range from slow dancing to beer to theatre. Let me spoil you in a Jewish way! Yellow roses? Call! EXT•6889.

VERY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE, divorced white female, 46, brown hair, blue eyes, emotionally & financially secure, with passions for skiing, aerobics, fishing, dancing, animals & being romantic. Seeks white male, 36-47, with similar interests. No couch potatoes or head games! EXT•6927.

SEXY, SENSUAL, PASSIONATE woman of substance! White female, 45, 5'5", 125 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes, great shape, compassionate in & out, emotionally secure, secure job. Seeks physically fit white male, 38-50, 5'9"-6'1", dark hair, who is ready for a 1-1 relationship with me. Serious replies only! EXT•6881.

DOWN TO EARTH, BLONDE WOMAN, 38, 5'8", 125 lbs, seeks laid-back male, 30+, for walks through the woods with my dog, ethnic foods, beaches & movies. EXT•6900.

LOVE MUSIC & DANCING? Italian/Syrian female, 46 (doesn't look it!), 5'5", brown hair & exotic eyes, enjoys 50's music, Jeopardy, dining out, home cooking, sports & long rides with good conversation. Seeks professional, educated male who is a sharp dresser & has similar interests. EXT•6915.

SINCERE & HONEST! Boston area, divorced white female, 35, 5'6", dirty blonde hair, hazel eyes, slim, enjoys long walks, dancing, music, cooking & much more. Seeks white male, 30-40, who wants a fun-loving relationship. EXT•6883.

IMPULSIVE, ENERGETIC, casual white female, 30, 5', small-town girl, loves sunshine, music, smiling, the outdoors, Sundays & ice cream. Seeks similar white male who is intelligent, outgoing, happy, a lover of life, and has a good sense of humor. EXT•6940.

HEY YOU!- with the sense of humor to match your intelligence, sincerity & good looks! This alluring, shapely, spirited, pretty Jewish female, young at heart & looks, 43, wants to meet her match if you're 37-49 and still believe in true love & beyond! EXT•6836.

LISTEN UP! Full-figured, attractive white female, 25, seeks a 1-1 relationship. If you have a great sense of humor, like quiet nights at home & walks along the beach with an old-fashioned girl, give me a call! EXT•6806.

EXTREAMELY PRETTY! White female, great shape, very fit, hard body, outgoing, with a positive attitude & champagne taste. Seeks an extreamly handsome white male, 28-36, big build (bodybuilder/weightlifter), who's outgoing & a genuine nice guy. EXT•6803.

ATTRACTIVE JEWISH FEMALE, 55, blonde, a fun person on the chubby side, employed, educated, seeks a professional type, financially secure white male to share the good life. EXT•6873.

IF A TALL, SHAPELY, full-figured, intelligent, witty black female, mid-40's, with a great voice, doesn't intimidate you, Read On! You're a non-smoking white male, 35-45, intelligent, thoughtful, romantic, with a sense of humor, who enjoys movies, theatre, jazz, dining out, and much more. If you desire an honest, exciting, monogamous relationship, feel free to call! EXT•6801.

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING black female, 27, with nice sense of humor, loves going to movies & late night walks. Seeks a sincere, caring & romantic male, 25-35, for friendship plus whatever comes naturally. EXT•6863.

WARM, WITTY, FIT, PRETTY, compassionate, creative, open, adventurous, intuitive, substantive, and only occasionally verbose Jewish female, 35, seeks kindred spirit for the duration. EXT•6837.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. WANTED: White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relationship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

VERMONTER TURNED BOSTONIAN! Attractive female, 34, 5'6", non-smoker, romantic, loves Seinfeld, movies, the beach, dusk & Cabernet Savignon. Seeks man of integrity, 30-39, who is funny, communicative, and wants to be in a relationship. EXT•6838.

ONE MAN WOMEN! Full-figured, but shapely black female, 33, 5'9", easygoing & quiet, enjoys quiet evenings, renting movies, music & billiards. Seeks unattached black male, 30-40, who is spontaneous, not afraid of a professional woman, tired of head games, and has a good sense of humor. If you are seeking friendship or possible commitment, drop me a call! EXT•6911.

FUN & FIESTY, green-eyed girl next door! White female, 28, sales professional, loves sailing, skiing, rollarblading, movies, museums, traveling, Vermont & The Cape. Seeks like-minded fellow to laugh with & share life! EXT•6814.

MS.CLEAN SEEKS MR.CLEAN for friendship & hopefully more! Light-skinned black female, 48, petite (5'5", 120 lbs), with beautiful blue eyes, enjoys dancing, dining out, bowling & weekend trips. Seeks energetic male, 45-60, who shares similar interests. EXT•6811.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable white male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

VERY ATTRACTIVE & SINCERE white female, 28, seeks white male, with dark hair & eyes, who is honest, romantic, funny, knows what he wants from life, and is not afraid to go after it. Please respond! EXT•6809.

DON'T READ THIS, unless you are an honest, sincere, down to earth, gentleman interested in meeting a 44yr old blue-eyed blonde with a great sense of humor. I enjoy music, movies, good conversation & much more. EXT•6718.

HAPPY! Attractive white female, 39, 5'4", professional, non-smoker, adventurous, feminine, thoughtful, good friend, slow runner, enjoys beginning tennis, infrequent skiing, the ocean, travel, dining out & movies. Seeks clean-cut white male professional for friendship & dating. EXT•6772.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 35, 5'4". enjoys golf, hiking, skiing, sporting events, the beach, gardening, cooking, movies, billiards & travel. Wishes to hear from a white professional male, 35-45, with similar interests. EXT•6731.

PRETTY, divorced white female, 40 (looks much younger), 5'2", short brown hair, green eyes, nice smile, college educated, great sense of humor, fun-loving, will try almost anything once. Seeks sincere man, age & race unimportant, for friendship first, then who knows! EXT•6774.

LIFE'S TOO SHORT! Hi, I'm 45 (but built like an 18yr old), 5'2", 109 lbs, and looking for someone to share life with. I love dancing, walks along the beach, long rides & getaway weekends. Seeks someone to hold, kiss, and be with. EXT•6734.

PASSIONATE WOMAN WHO'S READY, sexy, pretty & blonde, would like to share the summer season, maybe more, with a successful, strong, attractive & loving man, 46-56. Together we can experience life's simple joys! EXT•6732.

ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT & CLASSY! White female, 35, fit (emotionally & physically), professional, positive, energetic, diversified, outgoing personality. Seeks secure mature, handsome male who is healthy, charismatic, communicative, straight forward, sociable, affectionate, humorous, monogamous, childless & a non-smoker, for friendship, relationship & possibly marriage. EXT•6711.

UPBEAT, multi-cultural, professional businesswoman, sensual, creative, magical & classy. Seeks friendship, partnership & passion with a successful, communicative, wise, witty, evolved male human, 38+, comfortable with evolution of spirit, open heart, & extraordinary liaison with an exotic lady. All races understood! EXT•6705.

PROFESSIONAL, attractive female, 36, running her own business, seeks a kind man for friendship & possible marriage. Do you walk up 12 steps or travel a spiritual path? Let's talk! EXT•6788.

IVY DEGREED PLUS! The girl who has everything: beauty, brains, personality, heart, soul, and integrity. Media personality seeks white male, 41-52, to share the Dreams and the Reality! EXT•6784.

PRETTY, BLUE-EYED BLONDE, female professional, 30's, 5'3", physically fit, seeks male, 35-50, for chemistry, compatibility & commitment. I enjoy long walks along the ocean, swimming, skiing, biking & romantic dinners. Please call soon! EXT•6750.

FRIEND & LOVER! Attractive, thin, classy female, mid-40's, loves to laugh & converse, seeks educated, secure male who values an honest relationship based on friendship. EXT•6706.

VIVACIOUS, VERY ATTRACTIVE, successful, business woman, 38, fun, athletic, widely traveled, varied interests, understands the importance of love & loyalty, non-smoker, non-drinker. Enjoys tennis, walking, skiing, dancing, movies, & quiet times at home. Seeks attractive male, 30-45, 5'7"+, who is a business or medical professional, for a monogamous relationship. EXT•6759.

WHAT CAN I TELL YOU? The truth is I'm gorgeous, slender, voluptuous & passionate. My academic credentials & creative achievements are impeccable. This 37yr old, divorced white female would like to meet you. Your attributes: intelligence, stability, loyalty & looks. White male professional, 38-48, desired. EXT•6671.

ATTRACTIVE, CLASSY, Cape Verde black female, 23, 5'3 1/2", well-built, easygoing, loves the movies, skating, travel, dancing, dining, kids, nights on the beach, and quiet nights alone together. Seeks down to earth, fun, energetic, white or Hispanic male with similar qualities & a great sense of humor. Don't be shy, give me a try! EXT•6773.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 21, 140 lbs, 5'8", seeks tall & handsome, non-smoking white male, 21-25, who is caring, compassionate & trustworthy. Social drinker Ok! EXT•6683.

WARM, CARING & ATTRACTIVE divorced white female, 32, 5'5", 136 lbs, school nurse, very fit, enjoys running, biking, hiking, swimming & much more. Has an affinity to tall, warm Jewish males. Seeks attractive, non-smoking, educated, professional male, 30-45, who wears cotton & has a great sense of humor, for a fun-filled, loving relationship. EXT•6695.

DIVORCED WHITE MOM, 40, 5'2", 115 lbs, 13yr old daughter. Seeks white male, 35-45, who enjoys dining, slow dancing, movies, camping, fishing, walks, music (country, rock-n-roll), and all kinds of fun. EXT•6638.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, sensuous & petite lady, 35, dark hair & eyes, enjoys the beach, music, bodybuilding, cooking, fun/quiet times together. Seeks very good-looking, romantic, physically fit man, with similar interests, for friendship, possibly more. EXT•6619.

SINGLE MOM, 25, seeking friendship possibly more! Interests include going to movies, and hanging out at home. Seeks well groomed, educated man. Call and we'll see if we match up. I'll be waiting! EXT•6503.

THIS IS ME! 21yr old mulatto woman is interested in meeting Gentlemen. If you're one between the ages 20-26, call now! EXT•6439.

WANTED: LOVER OF LIFE! This outgoing, down to earth, attractive, 29yr old, tall & fit California gal enjoys hiking, travel, exploring, movies, skating & just plain having fun. Seeks attractive, athletic white male, 30-35, 6'+, who is well adjusted and has a serious sense of humor. EXT•6545.

CAPTIVATING BLACK FEMALE, 26, 129 lbs, seeks an "all true" man, who is caring, compassionate, devoted & trustworthy! No games! EXT•6525.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

ATTRACTIVE, DIVORCED BLACK MALE, 41 (looks 35), 5'11", 165 lbs, very honest & sincere, enjoys tennis, movies & long walks. Seeks petite white female, 25-40. Please no games! EXT•7503.

ROMANTIC, LOVING, affectionate & sincere man, 37, 5'10", 170 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, glasses, seeks similar qualities in a feminine woman with beauty of the heart & soul as well as the body, for a monogamous relationship. Age & race unimportant! EXT•7508.

GIVE IT A CHANCE, IT MIGHT WORK! Black male, 36, 6', 177 lbs, enjoys movies, sports & quiet times. Seeks middle eastern female for dating & possible relationship. Serious replies only! EXT•7452.

NO LABELS ON US! White male, 30, 6'1", 175 lbs, seeks woman, 20's-30's, who loves serendipity, backrubs, calamari, French movies, Halloween, Suzanne Vega, strawberries, pubs, tax refunds & more, for friendship, romance & ?! EXT•7476.

TIRED OF THE BAR SCENE! Self-employed white male, 28, 5'5", 130 lbs, energetic, non-smoker, with bizarre sense of humor, seeks independent, petite female companion, under 31, who is not interested in the musclehead type. EXT•7492.

HANDSOME, ATTRACTIVE, blond male professional, 29, 6'1", 190 lbs, intelligent, warm, caring, down to earth, active & athletic. Seeks very pretty, down to earth female, 22-29, for friendship & possible romance. No smokers please! EXT•7496.

VERY TALL, ATTRACTIVE, articulate white male, early 30's, 6'5", 200 lbs, seeks slim & pretty white female, 25-35, 5'11"-6'3", who enjoys the outdoors, fine dining & life. EXT•7493.

TALL, DARK & HANDSOME! White male, 30, 6'1", well-built, brown hair & eyes, seeks slender white female, 24-30, 5'3"-5'8", with at least shoulder-length hair. Attracted to blue-jean, barefoot type! Will answer all! EXT•7505.

JUST ARRIVED ON BEACON HILL! Attractive, intelligent, fun-loving, honest white male, 33, 6', 180 lbs. Seeks intelligent, personable, very attractive older female, 40+, for friendship & possibly more. Let's explore Boston together & have all kinds of fun! EXT•7507.

SHIFTING GEARS! Youthful, emotionally available Jewish male, 44, contemplating law school, seeks an emotionally available Jewish woman, 35+, to have a family & other adventures with. Partial to Camb., J.P., Somerville & Brookline women! EXT•7501.

MAN WITH A SLOW HAND, friends describe me as a "surprise" package, B.U. grad student, new to area, trim, 5'11", 32, interests in jazz, architecture & sailing. Seeks college educated white lady to explore & enjoy Boston. EXT•7491.

LOVING BLACK MALE, 33, 6'2", very sweet & comforting, seeks black or Latino woman, 29-40, for long-term relationship. I need someone who wants to be loved as much as I do! EXT•7421.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TONIGHT? White male, 24, 5'8", 155 lbs, dedicated weightlifter, avid reader, Ayn Rand admirer, writer, Gloria Estefan fan. Seeks white female, 18-30, who is confident and in relatively good shape, who enjoys nights amongst the skyscrapers & domestic nights in. EXT•7509.

ROCK & REGGAE! Adventurous & caring, lobster eating Jewish male, 32, 5'11", 170 lbs, attractive, affectionate, spontaneous, playful, traveller. Loves hiking, mountain biking, frisbee, back rubs & concerts. Are you good-looking, unpretentious, 23-35ish, independent, smart, happy & aware? EXT•7480.

YUPPIE IMAGE, compassionate personality! Attractive young professional, 22, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, healthy, intelligent, articulate, dynamic, honest & such a romantic. Seeking young (22-28), attractive, optimistic, honest, career-oriented woman to enjoy travel, recreation, diversion & to share the special opportunities of a progressive lifestyle. EXT•7377.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7462.

A WOMAN SHOULD BE HONORED, respected & valued for herself. You will be spiritual, musical, fun, fiercely independent, and can say no! I'm uniquely individual, curious, fun, trusting, energetic & self-employed. Let's meet soon! Braintree! EXT•7455.

TOP QUALITY, divorced Jewish male, late 50's, 5'8", decent guy, youthful, easygoing, pleasing to the eye, humorous, sailor & skier. Would like to meet a calm, attractive, non-smoking, companionable lady, mid-40's-early 50's, with similar qualities. EXT•7438.

SPECIAL LADY WANTED! Successful, white businessman, 40ish, 5'7", 170 lbs, med. build, brown hair, blue eyes, mousiache, enjoys dining out, movies, travel, wine & cheese. Seeks a lady with a pretty face & great smile! EXT•7418.

FUN MENSCH! Jewish male, 40, attractive, easygoing, honest, seeks smart, sincere Jewish woman with a zest for life, to share long walks, warm communication & whatever else may come easily. EXT•7439.

EXCEPTIONALLY ROMANTIC, handsome & alluring Jewish male, 30, very athletic, sophisticated & emotionally stable. Seeks female, 20-30, who is physically fit and feels happiness & passion in her heart. EXT•7443.

40-SOMETHING, divorced white male, enjoys normal dating activities, and the outdoors for walking, jogging, biking, tennis & more. Seeks attractive, independent lady, 30-40-something, to share quality time. EXT•7441.

CREATIVE GENTLEMAN LEVITATES slender, pretty woman, 35-45! Share the magic with me: athletic, articulate, good-looking white male, 45, 5'10", slim, former Engineer now self-employed kind of guy. Enjoys the country, hiking, canoeing, skiing, culture and values intelligence, communication & humor. A moonlight walk will make our spirits soar! EXT•7404.

LET'S MEET EACH OTHER! Black male, 27, 5'10", 160 lbs. My godmother said "Boy, you don't need to place no ad! You got a lot going for you; your handsome, funny & got plenty of sense. Let them ladies come to you, or either take your butt to church!" I laughed! True story! Call me ladies! EXT•7399.

A REAL MAN! Black male, 28, 6'3", 225 lbs, dark & handsome. This sincere, intelligent, humorous & employed gentleman dares you to take a chance on, who knows?! EXT•7384.

METROWEST! Divorced white male, 43, seeks interesting companion for the off-hours of life. You are ageless, attractive & available, enjoy reading, music & travel. EXT•7395.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7381.

HANDSOME & CLASSY divorced Jewish male, 48, passionate, bright, caring, loving, with a great sense of humor & flexibility. Seeks slender, pretty lady with similar attributes, for long term relationship & possible marriage. EXT•7400.

SOPHISTICATED, ACADEMIC Jewish male, 50's, 5'11", slender, a variety of interests & travel experience. Interested in a committed relationship and/or marriage with an attractive, educated, intelligent, caring woman, American or foreign, who is childless but considering starting a family. EXT•7372.

EMPTY PEDESTAL AWAITS fit, active woman! Successful, white male professional, 39, 6', slender, smoker, enjoys outdoors, arts, music, cuddling, romance, weekend getaways & spoiling a special lady. Seeking openness, communication, intimacy & lasting relationship! EXT•7355.

HANDSOME JEWISH MALE, 33, 5'7", 150 lbs, athletic, non-religious, physical, sensitive, caring, honest & open to adventure. Seeks slim, athletic, bright & open female non-smoker, 28-35, who appreciates the give & take of a real relationship. EXT•7374.

ROCKIE HORROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER — SEPTEMBER 1 – SEPTEMBER 14, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too.)

Hope springs eternal – another NFL season, another zillion reasons to believe your/my team will triumph. While Mercury trines the unpredictable Uranus-Neptune conjunction this weekend, all manner of miracles are possible, all explanations seem plausible. But the news is probably just a setup for the slam-bam, headbanger of a Mars-Jupiter conjunction on Sunday, a whoop-de-do war cry to accompany truly dangerous enthusiasms. It's also a precursor of the militant Mars square to the weird Uranus-Neptuna combo on the 9th. Perhaps we'll see more (smart) bombs bursting in air, more divisiveness among separatist factions all over the planet, maybe we'll get a signal from the Mars Observer lost (Neptune) in space (Uranus). Whila these are among the most challenging, erratic and otherworldly aspects we've been hit with in a while, enduring them with a modicum of grace can result in substantial rewards. Next Friday the Virgo sun trinas that troublesome Capricorn duo so we may actually see some progress, perhaps a resolution that'll last longer than a minute. Labor Day itself should be fairly quiet, a well-deserved raspite from the slings, arrows and pipe bombs coming every which way. Enjoy.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

You're aasily influenced by your mate's optimism, your public's enthusiasm or your lawyer's talent for tipping the scales of justice. Balance is the lesson of tha day. As your Mars ruler meets expansive, expensive Jupiter in Libra, the sign of significant relationships, you won't be able to restrain yourself by yourself. In fact, there's hardly a thing you can do solo except attack the fluctuating forces affecting current career choices. Don't go off half-cocked. Have a plan and a partner in crime.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Whila other signs may be awash in kookiness and confusion this week, the brave bull manages to succeed by saying what needs to be said and doing, sometime next Friday, what comes naturally. There might be trouble with co-workers and foreigners, but their antagonisms don't hava to become yours. Stay on a safe and sane track, create to tha best of your artistic abilities – thare'll be ample opportunity – and you'll be rewarded, if not financially, then by attaining a purely personal goal.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

The usual tension, a seasonal event, that occurs when your Mercury ruler passes through picky Virgo can propel you out on the road, to the health food market or into the files in search of accurate, practical information. Trading in knowledge can also have financial benefits, particularly if you dig into insurance and investment matters. There are a few drawbacks: you're liable to push beyond normal limitations, bet more than you should or play around with reckless abandon. Watch it.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

The Pisces full moon, Tuesday's blue moon, is still weaving its magic spell, making you dreamy, ditzy and strangely susceptible to others' suggestions. Strong aspects to your erratic partnership scene can put you at the mercy of his or her whim. Mercifully, money matters go well, but what passes for domestic tranquillity at your house can disappear when macho Mars pushes buttons, shortens fuses and wields a knife next Thursday. Try to keep a sense of proportion, avoid megalomaniacs and their mammoth projects.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

Your neighborhood may be a hotbed of activity this weekend – part entertainment, part enterprise. One gung-ho cheerleader on the block or an overly optimistic sibling can further upset a shaky work and health scene, but even if you're pressed to undertake more than you really care to, do it. Next Friday, when your sun ruler benefits from those unstabla conditions, you'll profit financially from this week's excess. On a personal note – beautify the bod, reshape the lion's mane. Venus is in Leo, love is stalking you.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

This week could turn out to be the high point of the Virgo Experience, a multi-media event celebrating your creative talents and personable personality. Because your Mercury ruler is supported by the weird and wondrous, wild and wacky Uranus-Neptune conjunction, you find order in what others call chaos. And, of course, have a perfectly wonderful time doing so. On the other hand, money-making matters should be handled gingerly since the tendency is to leap way before you remember to look. Some can stomach the thrill, some virgins can't.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22)

How much motivation does it take? The incredible energy generated by the ambitious Mars-Jupiter conjunction in your sign can launch a rocket, an innovative project or a philosophical imperative. How much luckier can you get? Jupiter may be raising ethical standards to new heights, but courageous Mars provides the heart and balls to pursue and achieve your current goals. The folks at home may resent your pontificating, but if they've given you nothing but problems lately, stop trying to pacify them.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Most of tha machinations and motivations are hidden this weak, so unless you're working behind the scenes yourself, you might not realize just how much power is being exerted on your behalf. Next week, when old friends and siblings are more opan about their actions, you'll see how tha story of your current event unfolded. Maanwhile, tha gossip is juicy, the neighbors are freaky, but fascinating, and if you don't piss one of them off, you'll hava a fine tima this weekend. Just don't fly next Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21)

Informative, idealistic and irrational. The news from the top (boss, government, parent) can assuage a tricky financial scena just days before friends upset it. Don't laap at the first bait dangled before you this weekend. Valuas are fluctuating, money matters seem to be charting their own course, and all you can reasonably do is maintain your balance (holding on to the Libra/Librium in your life?) until next Friday. That's when tha career/cash payoff should come in. Please, no manic episode to mark the event.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

Another milestone of a week, with an exciting, borderline scary, career offer on one hand and an impressive intellectual reward on the other. Grab them both because this sort of opportunity comes around only once every 12 years. The ride will be ebullient and extravagant, but don't for a minute assume you can maintain control of the scane, much less yourself. The aspects to the planets in Capricorn are too erratic, too fantastic for the well-chosen word. Nonethelass, a far-out publishing/teaching project is a real possibility.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

Although the world sees your friendly, as opposed to fierce, facada most of the time, there are moments, like the ones that'll arise this week, when you can lose your cool in one frantic second. As first mercurial Mercury and then impulsive Mars aspect your Uranus ruler, any littla thing can throw you off stride. Remember this when you feal your blood boil for no apparent reason. And be careful with machinery, sharp objects and steely-eyed foraignars. What you don't know, who you'ra not familiar with, can hurt you.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

Obsassion. Tha Calvin Klein days are here again. First you'll get tha message, words from a loved ona that'll put you on better terms with friends and colleagues. But when meddlesoma Mars squares your Neptuna ruler next Thursday, the madness sets in. Delusions about sex, powar and money should be kept to yoursalf, otherwise tha self-sama buddies could freak. On the plus sida, this planatary aspect invents an imaginative horror story lina, a fantastic opera, a romantic, ridiculous ad campaign.

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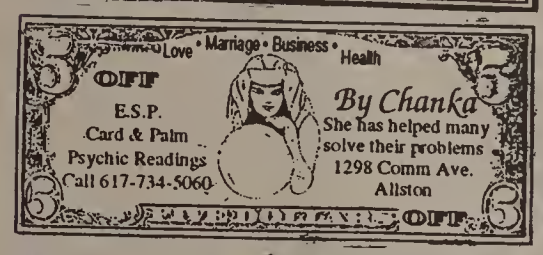
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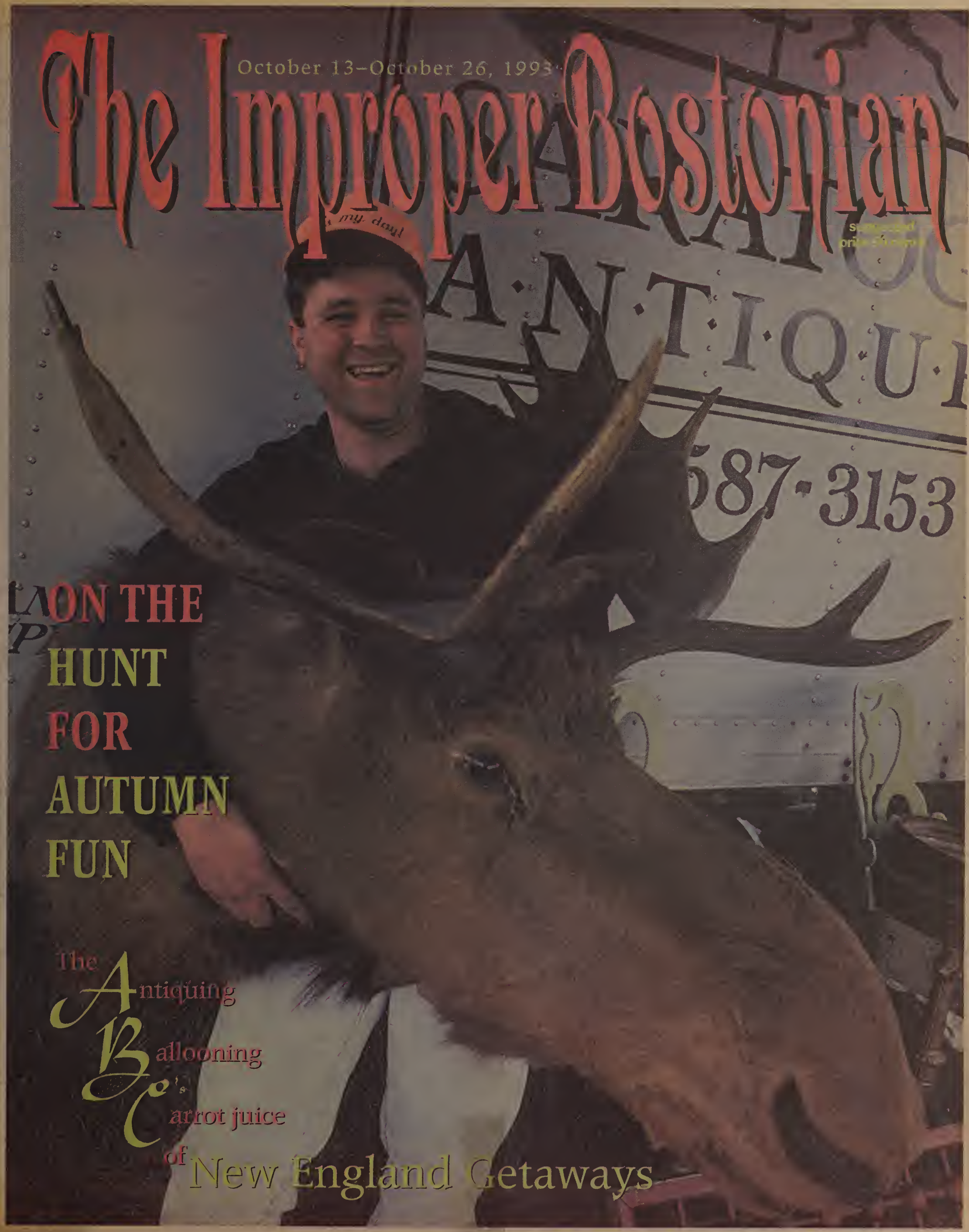
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The Improper Bostonian

October 13–October 26, 1993



ON THE HUNT FOR AUTUMN FUN

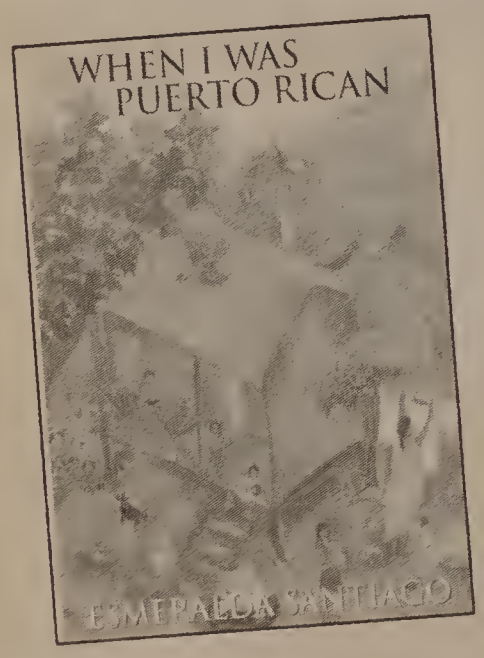
The Antiquing Ballooning Carrot juice of New England Getaways

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Island Girl

The title of this memoir captures the pungent and poignant tone of Esmeralda Santiago's dislocation from home, the barrio in Puerto Rico, which she left for a radically different life in America. Santiago begins by remembering the sweetness of the guavas she ate on the island, the final one she savored on the airplane going to New York at the age of 13, and the hard guavas she now finds at the Shop & Save — a metaphor of lost and found. Much of the book is set in the tin-shack poverty of Puerto Rico, where her warring parents and 10 siblings lead a life of uproar, yes, but one full of earthy richness. Santiago writes of her mother: "Mami hummed softly, the yellow and orange flowers of her dress blending into the greenness; a miraculous garden with legs and

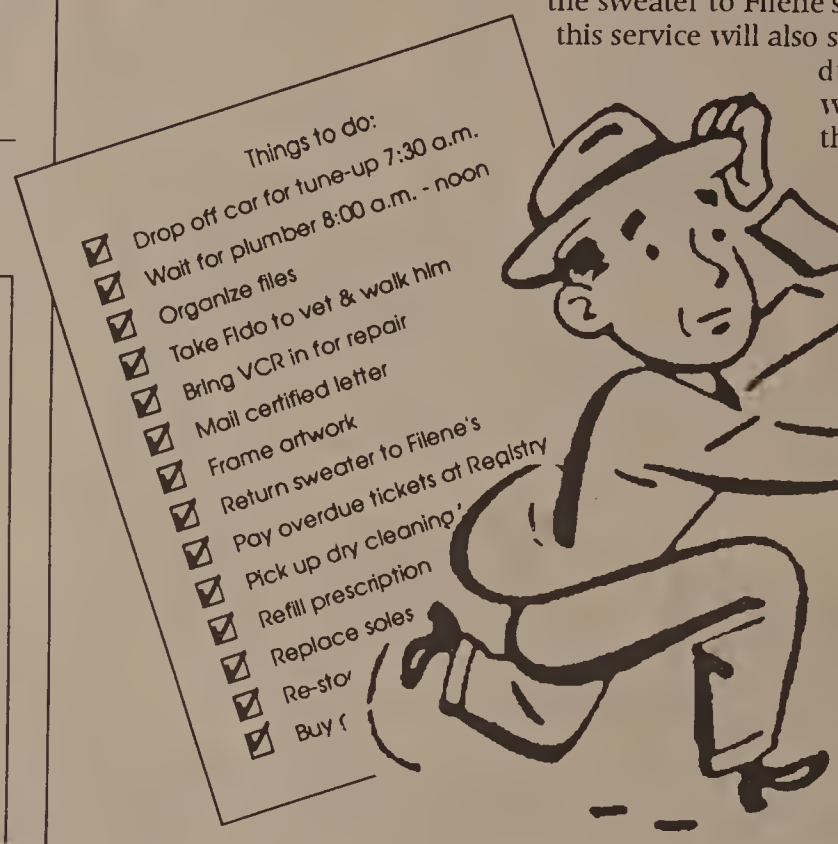


arms and a melody." Lyricism imbues her description of birth, sickness, death, food, her sexual awakening and the vivid everyday color of life. As we know from the book jacket, Santiago ended up at Harvard, so the book has a two-toned flavor, combining the primitive abundance of her childhood, which she delivers in lush language, and the sophistication that has enabled her to write, a bit bittersweetly, about the girl she left behind.

When I Was Puerto Rican
by Esmeralda Santiago
A Merloyd Lawrence Book
Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., $20

Get It Done (by Getting It Done for You)

Ah, the relief that comes from a task accomplished — by somebody else, that is, and oh, the sense of nurture that brings. In this case, it's Erruns Express that takes over, supplying the brawn, the brain, the time, the very *search* for that nibbled moment of time, the getting there, the waiting and the dealing that spells job completion. Erruns Express will wait at your house for the proverbial repairman, take in the car for the 7:30 a.m. tune-up, lug the computer to the fix-it place and return the sweater to Filene's. To relieve you of the boredom and the shame, this service will also stand in line at the Registry and pay your overdue tickets. Though not your children, Erruns will take your dog to the vet. Those sorts of things that involve lifting and carrying cost $15 per hour (with a one-hour minimum.)

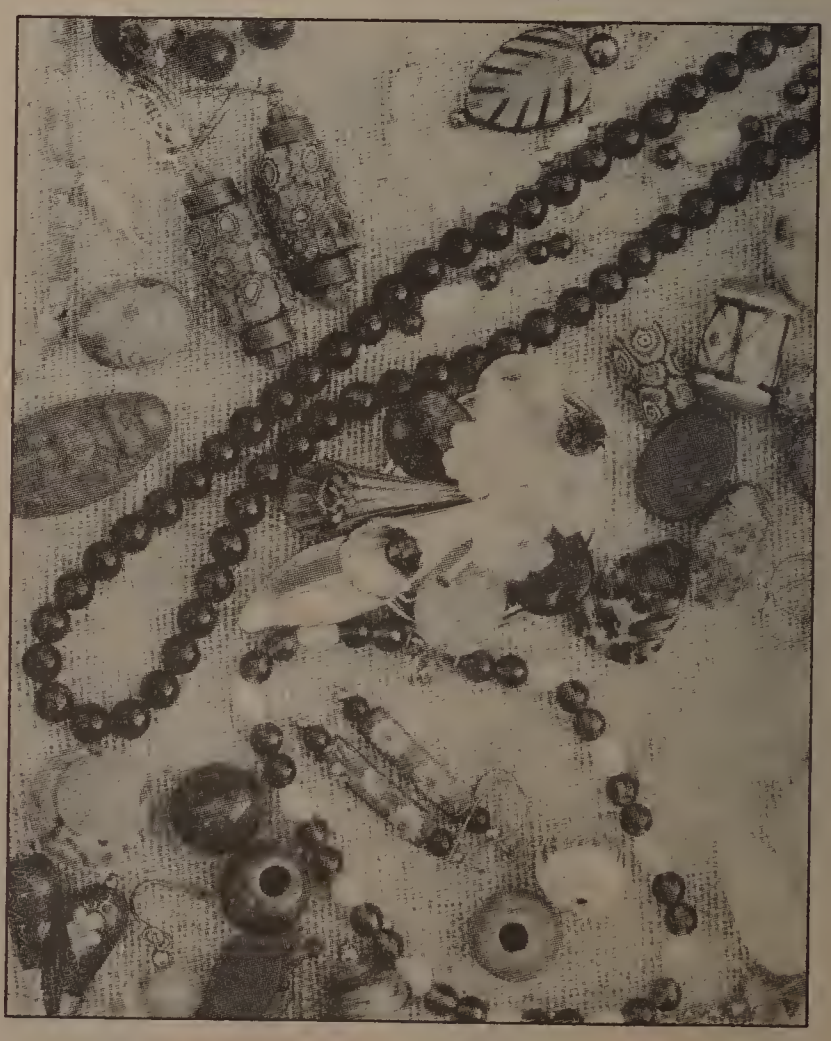


Things that Erruns' Robin Levine calls "the overflow of paper craziness" — such as paying bills (which she then files so a client could ask her, say, for the amount paid to the cleaners last year), processing medical claims, and balancing checkbooks — these "brain" things cost $25 per hour and are usually done at your house, whether or not you're there. (Some clients have a standing biweekly arrangement for this.) So, in Erruns Express you've got an accountant, a secretary, a heavy-lifter, an efficiency expert and a tactful Mama. And yes, unlike your mother, they're bonded.

Erruns Express
923-1922

To Bead or Not to Bead

Back in business after a fire, Cambridge's Little Russia teems with merry folk exoticism and jewelry — some of it already made and some in pieces. The shop's colorful stock of loose beads brings forth the itch to make jewelry oneself. In the cabinets are necklaces of semiprecious stones, including thick bits of honey-colored amber and beads and stones cut in twisty shapes that are triangular, flat, faceted, and simply round; some even resemble Russian turrets (or, for that matter, Dairy Queens). The Newbury Street store offers jewelry-making classes, so you can wander around the store and transform that glory of beads painted blueberry-blue like lapis, these pristine glassy Venetian beads, and that mini-ocean of jade into necklaces of your own creation. There's an atmosphere here of Russian voices and accents that make the enterprise seem especially exciting. Also, the shop sells alluring markasite, a metal that sparkles with dark stones (like tiny diamonds born in gray rain). One watch in stock features two panthers leaping across the wrist. Little Russia also specializes in stacking dolls and brightly lacquered, fully usable, red-blue-and-green spoons and ladles. And — huge history shrunk to adorable nostalgia — there are patriotic pins of Lenin and other Russian icons, for your lapel.



Little Russia
99 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge
661-4928
228 Newbury St., Boston
437-0401

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146

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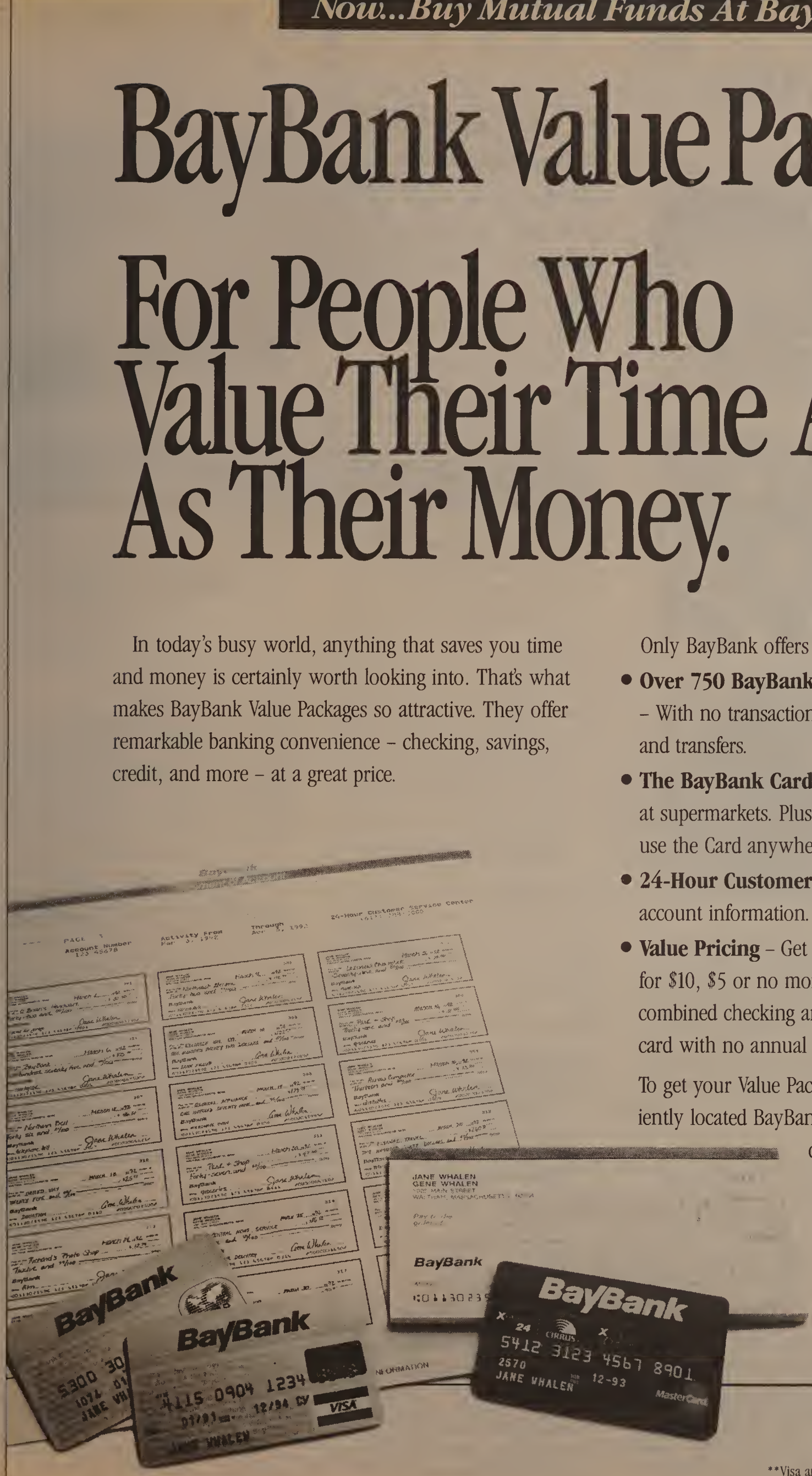
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On the Hunt for Weekend Fun

Do not mourn for the lost days of summer — fall has its own pleasures. Jay and Carmi Paris, seasoned world travelers, report on the best of New England's weekend haunts. From antiquing to ballooning to carrot juicing at wholesome health resorts, these getaways are less than a tankful of gas away.

By Jay Paris and Carmi Paris



14

Guy vs. Girl Flicks

Last week at the Brattle Theater, a mostly male audience cheered at the John Woo slice-'em-and-dice-'em killfest, while a mostly female audience wept its way through a screening of *The Joy Luck Club*. What's going on? Classic guy-and-girl flick behavior. *IB* film-editor Kaj Wilson analyzes the cinematic difference between the sexes.

By Kaj Wilson

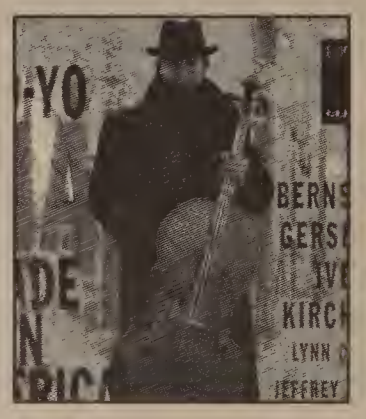


30

Ma and More

A glance at the list of composers on cellist Yo-Yo Ma's new disc hints darkly at another halfhearted crossover attempt. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. *Made in America* is made-to-order Ma.

By M.T. Anderson



On the Cover

Antique Dealer: Darin Warren

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WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW



ART

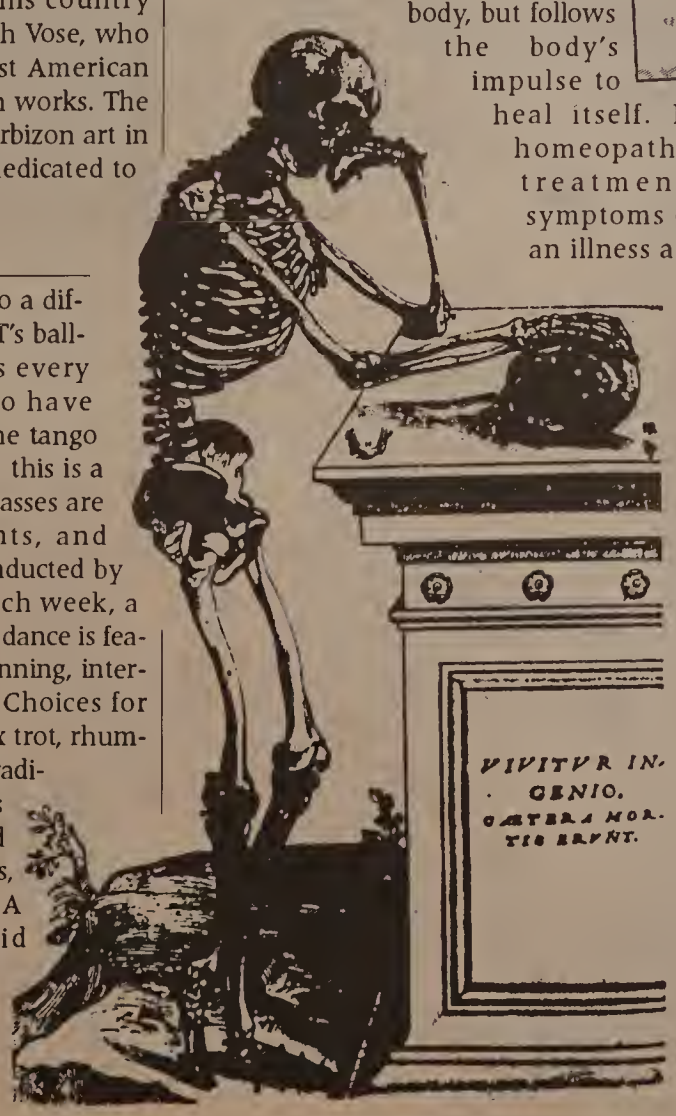
Remember when art was a reflection of life: the painter and the easel before nature, not art copulating with itself? The Barbizon painters, before the Impressionists, brought vitality to the relationship between man and nature in their innovative paintings. Now, more than a hundred years later, Vose Galleries, 238 Newbury St., 536-6176, is holding a rare exhibit of Barbizon painters that includes works never before seen in the United States. Featured are the works of Theodore Rousseau and Jean-Francis Millet. These paintings, initially scorned in Europe for departing from the strict aesthetic rules of the French Academy, found an audience in this country through the efforts of Seth Vose, who in the 1850s was the first American dealer to import Barbizon works. The gallery's first show on Barbizon art in 50 years, this exhibit is dedicated to his vision.

DANCE

Start shaking your cake to a different beat — cheap! MIT's ballroom dance club meets every Sunday. For those who have never danced a step of the tango or for advanced waltzers, this is a guaranteed good time. Classes are taught by MIT students, and advanced sessions are conducted by professional dancers. Each week, a different style of ballroom dance is featured in three levels: beginning, intermediate and advanced. Choices for October include swing, fox trot, rhumba and *paso doble* — the traditional Spanish bullfighter's dance. Prices are unheard of at 50 cents to $2 a class, depending on skill level. A membership card, valid until August 1994, can be purchased for $15. No former experience is required, and you don't need to bring a partner. Call 258-6554 for more information and impress your friends the next time you go dancing. While everybody else is stuck doing the pogo, you'll be recreating scenes from *Strictly Ballroom*.

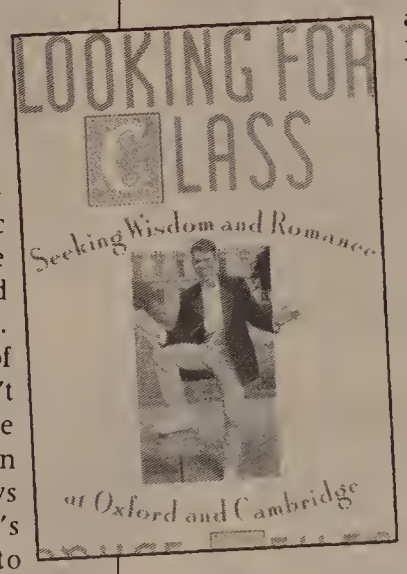
HEALTH

Homeopathy, a not-so-new alternative approach to treating illness, based upon holistic healing of the body, is the focus of the recently opened Harnett's in Harvard Square. Flying in the face of the Age of Science, Homeopathy doesn't presume to understand the mysterious ways of the human body, but follows the body's impulse to heal itself. In homeopathic treatment, symptoms of an illness are not attacked as invasive presences, rather, treatment hastens symptoms to perform their function in healing the body. Homeopathy's application, common 100 years ago, has been regaining popular acceptance in the United States over the last 15 years, although widely practiced throughout the rest of the world and not the least bit alternative. Harnett's, opened by the founder of Bread & Circus grocery stores, is located at 47 Brattle St. in Cambridge, 491-4747.



BOOK

Jaunting through Oxford and Cambridge to unveil English tradition, American writer Bruce Feiler logs his discoveries in a book he aptly calls *Looking for Class*. Riding the freedom of his naiveté, Feiler's exploits make for good fun and provide insight into that mustiest of all revered institutions, the queen of Anglo academia, the intellectual mother of the likes of John Milton, Lord Byron, Charles Darwin and Bill Clinton. Feiler cleverly plays Oxford's austere and sophisticated reputation against its underbelly of hedonism, discovering behind its "prim Victorian mask a thoroughly modern world of sin . . . . With their volatile mix of youth, wealth, and overeducated hormones, Oxford and Cambridge are probably the two most concentrated centers for decadence anywhere in the country," he concludes. *Looking for Class*, published by Random House, $23, follows the success of Feiler's previous book, *Learning to Bow*, a humorous account of his educational experiences in Japan.



WRITING

Writers, playwrights, poets and diarists: a house dedicated to encouraging and developing writing and a literary community has recently opened in Cambridge. Within four spacious floors of a Victorian house, the Company of Writers, 930 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 492-TYPE, which opened in late August, hosts classes, literary events, guest speakers, dramatic readings and book groups. The Company welcomes all writers, beginners or veterans, English or foreign. Writing classes range from breaking creative blocks to getting published. There are also classes such as "Writing and Illustrating a Contemporary Picture Book" and "Rejoicing With Joyce's *Ulysses*." At the company, writers can find attentive audiences for their work either in classes, at readings every second Thursday of the month, or through networking with other Boston writers. A cafe is in the works, and the Company welcomes new ideas. Check it out.



VIDEO

Michelle Pfeiffer stars in *Love Field*, a non-blockbuster, un-Hollywood love story. Pfeiffer plays Lurene Hallet, a dissatisfied housewife who is obsessed with the suave glamour of John F. and Jackie Kennedy. After hearing about the former president's assassination, she decides, against her husband's wishes, to take a bus to JFK's funeral. When she crosses paths with a black man (Dennis Haysbert) and his young daughter, their lives change forever. The naive Lurene learns how close-minded her fellow Southerners are and discovers that there is more to life than what color pillbox hat Jackie wears.



HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

13 It's October and you know what that means: plenty of good food and lively entertainment when 50 Hub restaurants and products and local chefs bring their best to the WRKO-sponsored ***Taste of Boston '93***, 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets, sold at the World Trade Center door, are $8.



FAMILY FUN: Falsettos, *a Tony Award-winning play about the relationships within a unique family opens Oct. 20.*

THURSDAY

14 Controversial civil-rights activist **Rev. Al Sharpton** speaks tonight on **"Racial Equality in America: How Do We Keep the Wheels of Progress Rolling?"** It begins at 7 p.m. at the Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St. in Downtown Crossing. Admission is free.

FRIDAY

15 When the going gets tough, the tough go shopping, and the soon-to-open Shops at Prudential Center may prove just the thing for tense downtown types. Part of an $85-million redevelopment, the Shops plan to celebrate themselves by hosting two days of entertainment, including Irish stepping, *Forever Plaid*, Boston Ballet School performances, fiddlers, models, clowns, mimes and more. Call 267-7366 for information.

SATURDAY

16 The second annual **In-Line (a/k/a Rollerblading) Skate Against AIDS** is held today along Storrow and Memorial drives. The four-mile skate begins at 10 a.m. at the **Hatch Shell** (registration at 8:30 a.m.); there will also be skating demonstrations, a raffle and music. Rain date is Oct. 30 at 9 a.m. at Artessani Park, on Soldiers Field Road near WBZ-TV. Call 894-1100.

Art Boston, a public art show exhibiting traditional and contemporary works, is on view Saturday and Sunday at the Castle, 69 Park Plaza, Boston. Co-sponsored by DIFFA (Design Industries Foundation for AIDS), the proceed go to AIDS education, services and public-policy advocacy. For $6, view the best of the nation's galleries. Call 261-0234 for tickets and information.

SUNDAY

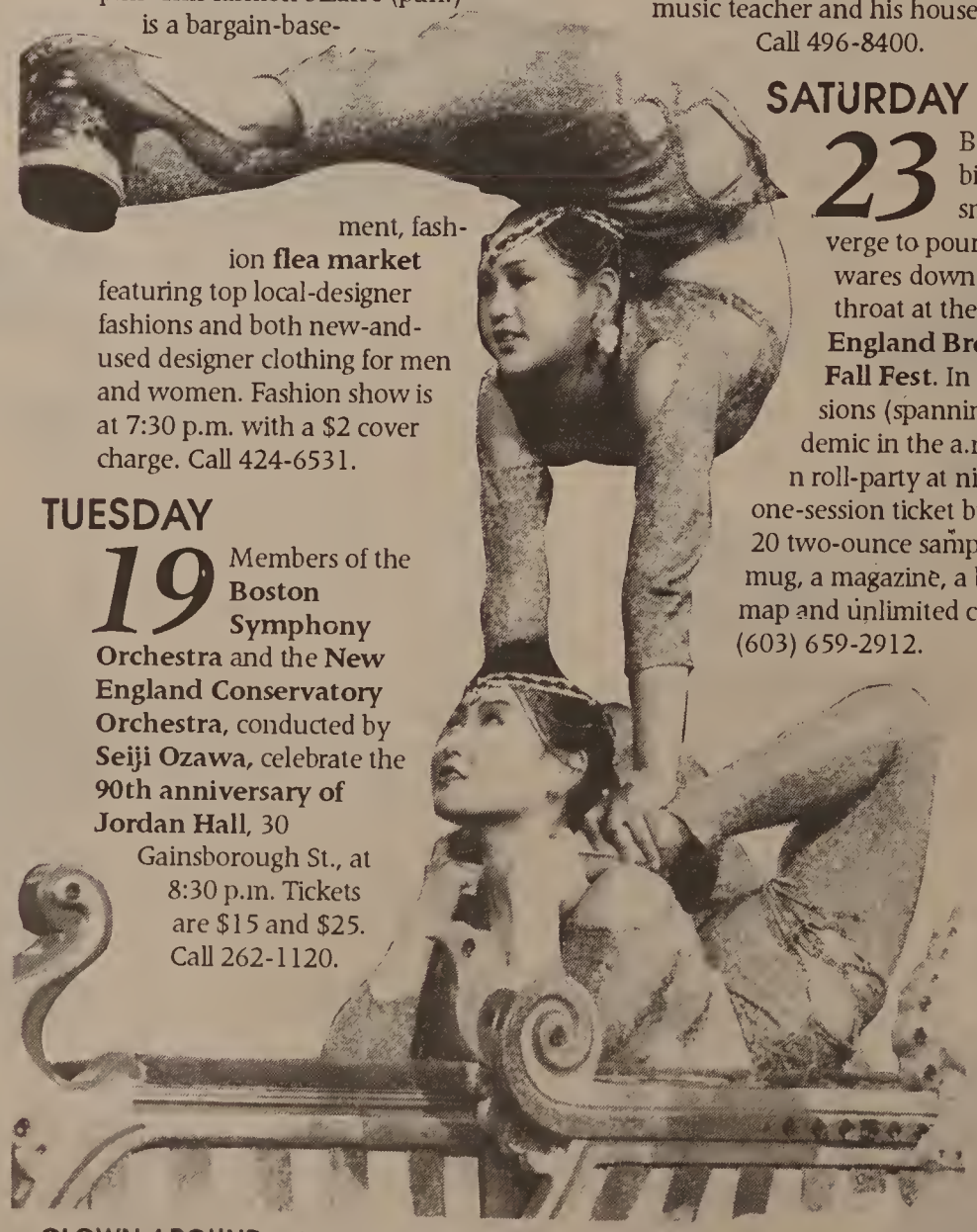
17 **The Jane Doe 10K Walk for Women's Safety** begins at noon (registration at 11 a.m.) at the **Hatch Shell**. All proceeds go to help battered women and their children and to provide educational programs to break the cycle of domestic violence. Call (800) JANE-DOE. Afterward, stop by 11 Marshall St., Boston, for the Green Dragon Tavern's first annual **Irish Music Festival**. In a benefit for Boston Ireland Ventures, a grass-roots organization for troubled youths founded by former mayor Ray Flynn, strolling musicians, mimes, magicians and live bands play between 1 p.m. and dusk. Admission is $10. Call 247-4112 for information.

MONDAY

18 **The Closet Cannibals** invade **Venus de Milo**, on Lansdowne Street in Kenmore Square, today from 5:30-11 p.m. This fashion bizarre (pun!) is a bargain-basement, fashion **flea market** featuring top local-designer fashions and both new-and-used designer clothing for men and women. Fashion show is at 7:30 p.m. with a $2 cover charge. Call 424-6531.

TUESDAY

19 Members of the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** and the **New England Conservatory Orchestra**, conducted by **Seiji Ozawa**, celebrate the **90th anniversary of Jordan Hall**, 30 Gainsborough St., at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 and $25. Call 262-1120.



CLOWN AROUND: *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey is looking for a few good clowns. Auditions are Oct. 21.*

WEDNESDAY

20 Don't miss the Tony Award-winning musical ***Falsettos***. It's a touching story about love, relationships and a different kind of family. Call the **Colonial Theatre** box office or 931-2787 for times-and-ticket information.



FLOWER POWER: *Don't let fall's foliage fall by the wayside. Journey to the mecca of wildflowers at Garden in the Woods.*

THURSDAY

21 Angry commuters call you "Bozo?" Prove them right; run off and join the circus! **Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey** seeks males and females for the 1993 class of its world-famous **Clown College. Auditions** open to all who are 17 and up. Call 437-7722 for more info.

FRIDAY

22 The **Cambridge Theatre Co.** presents ***Park Your Car in Harvard Yard*** (notice the "r" is included in all the appropriate words) at the **Hasty Pudding Theatre** through Oct. 24. It's a moving portrait of a high-school music teacher and his housekeeper. Call 496-8400.

SATURDAY

23 Breweries big and small converge to pour their wares down your throat at the **New England Brewers' Fall Fest**. In three sessions (spanning academic in the a.m. to rock n roll-party at night), a one-session ticket buys you 20 two-ounce samples, a mug, a magazine, a brewery map and unlimited coffee! Call (603) 659-2912.

SUNDAY

24 This is one of the last days to take a leisurely stroll through the **Garden in the Woods,** 180 Hemenway Road in Framingham, the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast. See the last leaves change and breathe some fresh air before it gets really cold! Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.



GOOD TASTE: *WRKO personality Pat Whitley samples Cafe Escadrille's executive-chef Brian Pheurer's victuals at the* Taste of Boston '93, *Oct. 13, 6-9 p.m.*

MONDAY

25 The gangsters and missionaries are back at the **North Shore Music Theatre**, 62 Dunham Road in Beverly. ***Guys and Dolls*** closes Oct. 30; call (508) 922-8500.

TUESDAY

26 Celebrate the **Roxy's Third Annual Harvest Moon Festival** beginning at 6 p.m. as you dine on cuisine donated from more than 20 of Boston's best restaurants. **The House of Blues All Stars**, Monster Mike Welch and Rick Russell, provide the tunes. Proceeds go to **Oxfam** and the **Boston Food Bank**. Call 227-ROXY or 536-8993.

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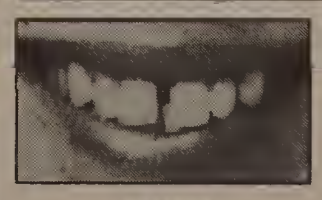
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On the Hunt for Weekend Adventure

Antiquing • Ballooning • Carrot Juicing

Story and Photos by Jay Paris and Carmi Paris



NEW ENGLAND AFTERNOON: *A neglected book, a cup of tea and a comfortable chair make for a luxurious autumn afternoon.*

Boston, cooled by night and framed by autumnal light, is crisp and appealing. But outside its borders, New England is vibrantly crimson and yellow from the Connecticut River Valley to the terminus of the Green Mountains to the far reaches of the Maine shore. The October light makes us impatient to travel and is an ever-present reminder that the diverse and colorful geography will never be more striking.

The solution is simple. Head out with a sharpened eye, some Kodachrome and a willingness to get lost. Here are three destinations – north, west and south – reachable on less than a tankful of gas that will rekindle your appreciation of New England's grand season.

Antiquing in the Lower Connecticut Valley

According to tax laws established by Congress in 1966, an antique is anything that was made more than 100 years ago. A collectible, on the other hand, is beyond legislation, loosely defined as anything that was ever made from any era found endearing by someone.

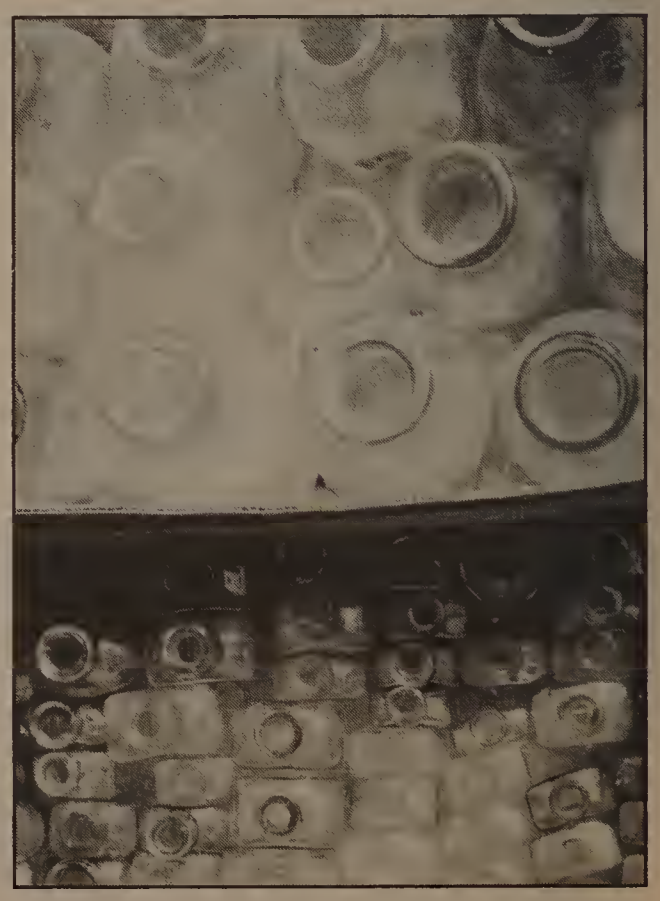
If you are accomplished enough to date Scottish Pebble jewelry or to know the difference between late-Victorian British watermarks and their copies in America, you likely seek antiques. Conversely, if you are amused by the shapes of stones and like trademarks as much as watermarks, you probably enjoy flea markets. In either case, we know of a Connecticut destination two hours south of Boston that in autumn receives little credit for its immense beauty and rich offerings to both serious and whimsical collectors.

Traditionally, Maine and Vermont have been credited with superb collectibles. Those charming villages at mountain's or ocean's edge have appeal but can no longer claim innocence. Antique prices have risen to meet the needs of tourists who will pay more to take home a New England purchase. By reputation, Connecticut is not a state known for moderate prices but we found relative bargains compared to costs we have encountered in the far north. And antique touring does not occur in a void. Good scenery, dining and complementary points of interest improve the hunt. In the lower Connecticut Valley, you can't go wrong.

The first group of towns to consider are on the ocean, convenient to one another and historically pronounced.

Start in Stonington, a village dating to 1649 just a few miles from Route 95, near the Rhode Island-Connecticut border. Although Route 1A leads into the village, any road heading southwest marked for Stonington will do. Getting lost in these environs is almost a pleasure. Your eye will fall upon beautifully restored period homes — Victorian, Georgian and Colonial. The village of Stonington has the antiquated, charming feel of an English village with its narrow streets packed with small enterprises, surrounded by unique, sprawling houses. There are a half-dozen antique stores, many of which specialize in estate silver and jewelry, but we saw also many fine examples of country furniture and marine objects.

If you collect antique silver, visit Neil Bruce Estate Antiques or Orkney and Yost Antiques, both on Water Street, which is the town's commercial drive. For marine paintings and ship models, try the Quester Gallery and Victoria Station, both on Water Street. The prices in Stonington are more than fair and there is plenty of material on display.



GLASS ACT: *Connecticut offers antique treasures for the seeker.*

SEEK ANTIQUES?

To receive additional information about visiting, dining and lodging in the Connecticut Valley, write Jackie LaBella, executive director of the Connecticut River Valley and Shoreline Visitor's Bureau, 393 Main St., Middletown, Conn. 06457 or call (800) 486-3346.

Head out with a sharpened eye, some Kodachrome and a willingness to get lost . . . (and) rekindle your appreciation of New England's grand season.

Another favorite, Old Saybrook, lies a half-hour farther down Route 95, at the mouth of the ConnecticutRiver. Founded in 1623 by the Dutch and then sold to the British two decades later, Old Saybrook is a yachter's paradise. By a fate that has not spared most rivers opening to the Atlantic, the mouth of the Connecticut was never developed by industry and remains almost pastoral and untouched. It is hard to imagine a more peaceful bench than the one we occupied at Saybrook Point, watching magnificent yachts traverse the river, as sea gulls and swans crossed the expansive sky.

If you wish to browse or shop for obscure items, visit the Antiques Depot of Saybrook Junction where 50 dealers have set up shop, selling virtually anything collectible (moose heads lie next to galvanized-wrench collections).

If seafood is your pleasure, don't miss the Dock and Dine Restaurant on the river. Our sampling of fish and chowder was fresh and succulent.

From Saybrook, we encourage you to head north to the town of Essex, six miles up the Connecticut River, which is a showplace of exquisite multicolored Victorian homes, galleries and shops, interspersed with impeccable gardens. At the end of Main Street is the Griswold Inn, one of two singularly historic inns that we recommend for lodging.

The Griswold has been in continuous operation since 1796 and is still a favorite watering spot of visiting yachters. Another place to overnight is the Copper Beech Inn in Ivoryton, a section of Essex that once made the ivory keys of most pianos manufactured in the United States. The Copper Beech Inn has a four-star French restaurant that has been voted the state's top eatery several times in the last decade. While there, enjoy cocktails in the inn's greenhouse and ask the owners, Sally and Elvin Senner, to show you their displayed collection of antique porcelains.

There is an abundance of antique shops in the area. If you have $10,000 or $20,000 to drop, visit Francis Bealey on Main Street; his building is renowned across the country for its fine early-American furniture and paintings. Less expensive but also showing high-quality items are the Valley Farm Antiques and Essex Colony Antiques. Essex is a town made for browsing. It is hard to leave and some don't, moving their families to this delightful town to participate in the best of New England living.

On your way home, we recommend one last historic stop to try out an antique. At the outskirts of town, on Route 154, you will find the impeccably restored Connecticut Valley Steam Railroad, offering daily sojourns past dense-and-aged forests that glow with color at this time of year.

Balloons Over Vermont

On the Connecticut River, about halfway up Vermont is the town of Fairlee, population 883. Farther west, over a small peak and beyond several dairy herds, is one of Fairlee's suburbs, Post Mills, which has a church, a post office and an airport. All three landmarks are equally hard to find, pleasantly obscured by large maple trees.

According to Ed Page, Post Mill's retired postmaster (whose wife is the former postmistress of nearby Wells River; she retired the same day as her husband), you know you're in Post Mills when you see dirigibles. Most belong to Brian Boland, one of the world's foremost balloonists, who bought the Post Mills Airport a few years ago to escape Connecticut airspace, crowded with hundreds of pilots he had taught to fly. Boland lives above a hangar where he keeps some of his 44 flying machines, offering rides for $150 a shot. *Continued on next page*

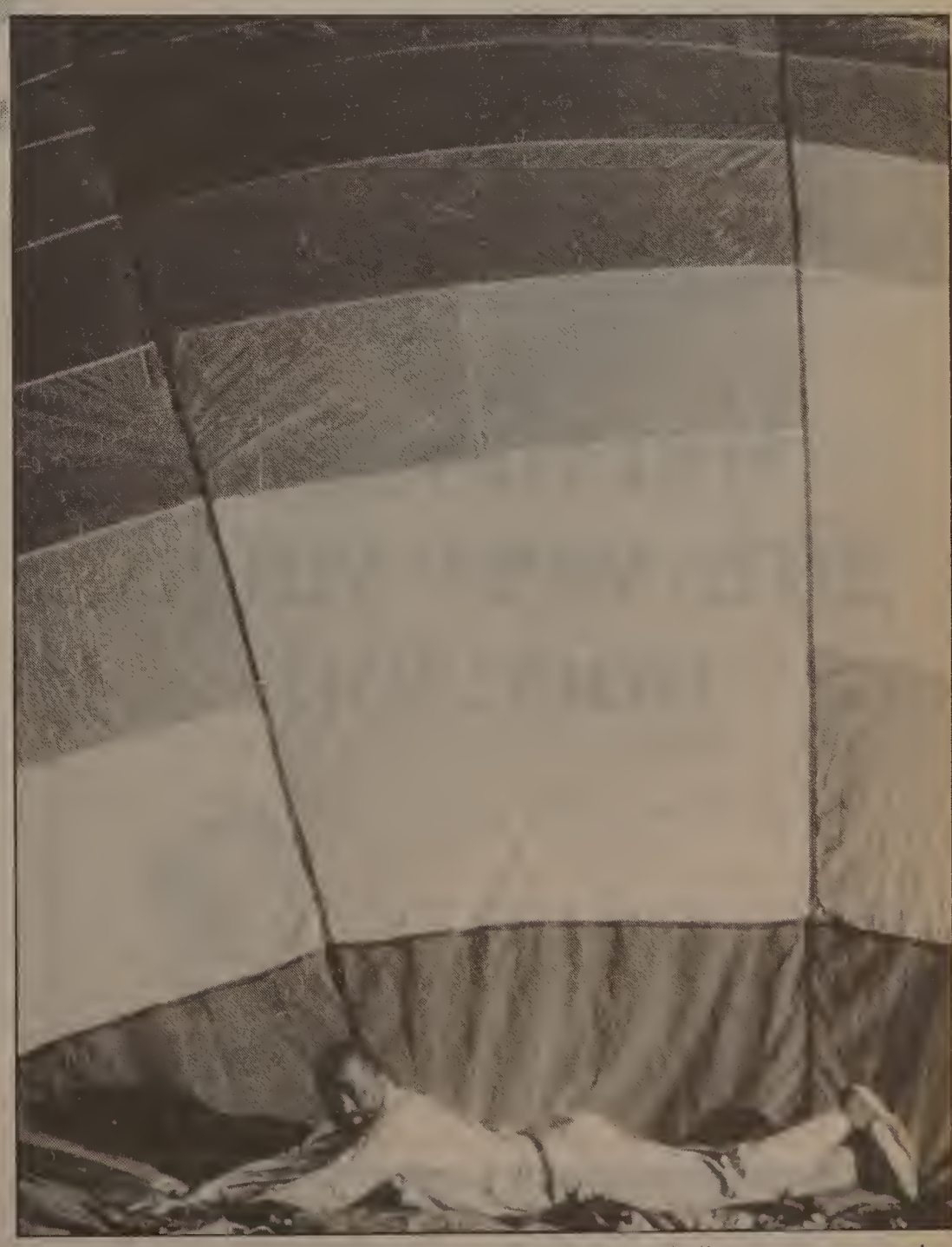
TO LEAVE TERRA FIRMA:

Interested in flying with Brian Boland? Call him at the Post Mills Airport, day or night, at (802) 333-9254. He uses the words "hello" and "balloons" interchangeably but will also help you make overnight arrangements at the Silver Maple Inn in Fairlee, where for a mere $50 a night, you can have a complete lighter-than-air adventure weekend. The drive north from Boston takes about two-and-a-half hours.

Between Memorial Day and Nov. 1, be sure to dine at the Middlebrook Restaurant in Post Mills, which offers extraordinarily original and fresh lunches and dinners at reasonable prices. Or order pizza at whichever parlors are downwind.



CHARMING COLLECTIBLES: *Look for silver, estate-jewelry, country-furniture and marine treasures when antiquing in Connecticut.*



UP, UP AND AWAY: *Mountainous Vermont offers challenging terrain and beautiful vistas to weekend ballooners.*

Continued from previous page

Ballooning in Vermont, with its vast woods and ever-changing weather, offers Boland a challenge that suits his temperament and skill level perfectly. Despite his international reputation as a balloon manufacturer and test pilot who holds seven world records, his greatest joy is to introduce landlubbers to the pleasures of floating over foliage and mountains that span Vermont and New Hampshire.

Boland can accommodate almost any size party or request. He has built and flies gondolas that are wheelchair accessible, baskets specially suitable for the very old and very short, and he even flies a Volkswagen-bus chassis lined with wicker, which he can drive home from his landing site. He has presided over aerial cremations, flies all winter, and even offers midnight ballooning for the adventurously inclined.

Boland, 44, would rather fly than eat, which is a source of mild consternation to those who invite him for dinner. Recently friends who arrived at the airport invited him to go out for pizza in Fairlee. Thinking it was too nice to drive, he gauged the winds, noting that the clouds at 7,000 feet were heading toward the restaurant.

His friends left, certain he would never make it. But as their pizzas arrived, a wild-eyed youth ran into the eatery, screaming that a hot-air balloon had just landed on the restaurant's roof. It was Boland, hungry at last.

Although most balloonists avoid the vastly wooded territories of Vermont, Boland regales in being one of the few who regularly accepts the challenge of finding a crosswind and dropping his basket conveniently near a farmhouse or field. As far as we know, he has never failed.

Resorting to Health

If neither skyward adventure nor hunting for collectibles inspires you to a city escape, our third-and-final option is to head west to the hilly environs of Lenox, Mass. There you will find Canyon Ranch, a world-class spa whose off-season prices are a makeover of how to get away.

In the vernacular of the carrot-juice business, Canyon Ranch has been dubbed "a life-enhancement, mind/body resort to experience permanent lifestyle improvement." What does this mean? Basically, you can decompress and eat extraordinarily well while toning the body and the mind. Much of this happens in real, applicable terms, by eating blissfully well and taking any of 30 exercise classes a day, or playing racquetball and squash, or using one of the five

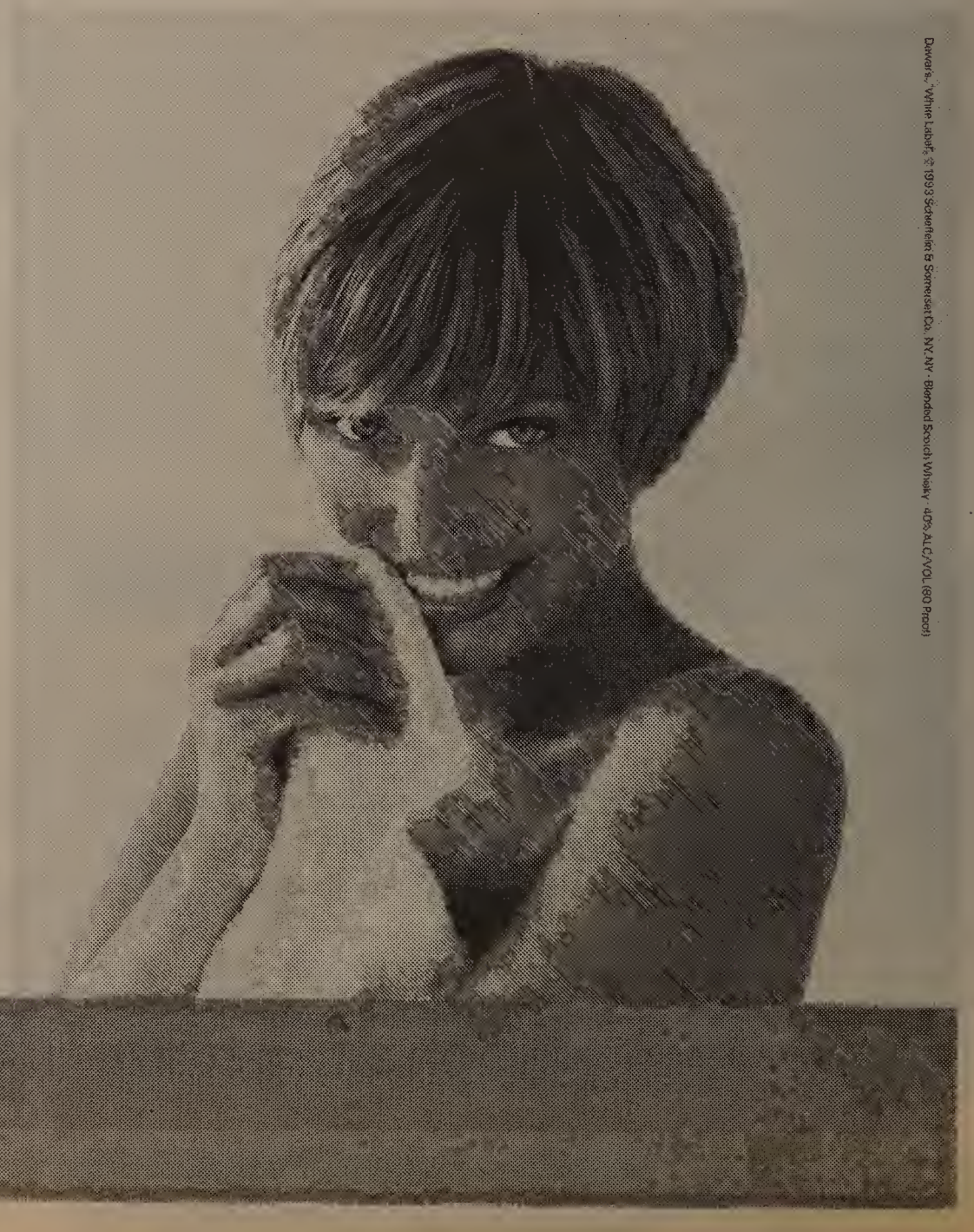


CALL OF THE WILD: *In New England, getting away from it all doesn't necessarily render you incommunicado.*

You thought girls were yucky once too.



Dewar's



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indoor-tennis courts or the Olympic pool or the full gym with rows of treadmills, stairclimbers, freeweights and weight machines, or finally, the gyms dedicated to stretching, martial arts and aerobics.

But that isn't all. Because Canyon Ranch is located in one of the Berkshires' most scenic pockets, the resort offers an array of outdoor sports, including canoeing, biking and arduous hikes that follow the Appalachian Trail. End all this caloric output with saunas and Jacuzzis, a class or two on stress management, meditation and biofeedback, and Boston not only seems improper but very distant.

We left Canyon Ranch clear about several worthwhile notions: The relationship between metabolism and digestion is now a science, as is the relationship between how your body is affected by the thoughts that chatter endlessly in your mind. Canyon Ranch has become a leader in defining and teaching these dynamics. In three days, and for about $400 per person all inclusive, we were educated, challenged, rested and recharged.

We once went to La Costa, the infamous and chic spa in California. We were wrapped, hydrated, scrubbed and massaged in Swedish and Japanese ways that were on the cutting edge of beautification and health. In our soothing and sterile midst were personalities from the outer world, the underworld and the silver screen.

La Costa was reviving and pleasant, but it was not life-changing. In recent years, America has been besieged by hundreds of new spas to coax and calm every one of your organs, to say nothing of skin cells. Canyon Ranch is in our backyard, just two hours from Boston, and highly rated in the spa industry for its excellence. And during your stay, you are usually in good company. We met mothers and daughters sharing a getaway, couples celebrating anniversaries, men and women seeking ambitious new training plateaus, casual weekenders and even senior citizens who just wanted to stay healthy.

Jay and Carmi Paris travel widely. Their articles and photographs appear regularly in national magazines, including Conde Nast publications, Yankee *and* Reader's Digest. *They also write and host* The Travel Guide on WHDH, *aired each Saturday, 3-5 p.m.* ❑

FOR A MIND-AND-BODY EXPERIENCE:

The prices for three- and four- day packages prices drop by 40 percent on Oct. 20 and will stay low through the winter. Typically, packages include room, gourmet meals, full use of the health facilities, a massage and a private, professional consultation with one of their many experts in nutrition, medicine, stress management and exercise physiology. Note that meals at Canyon Ranch are a major focus of the day. Every item on the menu is specifically rated for calories and fat grams, but all are so low that you can eat as much as you want. No alcohol is served or allowed on the premises, but good wine is served in town. Canyon Ranch is 130 miles from Boston.

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PROFILES

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER



TOP OF THE PYLE: *The former head of Harvard Community Health, Thomas Pyle has had the ear of the Clinton administration on health care.*

Thomas Pyle

King HMO

BY JOHN KOOKER

The health-care debate launched by President Clinton has been a long time coming and promises to smolder behind wide-open doors until all parties are appeased. As most Americans have found, the debate treads the line between ethics and economy. What some Bostonians may not know is that one of our own has been advising the White House since Clinton's plan began to take shape many months ago.

Boston-native Thomas Pyle, former CEO of the Harvard Community Health Plan and soon-to-be CEO of MetLife's HMO Division, has recently finished his term as special consultant to the White House Task Force on Health Care Reform. A long-standing leader in the Boston HMO industry, it comes as no surprise that Pyle had the exact credentials to offer ground-breaking managerial philosophy.

"HMOs were a big force in stipulating the change," Pyle says, "because they demonstrated that it was possible to have entities that took responsibility for care and integrated multiple specialties and financing."

Still, there are some in the field of health care that don't think change is necessary, although it currently absorbs 15 percent of the GNP. As a champion of efficient management, Pyle brought the idea of a market-based philosophy to health-care reform, using Boston as a practical example of a system that has worked to eliminate unnecessary care since 1969. The competitive element identified by Clinton as essential has been been at work in Boston for years.

Like most agents of change, Pyle has led a diverse and interesting life. After a solitary year at MIT, he dabbled in the communications field at CBS and ABC as a production assistant and page in New York City. At 25, Pyle finally put his managerial skills to use at the Harvard Business School. The rest, as they say, is history. Since 1967, Pyle has held high-ranking positions in firms and served on the boards of directors for corporations far too numerous to list. Suffice it to say, when the new administration decided to take on one of the country's most "bloated systems," Thomas Pyle had the essential health-care expertise to offer.

To opponents averse to change, Pyle, like any experienced adviser, is quick to point out that the new reforms will not be a quick fix to a complicated problem. "The results [of the plan] can only be theoretical at this point," Pyle says.

"The savings to the country will occur over a period of years, maybe three to five, but the plan will make good on its claim."

Beverly Creasey

Positive Criticism

BY JULIE FLAHERTY

At a recent reading of banned books at the Boston Center for the Arts, Beverly Creasey breaks from her role as theater critic to do a little acting. She has chosen a passage from *The Wizard of Oz*, in which the Good Witch of the North introduces herself to a puzzled Dorothy.

"But I thought all witches were wicked,' said the girl," Creasey reads. In a Billie Burke twitter, Creasey intones Glenda's response, "I am a good witch and people love me."

What Glenda did for the witch image, Creasey may be doing for theater critics. Creasey, a freelance theatre critic, is not a crusty old journalist who would rather give up a limb than a kind word about a play. As an actress and playwright, Creasey has suffered through both writer's block and actor's nightmare, so she admits to empathy and "encouraging the theater."

With few exceptions, "Boston critics are cutthroats," she says. "They think Boston theater stinks, and it's not true. They only praise the huge productions, the *Miss Saigons* and the *Phantoms*. There are lots of wonderful small plays in this city."

Creasey has received a lot of flack from her colleagues for being "soft." Among them, Arthur Friedman, the theater critic who pens a column for the *Herald*, where Creasey is taken to task as often as the shows.

"He likes to make up diseases for me, like `terminal positivitis' and 'adjectivitis,'" she says.

Criticism doesn't phase her. The stage has obsessed her since the time a teacher, in a last-minute, *42nd Street* substitution, pushed her out from behind the curtain with the encouraging words, "You don't have a choice." She had no lines, but she was hooked. Now 46, Creasey has acted in and written several well-received plays, and currently runs a theater for new plays, Playwright's Platform.

"It may sound cliche, but I think theater has the power to change the world," she says, sounding a little like the flower-child vegetarian who was married in a Buddhist ceremony. Creasey says what she believes, and she believes in, and fights for, many things. She once went from a gay-rights rally to an anti-nuclear demonstration to a Gulf War protest, all in the same day.

One of her primary causes has been, like Glenda, helping strangers find their way home. For Creasey, the strangers are raccoons, squirrels and sometimes pheasants. For 10 years, she and her husband, David, have been "wildlife rehabilitators," taking care of hurt or abandoned forest creatures in their Brighton home until the animals can get along on their own.

"It's amazing, but they just come to us," says Creasey, whose house abuts the Nonantum woods. "They must have animal TV or something, because they just show up at our door when they need help."



ALTERNATIVE PRESS: *"Boston critics are cutthroats," says Beverly Creasey, who writes empathic reviews and runs the Playwright's Platform.*

Arts Review / Charles Giuliano

The Fat Lady Sings

Rubens Blockbuster Is an MFA Curator's Dream Made Flesh, as Director Shestack Departs for D.C.

The 17th-century Dutch master, Peter Paul Rubens, featured in the Boston Museum of Fine Art's *The Age of Rubens*, loved flesh. Lots and lots of pink-and-puffy flesh. From beefy warriors, Greek gods and biblical heroes, to dimpled, full-figured women. In a famous portrait of his teen-age second wife, Helene Fournement, she is depicted nude, wrapped in fur that reveals her ample bosom, as well as exposing what would now be called cellulite on her knees. How taste has changed. This famous Rubens painting is owned by Vienna's Kunsthistorisches Museum, which installed *From Brueghel to Rubens* by rehanging its permanent-collection galleries to form bookend references for works by the Flemish masters Brueghel and Rubens.



ALAN SHESTACK: *Outgoing MFA director*

The magnificent Vienna exhibition, which I viewed last April, proved to be stiff competition for MFA curator Peter Sutton's efforts to secure loans of Dutch masterpieces to bring to Boston. Under such circumstances, museums will often lend to one but not both exhibitions. Sutton had to look for loans largely from American collections, such as the great *Prometheus and the Vulture*, from the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

IF YOU GO

The Age of Rubens

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But even more critical than securing loans was the effort to raise money for this very expensive, and more than likely, never-to-be-repeated special exhibition. During the 1980s, museums routinely found generous corporate sponsors for their blockbuster shows, which had a potential for half-a-million visitors during a three-month run. Last year's Matisse show at the Museum of Modern Art in New York drew just short of a million visitors. Indicative of the generally hard times of the 1990s is the fact that the MFA was unable to find a major sponsor for the Rubens exhibit and considered canceling the project, as it had earlier done when attempting to organize a survey of the French painter Edouard Manet. Similarly, the museum's shot at an epic Rembrandt show a couple of years ago was usurped by the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

To raise money for the Rubens show, Sutton curated a show of French Impressionist paintings from the permanent collection, which was then loaned for a couple of cool millions to museums in Japan and department-store galleries, which are actually rather grand. Thus, Sutton, whose star is on the rise, got his Rubens show. Way to go.

Negotiating this and other high-stakes deals for the past six years has been MFA director Alan Shestack. In particular, he has logged exhausting frequent-flyer miles while negotiating a long-term loan agreement with a new museum being built in Nagoya, Japan. When this contract goes into effect a couple of years from now, it is expected to offset what has risen in the past few years to an annual deficit of $3 million. Because of this deficit, Shestack was forced to reduce the staff by 40 for the first time in the museum's history.

Champagne corks popped during gala receptions in the rehung permanent-collection galleries, as viewers gawked at all that flesh. But for Shestack, it was time, as Yogi Berra would say, for the fat lady to sing. At such a triumphant moment, revelers were stunned to learn that Shestack had resigned to become deputy director of the National Gallery, which unlike the MFA, enjoys direct federal support, has more than double the operating budget and 10 times the acquisition funds. Also, the National Gallery usually wins hands down when it comes to competing for the most prestigious and popular shows.

At the National Gallery, Shestack will organize special exhibitions and negotiate acquisitions and gifts. Undoubtedly, for Shestack, 55, it will be a relief to spend other people's money and leave raising it to the museum's director, Earl A. Powell III.

Shortly before Shestack's arrival, during the prosperous '80s, the MFA had undergone an intense period of expansion, renovation and modernization. It was Shestack's fate to get stuck with the mortgage and staggering bills as we face the hard times of the 1990s.

He did a good job. ❑

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FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

BOPHA!
★★★

An utterly decent film, the directorial debut by Morgan Freeman would have more impact if it had been made 10 years ago. *Bopha!* has a dramatic father-son conflict at the center of its 1980 South African-township setting. Danny Glover is the proud, unenlightened policeman who cannot comprehend his son's (Maynard Eziashi) rejection of his authority or the broader rebellion building against apartheid. Given the enormous recent changes and the new battles, the film seems anachronistic. Strong acting by all, although Malcolm McDowell is cliched as the sadistic top cop. While there are some ambiguities in character, the film is painted in rather broad, predictable strokes. Missing are the messy, complicated details of the beginning of a violent personal-and-political transformation in real people.

J.W.Hall

FOR LOVE OR MONEY
★★

Michael J. Fox plays Doug Ireland, a Manhattan-hotel concierge and small-time hustler. He's a "genie in a suit" who conjures up big tips by fulfilling his guests' wishes. He can even make stale romances fresh again. But when Ireland, also an aspiring hotel owner, must entertain his financier's pouty but beautiful mistress (Gabrielle Anwar), he finds himself torn between kissing up to him and kissing her. Anwar is charming and Fox looks good in a suit, but both are a bit stiff (too much starch, perhaps). The laughs are limited and the eccentric minor characters in the hotel get the best ones.

M.R.D'Entremont

THE FUGITIVE
★★★

The Fugitive is quintessential Harrison Ford. No one cracks nervous jokes while under fire quite the way Ford does, and since the part of Doctor Kimble, the film's protagonist, calls for a lot of that, it fits Ford like a glove. As the falsely convicted killer of his beloved wife, he wins our sympathy. As the escapee pursuing his wife's killer, he wins our admiration. And as a daredevil fugitive who risks life and limb to evade Tommy Lee's hardheaded but good-humored lawman, he wins our attention. Our attention drifts, though, as the spectacular action/chase scenes are replaced by the dry details of Kimble's investigation. We are too prepared for the ending, which winds down in trite anti-climactic fight scenes.

M.R.D'Entremont

THE GOOD SON
★★★

Macaulay Culkin shocks as the precocious but sadistic Henry, who seems angel-like to everyone except his visiting cousin Mark (Elijah Wood). The tension builds as Mark continually uncovers and tries to expose Henry's dark side to deaf adult ears. Shot in Cape Ann, Mass. and Minnesota, the film is packed with effective, ominous "height" imagery: cliffs, bridges, wells and tree houses. Henry's lack of conscience and anti-social behavior are given no psychological explanation, but Culkin is quite convincing as the bad son and we readily accept him as just plain evil. Not recommended for children.

M.R.D'Entremont

JURASSIC PARK
★★★

Forget character development. Forget plot. Even the scary parts — and there are many — don't go over the top. The dinosaurs rule *Jurassic Park*, and they are amazing. They look real. The only entertaining humans are Dennis (Wayne Knight), a treacherous, whiny computer genius responsible for the dinosaurs' running amuck in Jurassic Park, and a greedy, cowardly lawyer (Martin Ferraro) who deserves to be turned into dinosaur food. If you wish lawyers were an extinct species, you'll enjoy director Steven Spielberg's visual lawyer joke. The talents of Laura Dern, Sam Neill and Jeff Goldblum as scientists are utterly wasted.

K.Wilson

KING OF THE HILL
★★★★

A gritty, steamy, down-and-out version of *The Wonder Years*. The film's hero, Aaron (Jesse Bradford), does more than blush at giggling, pubescent girls in the school cafeteria; he also deals with the harsh, sordid life of St. Louis during the Depression. Prostitution, eviction notices, Hoovervilles and suicide are just some of the realities that force Aaron into premature manhood. Each scene brings us to new depths of discomfort (and horror), but still we want more. As ordinary brush strokes can result in a classic painting, so the vulgarity of each scene gives this film a unique beauty. The excellent casting includes Elizabeth McGovern as the hotel prostitute and Karen Allen as the kindhearted teacher.

M.R.D'Entremont

MALICE
★★

Good campy fun, although it's apparently meant to be a serious thriller. Taken at face value, the film is utterly ridiculous in all dimensions: plot, direction, acting, and most of all, writing. The marriage of a Yuppie college-town couple, played by Bill Pullman and Nicole Kidman, becomes strained after the new hot-shot doctor in town (Alec Baldwin) rents a room in their house. When Baldwin botches an operation on Kidman, she takes the huge settlement and leaves the dazed Pullman, who decides to track her down and discovers things aren't quite what they seem. Adding to the mess is a tossed-off subplot of a serial killer on campus. The best line belongs to the ultra-confident Baldwin: "I am God." Lots of shots of Smith College and Boston.

J.W. Hall

TRUE ROMANCE
★

There's a moment that best captures *True Romance*'s spirit: Patricia Arquette picks up the top of the toilet tank and slams it over her attacker's head. In a just world, someone would do the same to the makers of this movie. In Detroit, Christian Slater and Arquette meet grungy-cute, fall in love, marry and then head for L.A. with a suitcase full of cocaine stolen from the Mob. The movie offers a fast-forward romance; mucho macho posturing and gut-wrenching violence that screenwriter Quentin Tarantino takes to its *Reservoir Dogs*-like logical, absurd conclusion. There are puke, my-name-is-Dick and toilet jokes galore; endless pop-culture references; and dialogue that sounds like bad Mamet. *True Romance* is all smart-ass attitude; it thinks it is sooo cool.

K.Wilson

THE WEDDING BANQUET
★★★★

Another charming — and moving — comedy from Ang Lee about generational conflicts in a Chinese-American family. A gay son, who is still in the closet and beset by the matchmaking efforts of his parents, decides to marry one of his tenants, a spirited Chinese painter (May Chin) who needs a green card. With his lover pretending to be his roommate, the situation gradually gets out of hand as a raucous wedding banquet becomes unavoidable and his visiting parents linger in his house. What makes Lee's films special are not only his wonderfully light touch and skillful pacing, but the sadness that suddenly wells in his characters. Standing out are the striking, likable Chin, and Sihung Lung, marvelous as the father everyone is trying to protect from the truth.

J. W. Hall

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

Guy Vs. Girl Flicks

"... Men see the advertisements for *The Age of Innocence* with the flowers, the fancy dress ball, the costumes, the smoldering looks, and think: "Chick flick! Forget it."



THE JOY LUCK CLUB: The ultimate girl flick.

Woo! Woo! No, it's not Arsenio Hall. It's John Woo night at the Brattle and tonight's feature, *The Killer*, about a professional assassin, is one of the Hong Kong director's most popular films. Whenever the killer outdoes himself, the mostly young-and-male audience raises the Woo cheer. Since the movie's body count is, oh, maybe 100, there's a whole lot of Woo Woo-ing going on.

Talk about contrast. The next night, across the river at the Museum of Fine Arts, a mostly female audience sniffles and honks its way through a Friends of Film preview of *The Joy Luck Club*. Directed by Wayne Wang and based on Amy Tan's best-selling novel, *The Joy Luck Club* tells the stories of first-generation Chinese women and their second-generation daughters.

There's no doubt about it: There are guy flicks and there are girl flicks. *The Killer*, of course, is a guy flick. It's an action picture — a guy-flick must. It's fast. It's violent. It's even funny. The violence in *The Killer* is graphic but repetitive and stylized. It's a game. It doesn't get you in the gut because you know it's not real. *The Killer* quickens your pulse and pumps your adrenaline. The effect is mindless sensation, like riding with your hands up in the front seat of a roller coaster. Woo dazzles with his style and technique. No wonder the audience cheers.

A woman demands feeling, not action. The emotional connection between characters is a key ingredient. A movie has to tug at her heart, not get her adrenaline pumping. A girl flick doesn't have to be a romance, although it often is. However, if it doesn't act out her fantasies, it has to at least address her issues and concerns.

IF YOU GO

Films of John Woo

Playing at: The Brattle Theater
Tuesday, Oct. 19: Bullet in the Head

The Joy Luck Club

Directed by: Wayne Wang
Screenplay by: Amy Tan and Ronald Bass
Based on the Novel by: Amy Tan
Playing at: Loews Copley

The Joy Luck Club tackles four mother-daughter relationships (Audience: sniff, sniff. Daughter: "Mother, you don't know what power you have over me." Audience: honk, honk.) In the process, the film looks at women's roles, their senses of self-esteem and the need to value oneself even when society doesn't.

Many girl flicks focus on domestic details such as meals and furnishings to explore relationships and character. (*Water for Chocolate*, a surprise girl-flick hit, goes so far as to equate cooking with white magic.) *The Joy Luck Club* is no exception. In addition, Wang and Tan use domestic details very effectively to portray Chinese/American cultural differences.

The Joy Luck Club moves at a girl-flick pace, which means many men will find it slow going. Women seem to enjoy slow-paced movies more than men. They like the build-up. Maybe these tendencies reflect the difference between men's and women's sexual pace and rhythms. Or the fact that women live longer and have more time. Or that women tend to be the nurturers and nurturing takes patience (just watch a woman trying to get her small children out of the house and into the car). Maybe they are just hard-wired differently.

Women's taste for domestic details and a slower pace helps explain why they like period pieces. Men see the advertisements for *The Age of Innocence* with the flowers, the fancy dress ball, the costumes, the smoldering looks, and think: "Chick flick! Forget it." They go only because their girlfriend or wife insists, assuring them it will be fine, after all, because it's directed by the guy who made *Taxi Driver* and *Goodfellas*.

There are all sorts of variations of the guy vs. girl theory. Younger guys like slice-'em-and-dice-'ems. Younger girls like romances with female pop stars. Many movies have girl-and-guy elements. *The Fugitive* is a guy film, an action film with a capital A, but it has girl stuff, too: Harrison Ford as Dr. Richard Kimble is handsome and sensitive; he's loyal to his beloved wife's memory; he saves people's lives, he really cares. Fortunately, a good movie (as are all the films mentioned) transcends any and all categories and generalizations. ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

The Age of Insolence

"... *Dazed and Confused* is a white, suburban, middle-class answer to Spike Lee's masterly *Do the Right Thing* and asks similarly tough questions of morality ..."

1976 might be recalled as the grand old flag-waving year of America's Bicentennial — 200 years of freedom — but for Austin, Texas, filmmaker Richard (*Slacker*) Linklater, now 31, that was when he entered a four-year tunnel of unconformity and mediocrity, the American high school.

Dazed and Confused is Linklater's knowing return to the original era of bell-bottoms, '60s burn-outs and the bump-your-head Gerald Ford presidency. But there's nothing nostalgic about his acidic trip in time. An age of innocence? "If these are the best years of my life, remind me to kill myself," declares one of his 1976 teen-agers.

Things were awful back then. Guess what? They're still awful. The stench of '70s living has blanketed the 1980s and 1990s. It's the same sad latchkey life, but with handguns, cable and the ubiquitous computer. Linklater, discussing *Dazed and Confused*, strikes the pessimistic note of many of his characters. "I honestly don't think the situation of the American teen-ager has changed that much in the last 30 or so years," he says. "They're forever battling the same oppressive forces — school, parents, a society that doesn't give them any space of their own."

If Linklater sounds polemical off-screen, he keeps his position papers to himself in *Dazed and Confused*. The beauty and integrity of the film is that Linklater trusts the audience to figure out what this complicated, multifaceted story is telling us. We watch several dozen teen-agers through 18 hours of time — from the May afternoon of the last day of the school year, through the troublesome after-school ritual hazings (more about them below), through the evening's partying, and into the next morning, when everyone crawls home.

Obviously, parents and teachers suck, and they're predictably hapless and ineffectual in *Dazed and Confused*. But what do we make of the teen behavior? When male characters we sort of like chase down helpless eighth-graders and paddle them mercilessly because . . . well, that's what you do on the last day of school? When the senior girls round up the 13- and 14-year-olds, swear at them, humiliate them and break raw eggs over their heads and backs? When our sort-of protagonist, Pink (Jason London), the skeptical high-school quarterback, senselessly overturns trash cans?



HAZING DAYS: *High-school senior girls torture freshmen in Richard Linklater's* Dazed and Confused.

IF YOU GO

Dazed and Confused

Directed and written by: Richard Linklater

Playing at: Loews Nickelodeon

Dazed and Confused is a white, suburban, middle-class answer to Spike Lee's masterly *Do the Right Thing* and asks similarly tough questions of morality. What is "the right thing" to do? The overwhelmingly popular option for Linklater's teens is to act like assholes, on this special day in May. Most interestingly, the adults in town, by shutting their eyes to it, comply with the cruel hazing — sadistic conformity pretending to be anarchy — and with the teen law-breaking. The major absence in *Dazed and Confused* is cops. Clearly, the police allow this stuff every year.

Linklater is insinuating that the powers-to-be know that being asshole teen-agers is necessary training to be asshole sorority-or-frat collegiates and, finally, asshole adults.

It's all pretty creepy, but what teen-ager, no matter how weird or marginal, can resist completely the call of the herd? *Dazed and Confused's* three intellectual, geek teens — philosophers, liberal ACLU types — make an appearance at the big dumb party, fascinated by all the straight bozos whom they badmouth and find repellent.

Does Linklater's vision carry? I remember me and my chess-playing, poetry-writing, jazz-crazy, beatnik cohorts showing up at the high-school graduation celebration in the woods in Columbia, S.C., and sneering at all the philistine future Young Republicans. Until I got drunk and brave and — wow! — actually kissed Molly, the blond cheerleader, on her popular mouth. ❑

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY

★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
The Age of Innocence	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
The Fugitive	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
The Joy Luck Club	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★		★★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Man Without a Face	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★
Secret Garden	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★		★★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★
Striking Distance	★★	★	★	★★	★★		
True Romance	★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★
Un Couer en Hiver	★★	★★★		★★★	★★★		★★★

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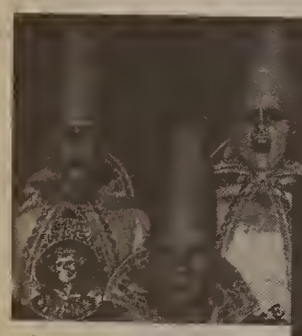
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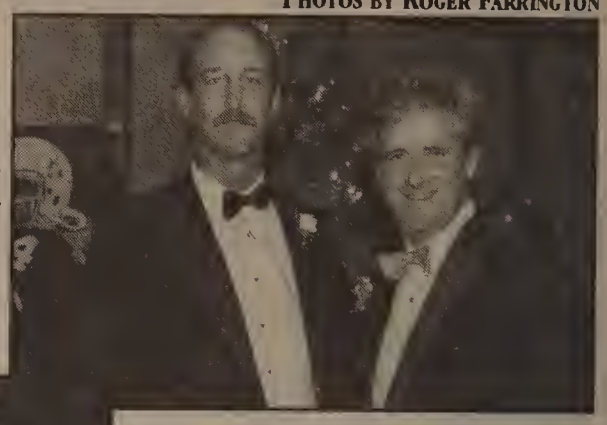
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American Liver Foundation's New England Chapter All-Star Tribute



*Former Patriot quarterback **Steve Grogan**, left, pictured here with former Patriots General Manager **Patrick Sullivan**, was the All-Star honoree at the American Liver Foundation's New England Chapter All-Star Tribute.*



***Alison Mosher**, left, associate producer at WCVB-TV, Ch. 5, chats with Bruin **Steve Heinz**.*



*Patriot-of-honor **Steve Grogan**, center, takes one on the chin from former Bruins tough-guy **Terry O'Reilly**, right, to the enjoyment of former Bruins player/coach **Mike Milbury**. O'Reilly and Milbury are former All-Star honorees.*



***Lawrence C. Moulter**, left, president of the New Boston Garden and president of the American Liver Foundation's New England Chapter, jokes with Filene's Basement Chairman of the Board and CEO **Samuel J. Gerson** at the reception.*



*All-Star Tribute Co-chairman and New England Patriots owner **James B. Orthwein** and his wife.*



Opening reception for *The Age of Rubens*, hosted by Continental Airlines and Thomas Cook Travel

ART OPENING: To celebrate the Museum of Fine Art's new blockbuster, The Age of Rubens, *Continental Airlines and Thomas Cook Travel hosted a private opening reception. Left to right, **Robert Pietro**, Continental's national account manager, **David Paresky**, president and CEO of Thomas Cook **Marcia DeSerres**, "Mrs. Rubens," **Larry Dodge**, Thomas Cook director of client services, and **Paul Stevens**, Continental's regional sales manager.*

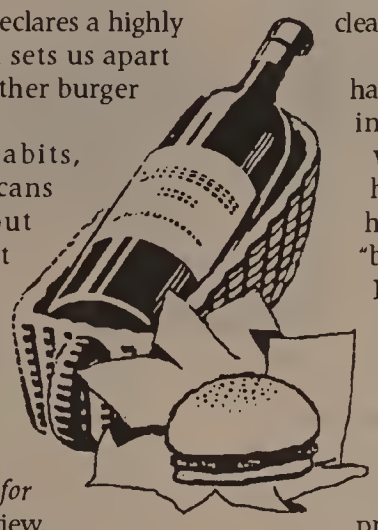
Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

McWine

"... The basic line-up will reportedly feature McChard, McCab and McBlush ..."

McDonald's Corp.'s recent decision to introduce wine service at each of its thousands of outlets has sent shock waves through the business world and ignited a long-simmering debate among hospitality-industry insiders. Citing the growing public clamor for fast wine, some analysts suggest lagging corporate profits might well trend briskly upward as a result of this bold innovation.

"Here is an amenity," declares a highly paced spokesman, "which sets us apart once and for all from the other burger joints."



Experts on dining habits, however, feel that Americans remain too uncertain about which wines complement which sandwiches to have the gamble pay immediate dividends. Findings released by the just-concluded *International Symposium on Wine and Chopped Meat, New Directions for the 21st Century* support this view.

Long respected for its daring approach to production and marketing, the fast-food monolith has announced it intends to proceed quickly with plans to manufacture and trademark its own wine brands. The basic line-up will reportedly feature McChard, McCab and McBlush, while selected markets will also begin testing McOaky Chard and McSteely Foo-may.

In efforts to reduce capital expenditures for this expansion, McDonald's intends to integrate the production of burgers and fast wines at the same processing facilities. The results of heretofore top-secret research have shown that in most cases identical equipment and techniques can be employed to make both types of products.

McDonald's winemakers appear genuinely excited about the quality of the new wines they are producing. Citing an extensive background in hamburgers as an indispensable aid in helping understand the popular palate, these innovators have a number of projects in the works.

First, they are working on a new concept for the diet-conscious: flavor-free wine. First, the grape juice is stripped of all organic compounds by placing it in a massive centrifuge. After any trace elements of taste are discarded, a few of the other wine components that have been fractioned out are gradually added back to the clear neutral liquid.

In an opposite vein, there have been ongoing experiments in the production of high-fat wine. "Our core customer hasn't liked wine much," one highly placed source confided, "because it's not greasy enough. He's a born rebel and he doesn't care at all what the doctors or dietitians or do-gooders say. He wants his fat when he wants it, whenever he walks through the arch.

A number of thorny problems remain. Enthusiastic spokesmen may contend that the new wines taste fabulous, but there are health concerns to address. Calorie-conscious burger lovers must be made aware of the consequences of ingesting fast wine. What of the problem of additives? And pesticides? And the dread sulfur dioxide? Aren't the health-aware among the fast-food set entitled to understand fully the risks involved?

Then, too, the ever-present issue of wine-and-food-matching will not disappear. Company experts feel they have solved this puzzle of what to order with what by color-coding the selections. But this may be too simplistic an approach. When it comes to selecting wine, one might well ponder: by holding the pickles, does this not entail a whole host of implications?

Whoever said "Fine wine takes time" was right, and the moral of this story is: This column is a Mcjoke. ❑

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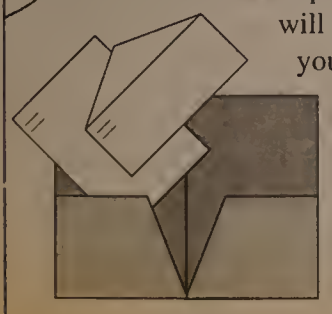
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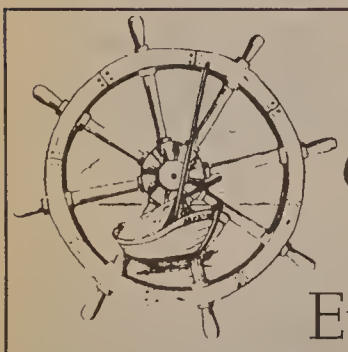
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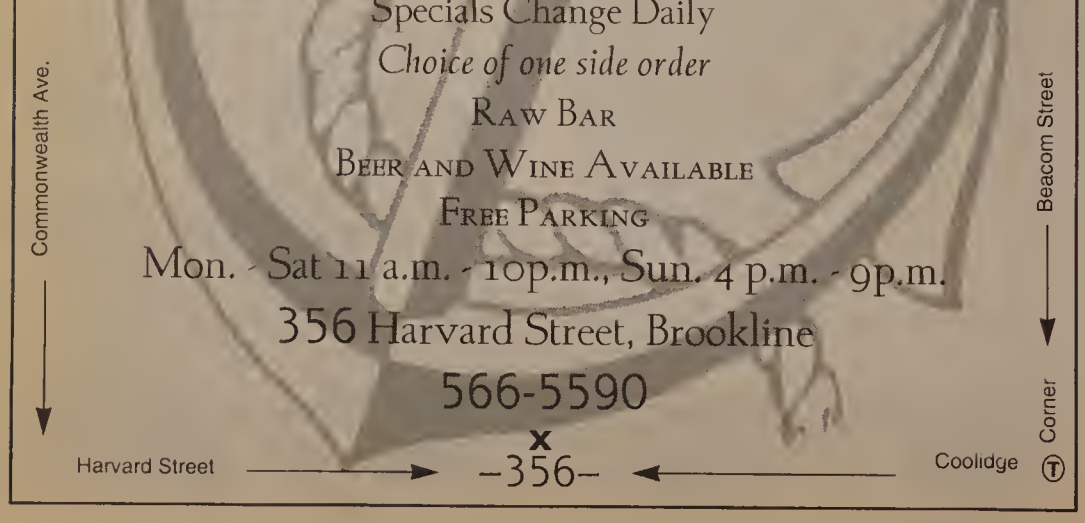


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Guest Dining Review / R.E. Brunson

TRATTORIA WITH A TWIST

"... Maurizio's Ristorante's food is definitely Italian but shows adventurous touches in its ingredients and combinations ..."

Maurizio and Linda Loddo opened Maurizio's Ristorante Italiano only 12 weeks ago and already the restaurant has established a unique niche in the crowded Hanover Street-restaurant scene. The street-level dining room's bone-white walls and colorful, abstract paintings evoke the sophisticated atmosphere of a New York bistro, rather than the usual trattoria style evident in most of the neighboring restaurants. Linda manages the front of the house and Maurizio is in charge of the kitchen. Maurizio is no stranger to the North End, having previously worked at both Giacomo's and Il Panino. Maurizio's Ristorante's food is definitely Italian but shows adventurous touches in its ingredients and combinations. Greatly enhancing our dining experience, it goes beyond what is generally considered traditional Italian fare.



BISTRO: *Maurizio's decor is unusual for the North End.*

Our server, Kate, greeted us with a basket of fresh bread and a plate of garlic olive oil. Pleasant and professional, she deftly answered our questions about the menu and enthusiastically described her favorites. Patience is one of her virtues; our party took a half hour to order. For appetizers, we chose the antipasti plate of pepperoni, prosciutto and fromaggio ($7), the cream-of-lobster soup (*crema di aragosta*) ($3.25), and the day's special, mussels in cream-garlic-and-ginger sauce ($6). The antipasti plate, which was beautifully presented and drizzled with an herbed olive oil, included flavorful slices of prosciutto, tart Pecorino romano cheese, and wonderful marinated red peppers that were the best our party had tasted. The cream-of-lobster soup was a dark-orange color and had an intense lobster taste. With very little cream added, it was light and delicious, but it was a bit of a shock to taste buds expecting something like a lobster bisque.

The hands-down favorite at the table was the special appetizer of mussels in a cream-garlic-and-ginger sauce. More than a dozen small, tender mussels, looking like an exotic flower, were swimming in a pool of creamy, yellow sauce that was hot with fresh ginger. To our minds, it resembled a Thai dish. The sauce was amazing; it not only tasted great, it also cleared the sinuses.

The meal continued with the arrival of our entrees. The special of veal chops with mushrooms ($16) contained tender chops, cooked as ordered, covered with a delicious rosemary-garlic-and-white-wine sauce, and smothered with a mound of fresh porcini and shiitake mushrooms. The dish, full-bodied, rich and very satisfying, was accompanied by a side of roasted red potatoes. The linguine with clams and mussels (*linguine con vongole e cozze*) ($12.75) was a nicely presented, oversized serving of linguine with pesto sauce. Clams ringed the outside of the dish, with a circle of mussels in the middle. The shellfish were good, as was the homemade pesto with its coarsely chopped basil. As much as we loved this dish, we couldn't finish all that pasta. Next, the chicken with sage (*petto di pollo al burro e salivia*) ($13.75) arrived with two split chicken breasts in a white-wine-and-sage sauce topped by a layer of mozzarella cheese and a sage leaf. The chicken was plump and tender.

It was difficult to forge ahead after all the food, but there is one dessert that is always a must-try in an Italian restaurant — if it is homemade — tiramisu. The tiramisu made by Maurizio came in a nice portion. The ladyfingers, dark with espresso, had a filling that was creamy and luscious, even though it appeared not to have been made with marscapone.

One of our party was away from the table when the dessert was served; upon returning, the dessert had disappeared. Feeling guilty, we ordered a second serving. Unfortunately, it also arrived before he returned. After the last bite was gone, the consensus was in: all in all, the atmosphere, food and service were very good.

What more can a diner ask for? ❑

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Anthony's Pier 4

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Bennett St. Cafe

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.

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Blue Wave

142 Berkeley St., Boston, 424-6711.

The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative West Coast style, stressing fresh, clean food; generous portions; creative open spaces; and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:00 and is one of Boston's best. Open daily 11:30 a.m.- 11 p.m., brunch on Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

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Cafe Rubino

226 Newbury Street, Boston, 247-2080.

No credit cards accepted.

At Cafe Rubino, Newbury Street's only pasta bar, there is something for everyone. A favorite is the New Orleans Italian sandwich, the *muffelatta*, as well as authentic pasta dishes. Stop in for morning coffee or afternoon espresso, and try the delicious cakes and tortes. Take out available. Hours are Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Canestaro Pizzeria

16 Peterborough St., Boston, 266-8997.

Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so drop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by *Boston's Best Guide*. We offer 30 different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. Free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

Captain's Wharf

356 Harvard St., Brookline, 566-5590.

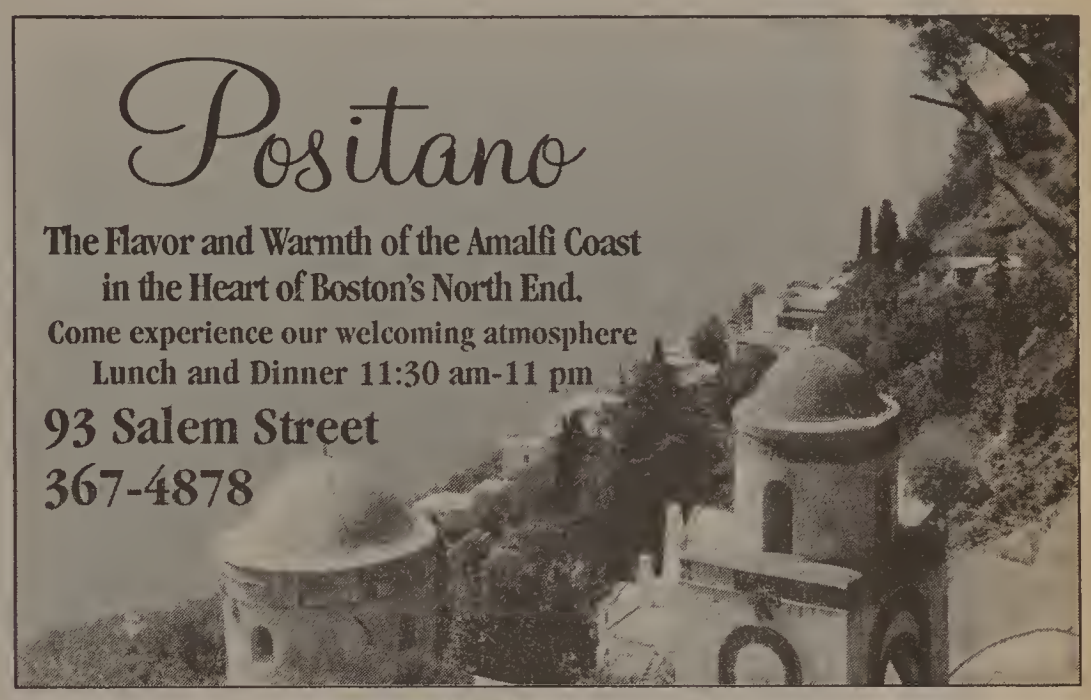
The best seafood restaurant in town. Captain's Wharf has the freshest seafood you'll find anywhere outside the ocean itself! Captain's Wharf always offers large portions at great prices. Delicious dinner specials like 1 pound lobster for $9.95, shrimp and garlic fettucine for $9.95, and Cajun catfish for $7.25. There's an extensive seafood menu sure to thrill the taste buds. Terrific lunch specials are served from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., for the low price of $4.75-$5.95. Beer and wine are always available, as is a raw bar. You won't beat the food, the prices, or the service, so stop by today! Conveniently located on Harvard St. in Brookline, next to the Coolidge Corner T-stop. Hours are Mon.-Sat. 11:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Sun. 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Free parking available.

Cityside at the Circle

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.

The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine.

Continued on page 22



1993 ZAGAT RESTAURANT SURVEY BEST BUY
1992 BOSTON PHOENIX 15 GREAT BREAKFASTS
BOB THE CHEF'S SOUL SUPREME
1991 BOSTON GLOBE CULINARY HIGHLIGHT
1990 BOSTON GLOBE BEST ABC'S OF BOSTON
BOB THE CHEF'S RESTAURANT
SOUTHERN CUISINE AT ITS FINEST
Breakfast ▲ Lunch ▲ Dinner ▲ Wine & Beer ▲ Catering
Sun-Thurs 8am - 9pm / Fri-Sat 8am-11pm
604 Columbus Avenue Boston 536-6204

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—1993 People's Choice Award
Greater Boston Restaurant Guide
Bostonians know great seafood. And they've chosen Skipjack's as the best place to find it. Because in addition to our famous native seafood selections, we feature fresh seafood flown in daily from around the world and grilled to perfection by our expert chefs. Patio dining, parties and catering are also available. Open every day for lunch and dinner. Reservations and credit cards welcomed.
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The Seafood Experts.
Copley Square 617/536-3500
Harvard Square 617/876-9900
Brookline Village 617/232-8887

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Gourmet Asian Cuisine - Market
69 First Street Cambridge, MA call 49-POPPA
Across From The CambridgeSide Galleria Mall



If it were a planet, it would be Pluto. An island in the stream. A speck of rock in some parallel universe. Remote. Isolated. As far from reality as we know it or could ever begin to imagine or comprehend it.

We realize another bottled water is the farthest thing from your mind. May we suggest one that's even farther?

until you reached the shores of Antarctica. It is precisely this location, so completely and utterly cut off from the influences of civilization, that accounts for one of the most breathtakingly pristine environments in the world.

Iceland is like no other place on earth. Within a whisper of the Arctic Circle, it is enveloped by the sea. So apart is it from the rest of the world, you could journey south and not see land again until you reached the shores of Antarctica. It is precisely this location, so completely and utterly cut off from the influences of civilization, that accounts for one of the most breathtakingly pristine environments in the world.

As you can well imagine, the air here is remarkably clear, the land virtually indistinguishable from that which it has been for millennia. And the water. Let us tell you about the water.



We call it Akva. A spring water that flows up from a place far below the ice and rock. Untainted. Untouched. Unspoiled. And of such a purity that it is difficult, if not impossible to conceive of another quite like it.

We think you will agree once you've tried Akva for yourself. What you will discover is a surprisingly soft taste. Crisp. Clear. Free of sodium. Free of impurities of every sort. The end result of a natural, geophysical purifying process unique to Iceland.



We can understand, of course, your lack of excitement upon hearing the news of yet another spring water. There are, we know, so many. All of which would have you believe they are the purest thing since the angels.

We do think, however, you will find Akva refreshingly different and worth the modest price of sampling. To do so, we suggest your favorite corner market or deli.

There now, you see? It's just like we've already told you. There really does exist a chance to find a genuinely pure water in this world. Even if it is a bit remote.

Akva spring water. The pure soul of Iceland.™

Restaurant Listings, cont.

Cityside also features creative daily specials. Lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining, weather permitting. Serving until 10:00 p.m. Sunday -Wednesday, 10:30 Thursday-Saturday.

Cornucopia on the Wharf

100 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-0300.

New American-New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are spectacular- Cornucopia won the *Improper Bostonian*'s Best of Boston award for "Tastiest Dessert"; *Bon Appetit* named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar" in Boston. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised. Open for lunch 11:30-2:30 Monday - Friday, Dinner 5:30-10:00 Monday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 'til 10:30.

Daily Catch Restaurants

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093. 441 Harvard St., Brookline 734-5696.

This original 20-year-old Sicilian-style seafood & pasta restaurant is best known for its specialty-classic calamari. The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes - synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, *The Boston Globe*, December 1989.

Davio's

269 Newbury St., 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810; 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.

Davio's in Boston captures the flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, and the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

The Fishery

718 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 868-8800.
Major credit cards accepted.

Dock yourself at The Fishery's hand-crafted, boat-shaped raw bar or enjoy dinner in its casual, nautical dining room. The Fishery's own pan-fried crab cakes rival Maryland's best. "Delicious pan-fried crab cakes..." *The Boston Herald*.. The *Boston Phoenix* calls The Fishery "a local gem," and The Fishery Calamari "irresistibly addictive." The Fishery is proud to serve only the freshest, quality seafood. Specialties include: sour cream and mustard catfish, lemongrass mussels, southwestern shrimp, and a variety of grilled seafood. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 12:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Geoffrey's Cafe - Bar

651 Boylston St., Boston. 437-6400, 578 Tremont St., Boston. 266-1122.

With two convenient locations, in the hearts of the Back Bay and the South End, Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar has become a favorite for many of the locals. Geoffrey's serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner, and decadent desserts 7 days a week. Geoffrey's prides itself with serving the healthiest portions of the freshest food at extremely reasonable prices and was the Improper Bostonian's winner for Best Waitress and Best Brunch. Stop by one of their two locations today.s

Green Briar Restaurant

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.

Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads and, burgers at this Brighton Irish restaurant. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Brunch every Sunday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Open from 11:00 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week.

Grendel's Restaurant and Bar

89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160.

Major credit cards accepted. Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

Harvard Street Grill

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.
Major credit cards accepted.

Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek is a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: grilled salmon with shiitake, spinach, bean sprouts, ginger, and tamari; smoked chicken and tart cherry pate, or the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce and desserts such as chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce, lemon buttermilk tart with blueberry coulis, or homemade fruit ice. 1993 *Wine Spectator* award of excellence, 1993 Ivy award. Open Tuesday-Thursday 5:30-9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

House of Blues

96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583

Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 p.m.-2:00p.m., Monday-Saturday. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmoshere, to shelter your blues.

Icarus

3 Appleton Street, Boston, 426-1790.
Major credit cards accepted.

Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including best restaurant from *The Improper Bostonian*. Chef/owner Chris Douglass' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeño sorbet, juniper and pepper crusted venison, and a Wellfleet littleneck clam roast with tomatoes, basil, and zucchini. A sumptuous list of home-made desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level dining room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly from 6-10 p.m., until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Monday-Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club

17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, 776-2004.

Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and now it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around, and it's healthy to boot. Natural free-range, antibiotic-free beef, chicken, eggs, and more. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna with Jamaican relish, and homemade pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. The atmosphere is unpretentious and casual, and prices are reasonable. In October, enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., and brunch is served Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Located on the red line.

Jose's Mexican Food

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, 354-0335.

For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into the super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the *Improper Bostonian* and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible, lunch specials 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Saturday 12 p.m.-4 p.m.. Dinner Monday-Thursday 4 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 p.m.-11 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

La Piccola Venezia

63 Salem Street, Boston, 523-9802.
No credit cards accepted.

Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, polenta, tripe, Scungilli, baked caratelli, veal scallopini, an traditional pasta favorites. Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

The Last Hurrah! Bar and Grill

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street, Boston , 227-8600.

This popular turn-of-the-century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston creme pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Noon -5 p.m. Saturday. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and 2-11 p.m. Sunday. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

Lucia Ristorante

415 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 367-5915.

Since 1877 Lucia Ristorante has followed a basic philosophy: to present authentic *cucina Italiana* as well as innovative dishes with a pledge toward freshness and quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Monday-Thursday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Magnolias Southern Cuisine

1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971.
Major credit cards accepted.

Formerly The Cajun Yankee. Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings the best the south has to offer. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep fried cheese, home smoked salmon and goat cheese, and blackened scallops. Entrees include Maryland soft shell crabs, grilled pork loin with corn relish and hot pepper jelly, blackened prime rib, and sautéed shrimp with pineapple and cherry tomatoes with southern cilantro pesto, and pan-seared Tuna Belle Watlings' style. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday-Saturday 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

Mamma Maria

3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code.

If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Choice Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's *Time Travel Guide*'s "Best of the Best", offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu, and daily baked bread. Be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Open 7 nights a week Monday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana

207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959.

You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth-watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Very close to North Station T stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront

85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.

Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom raviolis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine

Continued on page 24



Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

Let them eat cake, fall into new menus, drink in the best of breweries — big and small

Let Them Eat Cake

One of the privileges of being an adult is that one can eat dessert first. For those that put dessert first, La Grande Faire is returning to the Atrium in Chestnut Hill on Sunday, Oct. 17, from 7:30-11:30 p.m. The event features a vast assortment of desserts, chocolate and otherwise, from pastry chefs throughout the Boston area. Fine wines, liqueurs, coffees and cheeses will also be available for sampling. Clowns, mimes and jugglers will be on hand to entertain, along with Blue Heaven, a nine-piece R&B band. Tickets are $25 in advance and $30 at the door with proceeds supporting the Brookline Arts Center, the Brookline Foundation and the Brookline Music School. For tickets or more information, call La Grande Faire, 566-5715. And don't forget to leave room for dinner!



CHIEF CHEF: *Il Nido owner, Pino Irano, center, celebrates with newly appointed executive-chef Ruth Feldman, formerly* IB*'s four-star restaurant reviewer.*

Fall Menu Preview

As the seasons change, look for changes in the menus of local restaurants. Icarus in the South End is bringing back juniper-crusted venison with cranberry-and-walnut -chutney to the fall menu. The fresh venison comes from New Zealand and is trimmed into filet mignon-style medallions. Daddy O's in Cambridge is having a tasting of West Country hard ciders on Sunday, Oct. 17, and a special fall-harvest menu for the following week that includes a pork loin braised with apples and a maple-tart tatin. Anago Bistro, also in Cambridge, has brought back Manila clams with broccoli rabe and a grilled-beef tenderloin with roasted, golden beets and snap peas. The new trattoria, Il Panino, on Franklin Street is offering grilled shrimp on lemon leaves and a fresh catch of the day served in crazy water (secret recipe) as signature dishes in the fine-dining restaurant on the second floor.

Look for the new restaurants in the Prudential Center to open later this week. The menu of the new Dick's Last Resort will feature food served with all the finesse of a bricklayer in a metal bucket. There will be buckets of ribs, catfish and crab legs along with froggy legs de Kermit. Each night, Dick's will feature local bands playing jazz, blues or rock. The place is not for the faint-hearted, since there is no cover, no dress code and no class (ever). Around the corner, next to Saks, the California Pizza Kitchen is bringing an astounding selection of wood-fired pizzas to Boston. The list seems to go on forever: Caribbean-shrimp pizza, Tandoori-chicken pizza, Thai-chicken pizza, Peking-duck pizza and even a B.L.T. pizza. In case a diner wants to run an errand while waiting for the meal, patrons are given personal beepers and are paged when the food is on the way. Will all this go over big in Boston? Legal Seafoods will also be opening soon in the New Pru as will the revamped Ground Round.

Music to Your Palate

A Sunday With the Classics will begin its season at Theatre Lobby in the North End with a Sunday brunch from 11a.m to 2:30 p.m with classical music performed by the Cantabile Trio. The concert brunch is produced by Anthony and Sally Capodilupo in association with WGBH's Ron Della Chiesa and his wife, Joyce, who will prepare the wonderful brunch meal, including desserts. So relax and indulge the taste buds while listening to the music of Mozart, Faure, Schubert, and Rachmaninoff. Additional concert brunches are scheduled for November and December. Call Theatre Lobby for information, 227-9872.

Also filling the dining room with the sounds of music are the *Nights at the Opera* dinners that have returned to the Cafe Promenade at the Colonnade Hotel on Saturday evenings from 8-10 p.m. Diners are serenaded with arias from their favorite operas while eating a four-course meal. The menu includes an appetizer, salad, entree and dessert, with prices starting at $32.95. Call 424-7000 for information and reservations.

Brewer's Fall Fest

The New England Brewer's Fall Fest will take place at the Bayside Expo Center on Saturday, Oct. 23. Regional microbreweries, brew pubs and beer brands from across the nation will be there with samples. Leading brewmasters will offer their newest beers, ales and stouts, while authors and beer judges speak about the history of beer and the fine art of (partying?) tasting. A home-brew competition is also on the schedule. The event will be held in three four-hour sessions, each with slightly different features, starting at 10 a.m., 3 p.m., and 8 p.m. The evening session will feature live blues and rock 'n' roll music. The ticket price is $18 per session in advance or $25 at the door, with discounted tickets available at Boston Beer Works and the Sunset Grill & Tap. ❑

Acapulco
266 Newbury Street, Boston • 247-9126

Hemingway would have loved us.



Hemingway used to hang out at the Floridita in Cuba. That was before our time of course, but we feel sure if he came back and found himself in Boston, he'd head straight for our restaurant.

Where else in Boston can you find authentic Cuban food such as camarones enchilados, roast pork, ropa vieja and pescado a la marinara. Just to name a few.

And now to compliment your dining experience a new wine list ia available as well as Sangria and Spanish coffees prepared at your table.

the Daily Catch® restaurants

Why not get hooked tonight?

"For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years."
–Robert Levey, *The Boston Globe*

323 Hanover St. North End, Boston 523-8567

215 Elm St. Davis Square Somerville 623-0375

261 Northern Ave. Boston's Fish District 338-3093

441 Harvard St, Brookline 734-5696

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Alisam Arnett, Bostan Globe

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can take your breath away
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and just plain delicious."



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New England & New American Cuisine

La Piccola Venezia



"Authentic Homestyle Italian Cooking"

We Serve Wine & Beer

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Serving Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
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19 Years, Same Location – Old World Cooking
Validated Parking - 2 hours/$1.00 under the expressway

63 Salem Street
Boston's North End
523-9802

Restaurant Listings, cont.

List" in the *Improper Bostonian* 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sunday-Thursday 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

Mineo Ristorante

69 Prince St., North End, Boston, 248-8814.
Cash only.
This restaurant's cooking style will take you back to southern Italy. If you're looking for the right mixture of contemporary and traditional Italian cuisine you found it. Mineo offers outstanding portions such as the mussels marinara: mussels in a tasty marinara sauce served over linguini. The rigatoni alla donna has eggplant and dry ricotta cheese in a plum tomato sauce. The veal Milanese: Veal cutlet pan-fried and topped with fresh arugula and balsamic vinegar. Mineo is located in the heart of Boston's North End. Validated parking. Open Monday-Thursday, 4 p.m.-11 p.m., Friday,-Sunday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak *au poivre* Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

The Original Sports Saloon

47 Huntington Ave., Boston, 536-1904.
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place in Boston to watch a sporting event. This establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on five satellite TVs. As far as the menu, barbecue is the name of the game here; they do it different than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 7 days a week.

Poppa & Goose

69 First St., Cambridge, 497-6772.
Created by several Harvard, MIT, and Tufts alumni, Poppa & Goose's main mission is to serve as the link between the local community and Cambridge's greatest resource: the largest and most diverse international student population in the country. The theme of the restaurant and market is to promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition. The menu attests to this theme, with its ever-growing variety of authentic international dishes contributed by students The "Poppa & Goose Community Kitchen," is dedicated to cooking classes conducted by volunteering international students. Come and be chef for an evening; relax in the cheerful dining room and enjoy scrumptious food and reasonable prices; or take a Poppa & Goose kit home and effortlessly prepare an exotic dish in your own kitchen. Whether you are in the mood to eat, cook, or participate in the cultural exchange, Poppa & Goose's door is open. Open for lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and dinner 5:30-10 p.m. daily.

Positano

93 Salem St., North End, 367-4878.
Major credit cards accepted.
At Positano, you will experience the flavor and warmth of the Mediterranean Amalfi Coast right in Boston's North End. Within Positano's friendly, casual decor, ample portions of authentic, carefully crafted recipes are served up at everyday prices. Start your meal with their fresh antipasto, a medley of grilled eggplant, shiitake mushrooms, zucchini, and roasted Belgian peppers; or a salad of homemade mozzarella, plum tomatoes, and fresh basil. Enjoy linguini tossed with swordfish in a fresh basil sauce for a mere $9.95, or chicken saltimbocca layered with fontina cheese, and Parma prosciutto in a cream sauce for $10.95. All of the prices are this reasonable! Come in any time of day for Positano's truly home-style Italian cooking. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel

Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday -Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7 days from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Tuesday 5 p.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday until 11:00 p.m.

Taj Mahal at Kenmore

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Third & Charles Bar & Grill

202 Third St., Cambridge; Kendall Square, 547-9310.
Major credit cards accepted.
Don't let the name fool you; the T&C is a bit of Mexico moved to Cambridge. Featuring food "mild, hot, or insane," the menu includes everything from traditional tacos to the house specialty T&C pollo—a chicken breast with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a light sour cream sauce. And to rinse it all down, try a brew from the extensive beer list, or a margarita in an exotic flavor like melon or black raspberry. Moderately priced with an extensive bar. For an atmosphere that is as lively and colorful as the food, stop by the T&C. Take out available. Serving food from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; until 11 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Bar closes at 12:30 a.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar

290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring fresh seafood, poultry, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to order, and great hamburgers. The Sunday brunch offers made to order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest, and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities available, free parking. Just one-fourth of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

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Brunch Board

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705

Armadillo Café
1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston-Boston, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include chile poblano relleno, roast chicken enchiladas, fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sunday 12-3 p.m.

The Bay Tower Room
33rd Floor- 60 State Street, Boston, 723-1666.
This great restaurant has an unsurpassed, breathtaking view of the Waterfront and Boston Harbor. The Bay Tower's new chef Raoul Jean-Richard will delight the senses with a buffet of salads, raw bar, terrine cheeses, and fruits. Diners receive a complimentary flute of Moet and Chandon. You then decide between 12 sumptuous entrees to be served at your table. Delightfully tempting desserts include tiramisu, creme caramel, Black Forest kirsch cake, and crepes filled with your desired ingredients. $32 per person/$16 for children under 12 10:30 to 2:00 Sundays, reservations recommended.

Bello Mondo
110 Huntington Ave., Boston Mariott Copley Place, 236-5800.
Enjoy a lavish Sunday brunch at one of Boston's finest Italian restaurants, located in the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The weekly specials are served buffet style in elegant surroundings at an all you can eat steal of only $18.95. Sunday 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Cafe Suisse
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600.
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

Cityside At The Circle
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional Eggs Benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

Cottonwood Restaurant & Cafe
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225.
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-7440.
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

House of Blues
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge ,491-2583.
Sunday Gospel Brunch: Live Gospel music and a hearty southern buffet. Authentic entrees such as country fresh ham, buttermilk biscuits, deep fried catfish, and cheddar cheese grits. Three available seatings: 10 a.m., 12 p.m., and 2 p.m. Upstairs stage seatings involve guest participation; downstairs seatings view the show on monitors. Located in Harvard Square, Cambridge. "Praise the Lord; this place is the best."- Steve Tyler.

Hungry I
71 1/2 Charles St., Boston, 227-3524.
Voted Boston's "Most Romantic Restaurant," Hungry I offers a French country-style brunch. During the summer, dine in the courtyard; winter months, warm yourself by one of the dining room fireplaces. Sunday 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Icarus
3 Appleton St., Boston. 426-1790.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

Johnny D's Restaurant & Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, Red line. 776-2004.
Live jazz on Sundays. Mix and match with the "brunch combo" — more food than you really need for $5.99! Choose among Texas toast, sweet cheese blintzes, fruit pancakes, huge omelettes, and eggs any style. Menu features homemade Belgian waffles, fresh fruit and yogurt, with great daily specials. Saturday brunch also features sandwiches and salads. Natural eggs too! Saturday and Sunday brunch ; Sat. 9:30-3:00. Sun. 9:30-2:30.

O'Leary's
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049.
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

Rowes Wharf Restaurant Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995.
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (*Concierge Guide To Boston*) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates, hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

Spasso Italia
160 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, 536-8656.
Winner of the *Improper Bostonian*'s "Best of Boston" award for Outdoor Dining, this lively cafe is a hit inside and out! Spasso offers an array of appetizers, antipasti, pasta and pizza in addition to delicious specials like Eggs Benedict done the "Spasso" way.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

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About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

GO WEST, EVERYONE

"... The crowd at West Street Grill is still a quite-interesting mix, not overly homogeneous, with a high proportion of pretty people, which always makes my night better . . ."

OK, the nights are getting just a wee bit too chilly for me to be standing around in line waiting to get into some dumb bar. I mean, don't these people know who I am? Actually, ha ha, I guess they don't know who I am. Oh, the glamour of writing incognito. Anyway, yes, I did stand in line, enduring goose bumps in my skimpy black outfit and the humiliation of waiting with all the other non-VIPs. This was, after all, the West Street Grill, and I just had to get in, because obviously this is the place where everybody is going these days. Since the old Cornucopia-restaurant space near Downtown Crossing was transformed into the West Street Grill, it has been one of the hip-hop happenin' spots in this town, and it's a good thing, because we really needed one. If you're sick to death of Joe's, Spasso, Paparazzi, et al., and you're looking for something trendy and exciting but not so exclusive that you need pedigree papers to get in, then the West Street Grill is the place to go.

IF YOU GO

WEST STREET GRILL
15 West St.
423-0300
LAST CALL: 2:00 a.m.

The location, I must admit, is a bit unlikely. West Street is in a kind of nether region somewhere between skid row and the infamous Playland Cafe. Granted, right across the Common are Marais, Zanzibar, and every other meat rack in Boylston Alley, so West Street is not too far removed from civilization. But it ain't no Park Avenue either, baby. This does not seem to deter in the least the yupscale crowd, however, from mobbing the less-than-spacious bar or climbing *en masse* into the cozy booths.

The crowd is big enough and varied enough that if you've gone out at all in Boston in the past two years, you'll definitely see someone you recognize at the bar. All the old familiar faces are there, and in fact, West Street seems to have lured away most of the habitual clientele from just about every trendy Back Bay boite. You know there has to be something good there if it can induce most of these people to tread below Tremont Street.

This past weekend, the line spilled out the door, and I couldn't even lie my way past the guy at the door. Fortunately, I was saved from complete misery by two nice young men who kept me company while I shivered outside. Just as I was gaining entrance, two friends stumbled past me on their way home, leaving me to fend for myself. Fortunately, this worked out rather well, because as soon as I got inside, I was greeted by a whole table of members of the male persuasion who generously plied me with cocktails all evening. At one point, I did get up to scope out the bar action. There was hardly enough room in there to change your mind, but that didn't seem to bother anybody. The crowd has changed since the Cornucopia days, when the bar was inhabited by what would be called in New York "downtown" types.

The crowd is still a quite-interesting mix, not overly homogeneous, with a high proportion of pretty people, which always makes my night better. After a few cocktails, I was able to throw off the chill I acquired standing in line, and by the time I left, several beverages later, I was feeling very warm indeed. Next time you're wandering through the Back Bay and looking with disgust at all those tired old watering holes, wishing there was someplace else to go, now you know, head West. ❑


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Chicken Breast cooked with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a light sour cream sauce, served over rice

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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

General

Atrium Lounge
The Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston 523-3600
Relax in the comfortable setting of the Atrium Lounge at The Bostonian Hotel with some of the best jazz artists from the Boston area. Atrium Lounge entertainment schedule (Wednesdays, 7:00pm.-11:00pm.), Guitar: 10/13 Gray Sargent, Guitar: 10/20 Dave Whitney, Trumpet: 10/27 Dick Johnson, Clarinet, Saxaphone: 11/3 Gray Sargent, Guitar.

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

Cafe Grappa
1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Day's Inn
Brighton 254-4336
A jammin' place featuring live music Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Tuesdays from 7:00-12:30pm. feature Splash, a tropical band that combines the best influences of reggae, Latin, and Afro Carribean. Wednesdays from 8:00-1:00am. heat up fast as Alvin Terry, Boston's premiere jazz drummer is joined by a variety of the area's best musicians for a mighty jazz jam. Thursdays from 8:00-2:00 feature Jose Ramos and his bad for what's fast becoming the best blues jam in Boston.
All major credit cards accepted. Free pkg.
Great Italian food available at Bennino's Restaurant next door.

Cantab Lounge
738 Mass. Ave. Central Sq. Cambridge 354-2685
Live music every night. Upstairs Monday- Geoff Bartley's new open stage (folk &more), Tuesday- Geoff Bartley presents Irish, Blue Grass Country Woman & Acoustic Rock. Call for details, Wednesday: blues,blues,blues!!! Thursday: Trudy Sandhaus Quartet (jazz), Fri & Sat. Little Joe Cook & The Thrillers- world famous blues!! Downstairs Fri. Poetry Slam! with Patti Smith & Michael Brown 6:30-midnight Sat.: something special- Call for details Must be over 21yrs. Positive Id required.

Harpers Ferry
158 Brighton Ave. Allston 254-9743
Voted Boston's Best Blues Club by Rolling Stone Magazine. Harpers Ferry is undeniably home of Boston's best live rhythm & blues. Featuring rhythm & blues jam every Sunday with Host Stovall Brown and every Wednesday with Host Rick Russell and The Cadillac Horns Live music 7 nights a week with the very best in local, national and international artists. Call the club for schedule of shows and advance ticket sales.

House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 pm.-2:00pm., Mon.-Sat. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere, to shelter your blues.

Johnny D's Restaurant & Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville.
Redline.776-2004
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. " One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- *Boston Globe*. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in

Continued on page 28

Monday Night Football
Monday: 9 p.m. - midnight.
Featuring 50¢ hotdogs, 99¢ 1/4 lb. cheeseburgers & lots of prizes.

Comedy
Wednesday: 8 p.m. – 11 p.m.
"The Comedy Workout"
Featuring some of Boston's best comedians.
Hosted by the comedy team of Jablow & Morello.
Dinner/Show packages available.
10/20 Mike Anthony, Spike Tobin & Ralphie J.
10/27 Ron Berman, Rick D'Lea, & Mike Cappy

Three Cheers RESTAURANT & BAR

Karaoke
Thursday: 8p.m. – 2 a.m.
Karaoke Night – Karaoke contest every week.
First prize round trip tickets for two to Hawaii!

Dance
Friday: 8 p.m. – 2 a.m.
DJ Dave Stewart plays all your favorite dance tunes.

Mystery Café Dinner Theater
Thursday through Sunday.
"Dinner Theater to Die For!"

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Thu. College Cover Bands
Fri. Alternative Music
Sat. Classic Hits

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158 BRIGHTON AVE. (CORNER OF HARVARD & BRIGHTON AVE.)
CALL CLUB for advance ticket sales /Concert Line 254-7380 / Club Line 254-9743

Fri 10/15 Young Neal & The Vipers	Sat 10/16 James Montgomery Band	Sat 10/23 Mighty Sam McClain
Sun 10/24 Every Sunday Rythm & Blues Jam with Host Stovall Brown	Thurs 10/28 Texas Food " The Stevie Ray Vaughn Tribute Band" with Special Guests	Fri 10/29 Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson

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Downtown's Newest Irish Restaurant & Pub
The Harp
Across from Boston Garden

Oct. 13	Tim Crandall
Oct. 14	Catunes
Oct. 15	Catunes
Oct. 16	John Cafferty & The Beaver Brown Band
Oct. 20	Tim Crandall
Oct. 22	The Band That Time Forgot
Oct. 23	Marcels
Oct. 27	Tim Crandall
Oct. 28	Bruce Jacques & Invisible Band
Oct. 29	The Cause
Oct. 30	The Cause

85 Causeway St., Boston
617-742-1010

Allston's Best Irish Pub
Kinvara Pub
On the Allston/Brighton Line

Oct. 13	Grinning Lizards
Oct. 14	Dennis Healy
Oct. 15	Swinging Johnsons
Oct. 16	Swinging Johnsons
Oct. 17	Cupla
Oct. 18	Walk-on Comedians, Luck of the Draw
Oct. 19	Free Jukebox
Oct. 20	Grinning Lizards
Oct. 21	Broadcast
Oct. 22	Screaming Cadillacs
Oct. 23	Swivel
Oct. 24	Doneg/DJ
Oct. 25	Walk-on Comedians, Luck of the Draw
Oct. 26	Free Jukebox
Oct. 27	Grinning Lizards

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
617-783-9400

Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Briar

Oct. 13	Karaoke
Oct. 14	The Sense
Oct. 15	North-South Connection
Oct. 16	Lulus in Crisis
Oct. 17	DJ Ed
Oct. 18	Irish Sessiun
Oct. 20	Karaoke
Oct. 21	Undercover
Oct. 22	Standing Hamptons
Oct. 23	Da Mud Hens
Oct. 24	DJ Ed
Oct. 25	Irish Sessiun
Oct. 27	Karaoke

Best Guinness in Boston
304-306 Washington St.
Brighton 617-789-4100

The Littlest Bar
"The best kept secret in Boston"
47 Province Street Boston, MA 02109 617-523-9766
Near Downtown Crossing and the Orpheum Theatre
BOSTON'S BEST LITTLE BAR
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Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30pm.Cajun dansing every Monday 8pm.with Krewe de Roux and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30pm. Great food- Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

The Littlest Bar

523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Market Place Cafe

300 Faneuil Hall, Boston, 227-9660. In a comfortable, relaxed area in Faneuil Hall, sit back and listen to the great sounds of the Brian Walkley Band with special guest Bruce Bartlett every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. Live music nightly during outdoor cafe season. Casual atmosphere and dress.

Maxwell Jumps

335 A Huntington Ave. Boston 266-1705
Maxwells, on Hunington Avenue across from Northeastern University always has something going on. Try your skill at jello shots or maybe racing down the World Famous Maxwells' Bobsled course! DJ and dansing during the week plus live acts too. Join The Digg Band every Friday night for the area's most rockin' blues. Maxwells always fun- all the time!

The Rowes Wharf Bar, Boston Harbor Hotel

439-3995. 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." *The Improper Bostonian*. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Also, lunch is served from 11:30am to 4pm.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar

290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. Featuring Karaoke, comedy great music and more! When looking for a fun night out, don't miss the Mystery Café Dinner Theater. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30-4 p.m., Dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Café Dinner Theater Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 & 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m..

Dancing

Avenue C

423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights

Piano Rooms

Monday's Piano Bar

277-1200, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline, Casual dress, no cover. Experience live piano music at this cozy piano bar in the heart of Brookline. Entertainment from 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Diane Dexter. Tuesday and Friday, Lydia. Wednesday - Thursday, Tony Parker. Saturdays, Dottie Dean.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company

523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.

Irish

Black Rose

742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your daddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar

304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Stop in and say "HI" to Rocky; one of the colorful characters that serve to recreate a wee bit of the old sod here in the promised land. We have entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

The Harp at the Garden

85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Come see Boston's newest sensation—Tim Crandall "the one man band" playing Wed 7:30-10:30 and Friday Happy Hour 5-8. Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.



Continued on page 30

The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

A Song for a Larkin

"... I was studying jazz ... and I was really into Brazilian music. Then I did the rock 'n' roll thing ... but I kept finding my acoustic slip was showing ..."

Patty Larkin remembers times when her father said "Think you've had enough?" But Larkin — keenly talented as a songwriter, singer and guitarist — never detoured from her path in music.

"It's just that I keep coming back to it with even more interest and inspiration," the Wisconsin-bred musician says. "Luckily I've been able to make a living at it. That's unique and fortunate."

Indeed, Larkin, 42, has long supported herself on the local scene and beyond, winning nine Boston Music Awards along the way. But her fortunes appear to be taking a quantum leap with *Angels Running*, her fifth album — and her second for Windham Hill's High Street label.

The rich, impressionistic *Angels Running* was produced by Ben Wisch and John Leventhal, who both worked on Marc Cohn's latest album, and features guest spots by Mary-Chapin Carpenter and the Story. The record, which earned Larkin a cover story in *Billboard*, is perfectly suited for the new radio format Album Adult Alternative.

"There's definitely a niche there that wasn't there five years ago," says Larkin, who plays the Berklee Performance Center on Oct. 15 with Leventhal on guitar and Michael Manring on bass.

"I think there has been a constant presence in the marketplace for this music, and it can't be denied," Larkin says, citing groundwork laid by Suzanne Vega, Tracy Chapman and Shawn Colvin. "The thing I like about it is that it's still pretty grass roots-oriented, or underground, and people are still bubbling up from the roots."

Long dubbed a folk singer, Larkin stretched further beyond her own acoustic roots on *Angels Running*, even playing some electric guitar.

"I liked delving into a little edgier sound, and a little bigger sound, but still having some cuts on the album that I think of as pared down," Larkin says, on the phone from her Wellfleet home. Of the production work, she says, "It was to get some airplay but also just to check out some different arrangements and different sounds."

Before she even entered the studio, she also tried some different approaches in her writing, particularly with lyrics.

"I was interested in how words sound and how they can be used as elements of percussion," says Larkin, who was listening to the likes of Bob Dylan, Nanci Griffith, Greg Brown, Bill Morrissey, Tori Amos and Lucinda Williams. "It was a different approach for me."

Not that Larkin hadn't juggled musical approaches before. Her resume includes performing in a jug band, playing Irish music in Harvard Square and studying jazz guitar at Berklee. "I think all those pieces do combine to make the whole, especially on this record," she says, noting producer Wisch's attitude, which was "'If you played mandolin on that demo tape, you're going to play mandolin here.' It was a great vote of confidence."



PATTY LARKIN: *Local songwriter shows her acoustic side on new album*, Angels Running.

Songwriting, however, was Larkin's first pursuit. "I was studying jazz, and writing these sort of Latin pseudo-jazz tunes, and I was really into Brazilian music," she says. "Then I did the rock 'n' roll thing, trying to write more in a pop vein. But I kept finding my acoustic slip was showing, and there were songs that I couldn't feature in the band that I wanted to sing, like a softer thing or something with a Celtic influence.

"For me, the acoustic end really made a lot of sense, because I could write in any style, and I could talk to the audience and do humorous songs," says Larkin, who drew notice for light signatures such as "At the Mall" and "Dave's Holiday," then turned heads the other way with "Metal Drums," a song about a toxic-waste dump in Holbrook.

New songs "Do Not Disturb," "Helen" and "I Told Him That My Dog Wouldn't Run" cast their own dark, affecting imagery, while "Might As Well Dance" and "Pundits and Poets" take a more optimistic slant.

"My mother called and said `I hope there are some happy songs on this record, Patty,'" she says, adding her mother's final words, "You do what you have to do."

After all, Larkin does it so well.

ELSEWHERE — Two other great shows fall on Oct. 15. Bluegrass star Alison Krauss and Union Station are at Somerville Theater, while Irish-bred rockers Black 47 play Avalon. ❑

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34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400,
If you are looking for a happening place with an Irish pub flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2am and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

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734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

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Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

MA AND MORE

"...Yo-Yo Ma's new disc hints darkly at another halfhearted crossover attempt. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth..."

A glance at the list of composers on local cellist Yo-Yo Ma's new disc hints darkly at another halfhearted crossover attempt. In fact, nothing could be further from the truth. Ma's latest recording features rigorous, unusual works in lively performances.

Three of the four works on *Made in America* (Sony 53126) were made to order. Harvardian composer Leon Kirchner created his *Triptych*, a dialogue for violin and cello, at Ma's suggestion. Ma's intense, introspective style is brought out particularly well in the first movement, a lonely cello solo.

Ma himself transcribed two of the other pieces on the disc: Bernstein's early *Clarinet Sonata* and Gershwin's jazzy set of *Preludes*. The cello transcription of the Bernstein piece works very well, indeed, especially when played (practically sung) as sensitively as it is here. This striking little miniature, more firmly classical than much of Bernstein's later show music, is infused with the same warmth and humanity.

Charles Ive's *Trio* is the earliest work on the disc but is also, strangely enough, the hardest to grasp. Ives wrote the piece in memory of his college days at Yale. Like most people, he found that certain pop tunes he had liked during his undergraduate days immediately brought back precise college memories. What followed is a typically bizzare piece of Ivesian logic: If one old pop tune makes you feel nostalgic, he figured, then five played simultaneously must make you feel five times as nostalgic. *Trio* is the result. Occasionally, the texture gets too dense and one can't pick out anything, but Ma, Ronan Lefkowitz and Gilbert Kalish make a strong case for the work. The last movement in particular is suffused with the lyrical memory of youth, a half-glimpsed sepia narrative. Ives would have loved the modern dormitory and quadrangle, with their jarring collage of competing boom-boxes, and that's the kind of image this work fondly evinces.

Sony is brave to release this artist-driven album that refers to popular music but transforms it and keeps it at one remove. The result is certainly a success.

ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT?

Both minimalist composer Michael Nyman (who composed the film scores for *The Draughtsman's Contract, the Cook, the Thief, His Wife, and Her Lover* and *Prosperos's Books*,) and Kurt Weill have had their cabaret songs recorded by the raspy Ute Lemper; both favor a sort of giddy, honking texture; and both, in photographs, seem always to be fumbling with their bald scalps as if adjusting invisible headsets or trying to coax forth djiniis. But while Kurt Weill spent his life trying to make his music more accessible, Nyman is dead-set on leaving behind his considerable entertainment credits in favor of a "serious" classical audience. Nyman's new disc *Time Will Pronounce* (Argo 440 282-2) may not be on the cutting edge of minimalism, but it proves Nyman capable of writing fresh and enjoyable works that would stand up well in concert.

One of the best selections is his Purcellian romp in praise of Ishtar, the wonderfully titled *Self-Laudatory Hymn of Inanna and her Omnipotence*. Countertenor James Bowman's self-congratulatory voice hops, skips and soars over pulsing strings, drunken with divinity, exuberant in egotism. It is a lot of fun. *For John Cage* is an attractive, ceremonial-sounding piece for a brass ensemble, sort of a what-if-the-Gabrielis-met-the-Gershwins-and-did-minimalist-lunch. *The Convertibility of Lute Strings* is a hectic essay for harpsichord solo, with, once again, a wonderfully exultant climax. Fans of minimalism, and certainly fans of Nyman, will find this an extremely pleasant and rewarding recording.

EMI has just released its wonderful archival recordings of British show-tune- and cabaret-songwriter Noel Coward (*The Master's Voice: Noel Coward's HMV Recordings, 1928-1953, Angel 7 54919 2*). Like Evelyn Waugh, Coward dished out for his public a dazzling image of high society in the twenties; and like Waugh, he commented on the petty viciousness of the Smart Set as well as its free champagne. His best-known songs are collected here, as well as songs and medleys not normally heard. The selections range from the blithely sentimental to the bitterly acerbic — the latter have worn rather better than the former. Although the recording quality obviously varies in repertoire like this, even his tape lends a pleasant period air to the proceedings. With four discs, the collection will be a bit much for casual listeners. For fans of show tunes and cabaret, the set will be absolutely invaluable. ❑



YO-YO MA: *New album* Made in America

THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26				

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for the BB's 30th season, which begins with a production of *Sleeping Beauty* from Oct. 21 to Nov. 7. Call 931-ARTS.

DANCE COMPLEX
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Hungry to move? Get a taste of the many forms of movement art at an open house at Dance Complex, the community-run center for dance in the heart of Cambridge. Held Oct. 23 from 12-6 p.m., there will be refreshments, sample classes and demonstrations. Call 547-9363.

IMPULSE DANCE COMPANY
Mass. College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston
The IDC performs its *Jazz Dance Recovery Project* Oct. 15-16 at 8 p.m. Featured in the program is "Tell Jesus," portraying the trend from sensuality to spirituality. Call 232-1555.

JACOB'S PILLOW
Lee, Mass.
The fall-residency program at Jacob's features the Indonesian Sardono W. Kusumo & Company Oct. 14-24. It's an 18-member cast of dancers and musicians is a preview of their upcoming American tour of *Passage Through the Gong*. Call (413) 637-1322.

PHOTOGRAPHY

NE SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Square
Boston's top fashion photogs—shooting the creations of the town's top fashion designers—are featured in an exhibit called *Fashion Plate* through Nov. 12.

NIKON SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston
Amateur and serious photographers are encouraged to attend one of Nikon's traveling workshops, held Oct. 16 -17 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuition is $80 to learn from expert instructor Sam Garcia, who has photographed four Olympics and instructed the NASA space-shuttle astronauts on the use of 35-m.m. photography. Tickets are available at the door, or call (516) 547-8666 to register.

TOURS

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating — and free. Monday, 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY OBSERVATORY
For you stargazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open-observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that is clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. The entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave.; take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast. Its staff offers guided walks at 10 a.m. every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31, or just come in and explore the garden yourself. The cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

GORE PLACE
52 Gore St., Waltham
Come see New England's largest federal mansion, built in 1806 for the state's seventh governor, Christopher Gore. The mansion is located on a 45-acre estate of lawns, gardens, woodlands and farm fields with a flock of sheep. Guided tours run through Nov. 15. Call 894-2798.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM
55 Mount Vernon St., Boston
The Nichols House Museum offers a unique glimpse into 19th- and early-20th-century life in Boston's historic Beacon Hill district. This impressive four-story townhouse was constructed in 1804, when Yankee fortunes were being amassed through mercantile trading. Call for tour times: 227-6993.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past. This 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Send an electronic message to Bill Clinton or Al Gore in the new exhibit *Become an Electronic Citizen*. In the Person-to-Person booth, make a "virtual visit" with a friend using a videophone. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit, *Robots & Other Smart Machines*. Enjoy more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Before the weather gets too cold, be sure to go see both outdoor and indoor exhibits at the FPZ: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds, and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
This museum exhibits and presents contemporary art in all media, including photography, painting, sculpture and special installations, such as performance art, film, music and video. Through Oct. 17, the ICA examines various aspects of the influential black leader Malcolm X in *Malcolm X: Man, Ideal, Icon*. Call 266-5151; free admission Thursdays between 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of mostly early-Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. Call 566-1401. Through Oct. 24, see photographer Dorit Cypris's exhibit, *The Body in the Picture*, about feminine identity.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Call 929-4523.

MIT MUSEUM
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
For only a $2 donation, visitors can explore many wonderful exhibits that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate. First, there's *Crazy After Calculus: Humor at MIT*, which chronicles some of the best college pranks ever committed. For the more science-minded, there's *MathSpace*, a hands-on exploration of geometry that lets you tinker with math playthings.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
The MFA is proud to host *The Age of Rubens* through Jan. 2—it's the first major survey of Flemish Baroque painting ever mounted in the United States, and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe. MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2. Contemporary artist Robert Cumming presents *Cone of Vision* through Nov. 28. Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27. American homes, from squatters' encampments to fancy Manhattan penthouses, will be examined in *In and Out of Place: Contemporary Art and the American Social Landscape* from Oct. 19-Jan. 23, 1994. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
The dinosaurs - including the ferocious velociraptor - from *Jurassic Park* have stormed into New England, but you better have advanced tickets if you want to see them. Also, there's *It's All in Your Head*, where you can walk through a giant (9-foot-long) brain replica and explore the wonders of the mind. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Call 723-2500.

MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
Located in an 1889 castle-style carriage house, this museum highlights the impact of the automobile on American society. On view now is *Muscle Cars: Wild in the Streets*, featuring hot rods of American engineering that were created between 1964-'74. Oct. 24 is the Studebaker Drivers' Club Show. Call 522-6547.



IMPROPER PICK

Daylight-saving time is around the corner. To get you in a timely frame of mind, take a minute to see the Clockworks *exhibit at the Alianza gallery, 154 Newbury St., 262-2385.*

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The aquarium's newest exhibit is called *Catch Some Rays*, about the mysterious—and dangerous—stingray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea-lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918—ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has *anything* to do with New England sports, including interactive exhibits, such as the one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

OLD STATE HOUSE
206 Washington St., Boston
The State House, built in 1713, is Boston's oldest public building. Permanent exhibits explore the city's history since the Revolution; a special current exhibit explores Boston's former West End neighborhood. Admission to the building is $2. Call 720-1713.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, North End
Built in 1680, the Revere House is the only surviving building from 17th-century Boston. Paul Revere lived here from 1770 to 1800. Call 523-2338.

THE USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM
Charlestown Navy Yard
Located 200 yards from Old Ironsides, the museum is dedicated to interpreting the ship's nearly 200-year history. Call 426-1812.

THEATER

BOSTON CONSERVATORY
31 Hemenway St., Boston
The conservatory presents the captivating musical *Nine* Oct. 21-24. Adapted from Federico Fellini's film *8 1/2*, *Nine* tells Fellini's autobiographical tale of a famous film director in the throes of crisis. Call 536-3063.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY
Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
Running through Oct. 24 is *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard* (notice the "r" is included in all of those words), a moving portrait of a high-school music teacher and his housekeeper. Call 496-8400.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve the murder mystery. Call 426-5225.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
What has long hair parted in the middle, bell-bottoms and platform shoes? *The Real Live Brady Bunch*, of course! Yes, it's true, the Fab Nine have hit Boston to indulge in all the '70s kitsch we couldn't get enough of the first time around. Call 426-6912.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
See *Falsettos*, also a Tony Award-winning musical, with the original Broadway cast, through Oct. 31. It's a funny, touching story about love, relationships and a different kind of family. Call the box office or 931-2787.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Somtimes the strongest ties are those that do not bind. The HTC presents Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from the Sea* beginning Oct. 15. Call 266-0800.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
The Lyric presents *From Boston to Portland*, the Fred Allen story, through Oct. 24. Call 437-7172.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its fifth year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four-course dinner plus the show are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW THEATRE
1st and 2nd Church Theatre
66 Marlborough St., Boston
New Theatre presents *Seven Day Wonder* through Oct. 17, a play that asks, "What If Faust had only the best of intentions?" In it, the main character is an ambitious missionary who sells his soul to the devil in order to save the world. Call 247-7388.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Tickets are now on sale for the New Rep's '93-'94 season, which begins with a production of *Jar the Floor* until Oct. 24. The show is a tender, funny story of four generations of women in an African-American family preparing for the great-grandmother's 90th birthday. Call 332-1646.

NORTH SHORE MUSIC THEATRE
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly
The gangsters and missionaries are back at the North Shore Music Theatre on Oct. 25. *Guys and Dolls* closes Oct. 30; call (508) 922-8500.

PILGRIM THEATRE
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
Pilgrim presents a seductive celebration of sound, song, story, image, babble and spoken languages in *Nada Brahma* ("The World Is Sound"). Through Oct. 24; call 426-ARTS.

RIVERSIDE THEATRE WORKS
French's Opera House
45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park
The RTW presents *Guys and Dolls*, the classic musical about gangsters, gambling, long engagements and innocent missionaries. Through Oct. 30; call 361-7024.

SUGAN THEATRE COMPANY
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
Down the Flats is a brutally honest play about a dysfunctional inner-city Dublin family confronting crime, drugs and other problems of contemporary life. Raucous and bawdy, this work reflects the violent side of Ireland not well known to U.S. audiences. Through Oct. 23. Call 426-ARTS.

TERRACE ROOM
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
Forever Plaid, a musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, is continuing its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner/show packages are $52 and $49. Call 357-8384.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston

Continued on Following Page

WOMAN ON THE STREET

"What does God look like?"

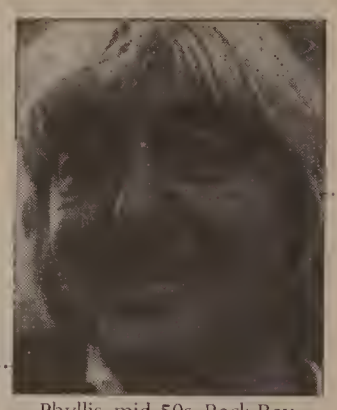
BY KIM CAVINESS



Chantal, 25, Boston
"I think He's a man, that's what the pictures say ... I don't know if there's a God at all."

Bob, 43, Burlington, Vt.
"Whatever you picture Him to be. There's a difference between a spiritual life and a religious life. I try to live a spiritual life."





Phyllis, mid-50s, Back Bay
"He is invisible ... He could be standing around right here. He's not a man-type or a woman-type — just invisible."

Richard, 44, Boston
"An old man with a white beard and blue eyes"





Yvonne, 26, South End
"God looks like this nebulous nothingness with huge hands that sometimes reach down."

Bill, 41, Jamaica Plain
"I don't know."



Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant/theater packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872; other calls go to (800) 382-8080.

TRIANGLE THEATER
Paramount Penthouse Theater
58 Berkeley St., Boston
Triangle, New England's only professional theater company dedicated to productions exploring gay and lesbian issues, opens its 15th anniversary season Oct. 20-Nov. 13 with *Green Fingers*, a courtroom comedy-drama about two lovers accused of looting a British mansion. Call 426-3550.

WILBUR THEATRE
246 Tremont St., Boston
Five Guys Named Moe, the smash musical that packed 'em in on Broadway and in London, has come to Boston for the month of October. It's a wonderfully entertaining tribute to the music of blues/jazz great Louis Jordan — a must-see. Call 931-2787.

WOMEN'S THEATER PROJECT
Boston Center for the Arts
541 Tremont St., Boston
WTP explores the complexities of being an African-American lesbian in *S.I.N.G.: Silence Is Never Golden*. Through Oct. 17. Call 426-ARTS.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE
131 Clarendon St., Boston
The AAC presents a free, confidential seminar to answer the financial, legal, insurance and job-related questions of those who have recently tested HIV-positive, Oct. 20 at 6:30 p.m. Call 437-6200 x216.

AFRICAN ART
MIT's Bartos Theater
20 Ames St., Cambridge
What challenges do African artists face in the changing social and political spheres of Africa today? How have Western-art forms been adapted by contemporary African artists? These questions and more will be addressed Oct. 14 at 7:30 p.m. by several African-art scholars/critics from all over the world. Call 253-2372.

ANDREW COHEN
16 Cotter Road, Waban (Newton)
Controversial spiritual leader Andrew Cohen will be the topic of a video presentation on Sunday, Oct. 17 at 4 p.m. Donations apprciated. Call 446-9770.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATER
290 Harvard Street, Brookline
Author James Spada will speak about legendary actresss Bette Davis, the subject of his new book, *More Than a Woman: An Intimate Biography of Bette Davis*, on Thursday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. There will be a screening of *Jezebel* as well, and tickets for the evening are $15.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
A panel discussion (in English) on business in France in the new Europe is being held Oct. 21 at 6:15 p.m. Speakers include UMass/Boston professors Vivien Schmidt (European studies, international management) and Lawrence Franko (finance and strategy). Admission is $5; reservations are recommended. Call 266-4351.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Learn about cosmic evolution each Wednesday in October at 7 p.m. Oct. 13: "The Evolution of Galaxies and Stars," and Oct. 20: "The Development of Life on Earth." Free tickets available one hour before the lecture on a first come-first served basis. Call 723-2500.

THE NATIONAL WRITERS UNION
Charlesbank Bookshop, Kenmore Square, Boston
The Boston chapter of the National writers union will present a *Meet the Agents* forum featuring Boston-area literary agents who will talk about the ins and outs of selling your book or script. It all happens Thursday, Oct. 21 from 7-9 p.m. The event is free to members and $5 otherwise. Call 497-1691.

REVEREND AL SHARPTON
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Downtown Crossing
Controversial civil-rights activist Rev. Al Sharpton speaks tonight on "Racial Equality in America: How Do We Keep the Wheels of Progress Rolling?" It begins at 7 p.m. on Oct. 14, and admission is free.

SCREENWRITING WORKSHOP
Boston University
808 Comm. Ave., Boston
Aspiring screenwriters, novelists and playwrights should note BU's two-day workshop by L.A.-based producer/screenwriter David Freeman on Oct. 16 ("Characterization and Dialogue") and Oct. 17 ("How to Write What Sells in Hollywood"). Tuition is $170 for both days, $100 for one. Call 353-9852.

GALLERIES

ABSINTH
215 Hanover St., Boston
Don't miss your chance to see the innovative neon sculpture of Ed McAllister as this gallery hosts his new exibit titled *Pheneonomenon*. Also showing will be "Places To Do...People To Be" featuring the photography of *IB*'s own Paul Pilcher. The gallery's hours are Thurs.-Sat., 12-9 p.m., and Wed. and Sun., 12-7 p.m., and this exibit runs through Nov. 3. Call 248-6962.

ALIANZA
154 Newbury St., Boston
What time is it? Time to go see *Clockworks*. This exhibition (until Nov. 14) idudes sculptural clocks that are made of ceramic, metal, wood and/or stained glass.

ROLLY-MICHAUX
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
Rolly-Michaux presents *Joan Miro: A Centennial Celebration* from Oct. 21-Dec. 31. As its tribute to the Catalan surrealist (1893-1993), R-M presents the gallery's collection of important aquatint etchings and early lithographs. Call 536-9898 for gallery hours.

SPECIAL EVENTS

ART BOSTON
DIFFA/Boston
The Castle at Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers
69 Park Plaza, Boston
The Boston chapter of DIFFA (Design Industries Foundation For AIDS)will present the fourth annual Art Boston public art show from Friday, Oct. 15 to Sunday, Oct. 17. All ticket proceeds will benefit DIFFA's work in providing-funding for AIDS services and education. There will be a gala preview party on October 15 from 6-9 p.m., and tickets are $85.00 per person (includes weekend admission to the Castle.) Call 261-0234. Otherwise, go on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 11 a.m -9 p.m., or Sunday, Oct. 17 from 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. and get your tickets at the **door for $6 ($5 with ad coupon.)**

CHILIFEST
Charlestown Navy Yard
Sample a wide variety of chili from more than 25 eateries and vote for your favorite at this Oct. 17 (12-6 p.m.) benefit for Horizons for Youth, which provides environmental/camping programs to needy kids. Cost is $6. Call 828-7550.

EMCOM HALLOWEEN BASH
Zanzibar
1 Boylston Pl.,Boston
The Emmerson College marketing communication organization (EmCom) is holding its first-ever Halloween benefit party for the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless. The event, titled *Underground Groove*, will be held on Sunday, Oct. 24, from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. Costumes are optional, but join in the Halloween "spirit" and come dressed to the teeth. There will be prizes, raffles, and general revelry for all! Tickets are $5 in advance, $8 at the door. Call 578-8748.

FASHION LUNCHEON SERIES
The Colonnade Hotel, Boston
Once again, the Pre-Symphony Fashion Luncheon Series comes to the Cafe Promenade. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m., and the informal modeling starts at noon. Friday, Oct. 22, Ches will be the featured designer. Call 424-7000.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
Take a leisurely stroll through the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast. See the last leaves change and breathe some fresh air before it gets really cold! Cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

INQUILINOS BORICUAS EN ACCION
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
IBA's gala 25th anniversary benefit, *Cultura Viva!*, invites you to put on your most-creative finery and dancing shoes to join Boston's Latin community. Sample irresistible flavors of the Carribbean, cocktails, buffet and the salsa beat of Grammy Award-winning Eddie Palmieri and his orchestra. Silent auction, too. Tickets are $35 and $75; call 262-1803.

IRISH MUSIC FESTIVAL
Green Dragon Tavern, Faneuil Hall, Boston
Get up your Irish! The Green Dragon stages an outdoor Irish festival Oct. 17 (rain date: Oct. 24) beginning at 1 p.m. There will be music, live bands, strolling musicians, mimes and a magician in a benefit fund-raiser for Boston Ireland Ventures. BIV promotes employment/training for youth in troubled areas of Ireland and Northern Ireland. Admission is $10. Call 367-0055.

JACK HYNES TRIBUTE
Hynes Convention Center
Celebration! A Tribute to Jack Hynes is a gala evening to honor the "Dean of Boston News." The black-tie event will be held Thursday, Oct. 21, and will benefit the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. Tickets are $100 per person. Call 536-6033.

JANE DOE 10K WALK FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY
Hatch Shell
Walk and help break the cycle of domestic violence. All proceeds go to help battered women and their children and to provide educational programs. Begins at noon (registration at 11 a.m.) on Oct. 17. For more information call (800) JANE-DOE.

DESSERTS AND DANCING
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Boston's premier black-tie event of the season will be held on Saturday, Oct.r 23 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. to benefit the American Cancer Society. Enjoy desserts and dancing, plus a live auction. Tickets

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King Richard's Faire
South Carver, Mass.
Come all ye Bostonians to this Renaissance fair, filled with food and entertainment! Open every weekend through Oct. 24, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call (508) 866-5391 for ticket information and directions.

New England Brewers' Fall Fest
Bayside Exposition Center, Boston
Breweries big and small converge to pour their wares down your throat at the New England Brewers' Fall Fest. In three sessions (spanning academic in the a.m. to rock 'n roll-party at night), a one-session ticket buys you 20 two-ounce samples, a mug, a magazine, a brewery map and unlimited coffee! Tickets are $18 per session in advance, and $25 at the door. Don't forget to bring your ID! Call (603) 659-2912.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, Boston Garden
Angry commuters call you "Bozo?" Prove them right: run off and join the circus! Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus seeks males and females for the 1993 class of its world-famous Clown College. Auditions open to all who are 17 and up. Starting on Oct. 21. Call 437-7722 for more information.

Roxy's Third Annual Harvest Moon Festival
Celebrate the Roxy's Third Annual Harvest Moon Festival beginning at 6 p.m. as you dine on cuisine donated from more than 20 of Boston's best restaurants. The House of Blues All Stars, Monster Mike Welch and Rick Russell, provide the tunes. Proceeds go to Oxfam and the Boston Food Bank Call 227-ROXY or 536-8993.

Shops at the Prudential Center
Prudential Center, Boston
The soon-to-open Shops at the Prudential Center will celebrate themselves by hosting two days of entertainment, including dancing, clowns and more! It all starts Oct. 15. Call 267-7366 for information.

Skate Against Aids
Hatch Shell, Charles River Park
The second annual In-Line (a/k/a Rollerblading) Skate Against AIDS will be held Oct. 16 along Storrow and Memorial drives. The four-mile skate begins at 10 a.m. at the Hatch Shell (registration at 8:30 a.m.) The rain date isOct. 30 at 9 a.m., Artessani Park, on Soldiers Field Road near WBZ-TV. Call 894-1100.

Soccer Clinic
Boston Common
Acting Mayor Thomas Menino and Boston Parks and Recreation Commissioner Patrick Harrington in cooperation with the Boston Youth Soccer Partnership are having a free soccer clinic on Sunday, Oct. 17 from 12-3 p.m. The clinic is open to all children 14 and under. Call 635-4505 or 325-6233.

Taste of Boston '93
World Trade Center
50 Hub restaurants and chefs join WRKO and show off their best from 6-9 p.m., Oct. 13. Tickets will be $8 at the door, with all leftover food and a portion of the proceeds going to benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank. Call 248-5518

Venus de Milo
Lansdowne St., Kenmore Square
The Closet Cannibals invade Venus de Milo on Oct. 18 from 5:30-11 p.m. This fashion bizarre is a bargain-basement, fashion flea-market featuring top local-designer fashions and both new-and-used designer clothing for men and women. Fashion show is at 7:30 p.m. with a $2 cover charge. Call 424-6531.

Wednesday's Child Benefit
World Trade Center, Boston
The Boston Company will sponsor a WBZ-TV "Wednesday's Child" benefit at *The Other Side: A Virtual Reality Arena* show on Wednesday, Oct. 13 at 6 p.m. Tickets are $20 and are available at the door, or by calling 439-5692.

CLASSICAL

Boston Aria Guild
Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
The Guild performs its favorite arias and ensembles in a free concert Oct. 16 at 2 p.m.

Boston Symphony Orchestra at Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St.
The Boston Symphony Orchestra and the New England Conservatory Orchestra celebrate the 90th anniversary of Jordan Hall. This performance is conducted by Seiji Ozawa on Oct. 19 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $15 and $25. Call 262-1120.

First Congregational Church
11 Garden St., Harvard Square
The Rustavi choir, a 10-member, all-male choir from Georgia, performs Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $15; call 876-9240 or 931-2000.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
The Boston Chamber Music Society performs Oct. 15 at 8 p.m., program TBA. Soprano Dawn Upshaw performs a recital of songs by Aaron Copland, Alban Berg and Debussy Oct. 16 at 8 p.m. The Juilliard String Quartet performs an all-Haydn program Oct. 22 at 8 p.m., while mezzosoprano Lorraine Hunt sings 16 songs Oct. 23 at 8 p.m., ranging from Handel to Marchetti. Call 536-2412 for tickets. Plus, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players plays a program of Beethoven, Ellen Zwilich, Busoni and Mozart Oct. 24 at 3 p.m. Call CON-CERT for details.

Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Longy sponsors classical-music concerts virtually every night, and most are either free or cost only $5. Call 876-0956 for that day's program.

MIT
Kresge Auditorium
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The Raphael Trio performs the works of Haydn, Schubert and MIT music-faculty-member Edward Cohen Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. The New England Philharmonic plays Oct. 22 at 8 p.m., and the MIT Symphony Orchestra performs Oct. 23 at 8 p.m. Call 253-4003 for more details.

New England Conservatory
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
and 241 St. Botolph St., Boston
The NEC offers more than 450 concerts (classical, jazz, etc.) during the 1993-94 season, and most are FREE! Call 262-1120 for a daily program.

New England Chamber Orchestra
Tsai Performance Center
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
The NECO opens its season Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. with a program of Mendelssohn, Haydn and Mozart. Call 353-8724.

Sanders Theater
Harvard University
The Boston Chamber Music Society performs Oct. 17 at 8 p.m., program TBA; call 422-0086. Violin soloist Joseph Silverstein opens the Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston season Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. with a Bach and Haydn concert. A free concert will precede it at 2 p.m. Call 661-7067.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
Students from eight colleges in the Boston area have come together in a new artists' cooperative for emerging talents called "First Expressions" (see gallery listing of same). Their symphony is at 8 p.m., Oct. 16. Call 738-8578. The Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra performs a program of Beethoven, Schumann and Mussorgsky Oct. 19 at 8 p.m.; call 266-1200 for tickets. The Handel & Haydn Society performs Handel's *Alexander's Feast* Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 17 at 3 p.m.

Theater Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
A Sunday with the Classics will begin its season in the North End on Oct. 17, from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., with live music performed by the Cantabile Trio. This innovative concert/brunch series wil offer food and music to delight the senses and relax the mind. Hosted by WBGH *Music America* host Ron Della Chiesa and his wife Joyce, the $20 price includes the music and brunch. Students get in for half-price, and WGBH cardholders recieve a 10-percent discount. Call 227-9872 for tickets and information.

FILMS

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theatre presents a variety of film series, from classic to cult. Through Nov. 11, Mondays are *Garbo Acts!*; Tuesdays are *French Noir: Policiers*; Wednesdays are *The Films of John Woo*; Thursdays are *Kurosawa and Mifune*; and weekends are special engagements. Themes change every few weeks. For a full program, call 876-6837.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Huh huh, huh huh, cool, huh huh! See uncensored *Beavis & Butthead* episodes and much, much more at Spike & Mike's *Sick and Twisted* animation festival, running Thursday-Sunday through Oct. 24. You must be 18 to see this. Accessible by the Green C-line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art deco features boasts two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of independent, creative filmmakers from all over the world. Call 734-2500 for a program.

Laserium
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston
In the tradition of Lollapalooza, the annual alternative rock concert extravaganza, the museum presents the *Lollapalaser* show every Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. The show is a combination of lasers and music from groups such as Living Colour, Jane's Addiction, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Other days have different musical themes; for information, call 723-2500.

Museum of Science
Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
Through Oct. 14, the world of Omnimax presents Grand *Canyon: The Hidden Secrets*, and, for the more tropically oriented, Omni treats you to *Tropical Rainforest*, a film that traces the evolution—and destruction— of one of nature's most important creations. Beginning Oct. 15, see *Beavers*, about the world's greatest engineers. Call 723-2500; purchasing tickets 24 hours in advance is advised.





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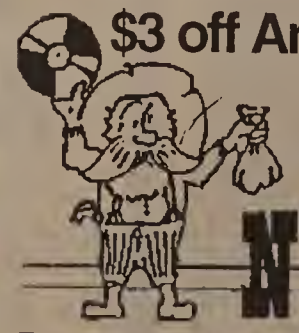
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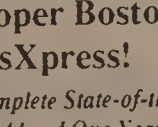
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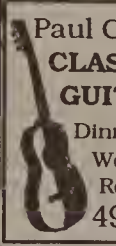
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PHOTO/VIDEO EQUIPMENT

NIKON CAMERA OUTFIT Nikon N2000 camera base, Vivitar 550FD flash, Vivitar 28-70mm lens, 70-210mm lens and carrying case. Excellent condition. Barely used. $450 or b.o. Will consider selling pieces individually. Please call 232-8455.

PHOTO EQUIPMENT 28-80mm Quantaray lens with case. Adaptable to 35mm, Nikon base cameras. Barely used. $75 lens cost $140. new. Please call 232-8455.

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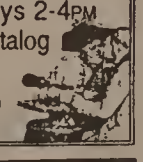
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- State the terms of the sale, the price, whether you're "flexible or negotiable."
- Include phone number and times to call.

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RATES: Line ads, six lines long: one issue - $29, four issues - $87, eight issues - $150, twelve issues - $200. Additional lines - $7 per. Bold heading - $5. Classified display -$20-per column inch. For frequency discounts, call for prices.

REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

AGENCY DISCOUNTS: 15%, Call for more information.

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS

BROCKTON 2 and 3 bedroom, remodeled, exc. cond., Sept, util DLD no pets no wash mach. (508)583-8485.

BROOKLINE Cleveland Circle. Large 41/2 bdrm w/ 2baths in gorgeous building. Back porch, close to T & stores. Avail. now. Call Rimma at 232-8433 or 731-3244

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

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BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

BROOKLINE 25+ female roommate wanted. 1 bdrm avail. in 2 bdrm apt. Large living/dining area. Washer/dryer in bldg. 5 min to Coolidge Corner, on B&C lines. Large windows, newly painted, hrdwd flrs. Avail. Aug. 1st $325/mo. heat & hot water incl. Call Liz 277-9298.

BROOKLINE VILLAGE M/F roommate wanted. 1bdrm avail in 4bdrm apt. Large living room & dining room. Hardwood floors & fireplace. Great location-near D-line. Avail Aug. 1st $250/mo heat & hot water incl. 277-4872

CAMBRIDGE-SOMERVILLE Seeking roommate to share clean & attractive four-bedroom apartment. Walk to Harvard $300. a month. Call Fred 661-0094.

FRAMINGHAM/NATICK Great area! Roommate to share 2 bedroom furnished apartment with GWM. Parking, walk to T, non-smoker. $250/mo. + utils. Jack (508)879-1503. Available 4/1.

NORTH READING GWM Housemate wanted. Non-smoker. No drugs. Under 40 Years Old. Luxurious living. Serious only. $100 weekly rent includes all utilities. Steven (508)664-4443

SOUTH BOSTON Professional F seeking F for 2 BR in safe neighborhood, 3 blocks to Broadway T, furnished except bedroom, full kitchen, hardwood floors, prefer nonsmoking $485 mo. 269-2385

SOUTH END 2 BDRM. APT. near BCH. Seeking non-smoking, prof. to share 1200 sq. ft., htd. w/d, hdwd floors on gentrified street. $550 w/ off street pkg. 236-1917 avail. now.

SUPER LUXURY APT. 2 bdrm, 2 baths, all appliances. Sky-line view of Boston. Complex has pool, health club, game room, & more! Shuttle bus to Boston & T. Call Tom 973-3877.

WATERTOWN/BELMONT 3rd F wanted for 8 rm. apt. Porch, yard, fireplace, w/d, & parking. $467+ No smoking-no pets. Avail Sept 1st please call 926-6261

COMMERCIAL SPACE

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HYDE PARK 1 bdrm. lux. condo by owner by appt. Sun. 12-2 pm. Near T + shopping. Residential neighborhood. Price $59.900, 5% down & 71/2% financing. Monthly cost $485-incl. heat, hot water & parking. Laundry on premises. Call 522-4889.

GARAGE FOR RENT

JAMAICA PLAIN 2-car concrete garage for rent. Safe, clean, water and fire proof. Asking $200 Call (508)995-1435 Anytime

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WALPOLE WATERFRONT, by owner. 7 rm. Split level, 2 full baths, $296,000 owner pay closing costs, owner financing possible (508)668-7252

HOUSE SHARES

ALLSTON 2 F or couple wanted to join our semi-coop house. 7 BR, 2 bath, yard, plano, prkng, near T and bus. 3 rms avail. June, July, Sept. $270, $360, and $410. We're scientists, students, artists, professionals. 787-2831.

CHARLESTOWN Seeks 4th F for quiet house. Lrg sunny room wash/dry, library. 2 cats, no more. Be 24+, nonsmoker, student/prof. $325/util & dep. 242-0593

DORCHESTER Share safe, sunny 6 room apt. w/ WM, dog & parrot. You get your own bedroom, living room for $450.+ Deck & yard, quiet neighborhood. Please call or leave message at (617)265-6566.

HAVERHILL M/F to share spacious, sunny four bedroom house. Modern kitchen, baths, and fireplaces. 50 mins. commuter rail. $325+ utils. Call (508)521-2480.

JAMAICA PLAIN Room avail. In 5 bdrm. house w/ porches, w/d. Near T, Arboretum and J.P. Pond. Have 1 cat, no more pets. Non-smoker, quiet house w/ professionals & serious students. $300. + utils. 524-0819.

NORTH SHORE 2 roommates wanted to share large house on Lynnfield line near Rt 1. Off-street prkg, swimming pool, quiet location, w/w carpet, dw/d, w/d. No utils $110/week 593-2239

SHARE QUIET HOME In Lynn. Prof. GWM seeks housemate, pref. prof. GWM. Must be neat, clean, non-smoker. Off-street parking. Near commuter rail, w/d modern house w/ fireplace. Lots of privacy for renter. 599-1370

WATERTOWN Mature child oriented, bright & considerate F for 1st flr of beautiful 4 story townhouse w/ mom & daughter. Share kitchen, own bath, off-street parking. $375+utils. No pets or smoking. Geri (617)924-4174

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RENT W/OPTION TO BUY A single 2 family or large 2 bedroom condo. Must be reasonably priced. Would consider handyman special. Pref. loc. Brookline/Newton or possibly Metro West. Well established couple. Call John 247-2175

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BOSTON Housesitter available 10/1. Responsible. References available. Can care for pets. Looking for live in housesitter position. Call 661-1967

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CAMBRIDGE Central Sq. area, near Red line. Off-street, well-lit parking space available in driveway of private home. Reasonable rent. (617)547-1888.

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BROOKLINE 4 Prof. clean, quiet, seek female 30+, veggie, non-smoker. Large house, 2 min. to T, large yard. Rent- $365 includes all util. $395 with parking 731-6959 lv. message

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PP

WOMEN SEEKING MEN

BACK BAY white female, 36, slender, blonde professional, grad degree, lived overseas. Excellent physical condition- Nautilus & free-weights. Prefer men who work out and are well educated. EXT•8006.

IT'S HIGH TIDE, so you better catch this unique, 29yr old, 5'9 1/2", attractive black mermaid who wishes to love, honor & cherish a honest, trusting & open-minded, tall black male, 30-45. EXT•6975.

CROSS-CULTURE! White female, 33, 5'7", slim, professional, French, seeks black male professional, open-minded, sensitive, fit & tall, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•8005.

SEEKING ROMANCE! Attractive, classy, non-smoking Jewish female, late 30's, financially & emotionally secure, physically fit, energetic, great sense of humor. Desires a non-smoking Jewish male, 38-48, for adventure, affection, stimulating conversation, fine dining, jazz & moonlit walks. Only sincere should reply! EXT•8003.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SINGLE! White female, 25, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, athletic, mature, honest & professional, seeks a male, with similar interests, for a 1-1 relationship. Enjoys all sports, long walks & talks, dancing, the beach, skiing, cooking, family & friends. Tired of the bar scene type! EXT•8031.

MOCHA BROWN & HEALTHY black female, 5'5", light brown eyes, enjoys clubing, movies, cooking & more. Seeks fun-loving, tall, handsome & well-educated white or Spanish male, 25-28, for friendship & possible relationship. I'm waiting sexy! EXT•8020.

WHITE CATHOLIC STATE WORKER, 31, who enjoys family, friends, pets, dining out, the movies, camping & most sports, seeks Catholic male. Sincerity, level headedness & beach walks are important to our growth! EXT•8021.

SWEET & SPECIAL, inspirational, spiritual, physical, beautiful, artistic, religious & passionate, top of the line, down to earth, Newton/Vineyard black woman, 40 (looks 30), 5'7", 120 lbs, seeks equal male partner, 40 and up. EXT•6995.

DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, slim, divorced white female, 41 (looks & feels younger), considered attractive, centered/happy with myself & my life. Optimistic, warm, animated, loyal friend, impassioned about my work (refugee/immigrants rights), quite irreverent, wry/lively sense of humor. A voracious reader/traveler, movie goer, physically active & fit. EXT•8043.

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN FEMALE, 28, 5'5", 125 lbs, college educated, vivacious & fun-loving. Seeks attractive white male, 5'7"+, who is serious about a long-term relationship. EXT•8015.

ATTRACTIVE REDHEAD, 40, fun-loving, warm, self-aware, romantic & bright, enjoys good friends & conversation, laughing, music, dancing, cooking & the outdoors. Seeks friendship & a nurturing committed relationship with a white male professional, 36-48, who is upbeat, knows himself, has a sense of humor, is fit, and values balance & honest communication. No smokers! EXT•6988.

MY FANTASY GUY BUYS 7 INCHES, knows what Sonic Bubble gum is, has long hair & maybe glasses. He's a little shy, but very bright & funny. This attractive white female, 26, is hoping he also reads the personal ads! EXT•8046.

32 YEAR-OLD Jewish Michelle Pfeiffer (brunette) seeks her Batman who is Jewish, 30-36, physically fit, attractive, driven & fun-loving. I'm a professional who enjoys exercising, cooking & dining in exotic places. Non-native New Englander's get special attention!!! EXT•8023.

FIT, PROFESSIONAL, eclectic white female, 37, from Boston, enjoys all music, old movies & romance. Seeks to share city life, concerts, arts, comedy, White Mtn. camping, hiking & canoeing, with a white male, 35+ with similar interests. No tobacco, moderate alcohol! EXT•6974.

ATTRACTIVE & DOWN TO EARTH, non-smoking Jewish female, 35, enjoys 70's rock n'roll, jazz, most sports, road trips, arts & entertainment, bowling & animals. Seeks a Jewish male, with some similar interests, for a long-term relationship. EXT•6990.

START YOUR SIRENS! White female seeks blue collar guy with white collar values! Sassy, professional redhead, 38, 5'6", 135 lbs, seeks policeman or fireman, 35-45. He must be educated, in-shape, knows how to have fun, and treats women with class. EXT•8018.

SOUTH SHORE WHITE FEMALE, 32, 5'9", mother of two, willing to learn new hobbies, seeks that someone special for an honest relationship. He enjoys being with kids, dancing & spending quiet evenings at home talking. EXT•6973.

PETITE BLACK FEMALE, 24, 5'2", 105 lbs, college student, seeks fun-loving Italian male, 24-30, who enjoys movies, dining out & weekend getaways. Must be looking for an intimate & honest relationship! EXT•6932.

SPUNKY, SMART & WARM-HEARTED, divorced Jewish female, 41, petite & pretty, medical writer, seeks an intelligent, thoughtful Jewish guy, 35-50, who's ready to settle down and have a kid or two. You don't have to be flashy, just be nice. EXT•6962.

END RACISM!!!! Young, attractive, eclectic Jewish female, 26, with exotic looks, long brown hair & alluring brown eyes. Seeks mature, open-minded male, under 40, of higher spiritual & moral values, for a deep & emotionally intense, 1-1 committed relationship. Interests include comedy, swimming, biking, travel, arts, music, Kabbalia & ethnic dancing. No nerds! EXT•8044.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, trim, fit, discriminating white lady wishes to meet a spirited male counterpart, 55-60's, with a sense of humor, for friendship & sharing initially. Although classical music is my first love, outdoor activities (off-road biking, x-country skiing, etc...) are high priority. EXT•8011.

UNFORGETTABLE! Very pretty, fun professional Jewish female, 31, enjoys dining out, travel, fitness, comedy clubs and baseball. Seeks handsome sincere professional Jewish male, 28-35, for possible relationship. I'm one in a million and you are too! EXT•6986.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, buxom, black college student, 23, 5'6", 160 lbs, with varied interests. Seeks educated, adventurous, funny, confident, sincere, tall, dark, handsome, smoke/drug-free male, 23-33, for friendship & fun. Race irrelevant! EXT•6941.

CLYDE, WHERE ARE YOU? Impatient Bonnie is waiting! I'm 26, blonde, tattooed, lots & lots of fun, and seeking my soulmate & partner in crime. You should be exceptional in every way. Herbalists welcome. Peace! EXT•6965.

SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE! Petite, brown-eyed blonde, 31, fun, athletic & intelligent. Seeks an outgoing male professional, 28-40, who has a sense of humor, enjoys participating in a variety of sports, and enjoys travel. Please Call! EXT•6924.

TALL BRUNETTE! attractive white female, 28, 5'10", intelligent, great sense of humor, interests include art, theatre, dance, movies, long walks & quiet times. Seeks tall & attractive white male, 28-38, with similar interests, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•6964.

VERY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE, divorced white female, 46, brown hair, blue eyes, emotionally & financially secure, with passions for skiing, aerobics, fishing, dancing, animals & being romantic. Seeks white male, 36-47, with similar interests. No couch potatoes or head games! EXT•6927.

DEVOTED & COMPASSIONATE black woman, 25, 5'9", 143 lbs, seeks handsome black male professional, 25-33, 6'2"+, who is independent, sympathetic, trustworthy, respectable & creative, to seek & share excitement, adventure & laughs. EXT•6953.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionate & sincere, seeks younger male for long-term relationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

LIGHT COMPLEXION, AVERAGE LOOKS & an explosive temperament! Queen-sized black woman, 39, 5'9", 225 lbs (trying to lose), has made some wrong choices in the quest for Mr. Right, so I'm still looking for a taller, drug-free, sincere man. Age, race or nationality unimportant, but honesty, commitment, sincerity & affection are! EXT•6954.

PASSIONATE, FUNNY (not necessarily in that order), attractive, intelligent white female, 42, 5'3", enjoys movies, museums, dining out, biking, reading, the Red Sox & rock n' roll. If you're late 30's to mid 40's, honest, smart, successful, kind, good-looking, witty & tall, I could make you very happy! EXT•6967.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

LISTEN UP! Full-figured, attractive white female, 25, seeks a 1-1 relationship. If you have a great sense of humor, like quiet nights at home & walks along the beach with an old-fashioned girl, give me a call! EXT•6806.

VERY ATTRACTIVE & SINCERE white female, 28, seeks white male, with dark hair & eyes, who is honest, romantic, funny, knows what he wants from life, and is not afraid to go after it. Please respond! EXT•6809.

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING black female, 27, with nice sense of humor, loves going to movies & late night walks. Seeks a sincere, caring & romantic male, 25-35, for friendship plus whatever comes naturally. EXT•6863.

DOWN TO EARTH, BLONDE WOMAN, 38, 5'8", 125 lbs, seeks laid-back male, 30+, for walks through the woods with my dog, ethnic foods, beaches & movies. EXT•6900.

EXTREAMELY PRETTY! White female, great shape, very fit, hard body, outgoing, with a positive attitude & champagne taste. Seeks an extreamly handsome white male, 28-36, big build (bodybuilder/weightlifter), who's outgoing & a genuine nice guy. EXT•6803.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable white male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

SEXY, SENSUAL, PASSIONATE woman of substance! White female, 45, 5'5", 125 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes, great shape, compassionate in & out, emotionally secure, secure job. Seeks physically fit white male, 38-50, 5'9"-6'1", dark hair, who is ready for a 1-1 relationship with me. Serious replies only! EXT•6881.

FUN & FIESTY, green-eyed girl next door! White female, 28, sales professional, loves sailing, skiing, rollarblading, movies, museums, traveling, Vermont & The Cape. Seeks like-minded fellow to laugh with & share life! EXT•6814.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. WANTED: White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relationship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

BACK BAY GUY, 44, 5'9", 165 lbs, black hair, brown eyes, looks like Bruce Willis with glasses, interests include golf, sailing, exercise, movies, dining & travel. Seeks a younger, intelligent, adventurous, professional woman with similar interests. You won't be disappointed! EXT•7665.

ABOVE AVERAGE LOOKS! White male, 32, 5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair & eyes, usually in blue jeans & boots, but also likes dressing up for romantic nights out. Enjoys camping, motorcycles (Harleys), snowmobiling, skiing, guitars & music. Seeks a white girl/woman, with an above average body & face, for companionship. EXT•7643.

WHITE MALE, 52, wishes to meet an active female, 40-52, in great shape, to enjoy the city, country, beaches, hiking, biking & skating together. Don't forget great pizza too! For additional info, kindly call EXT•7671.

OPTIMISTIC WHITE MALE, 25, 5'11", 185 lbs, athletic, enjoys the outdoors & quiet times at home. Seeks outgoing motorcycle passenger, 22-28, who enjoys life & likes to have fun. EXT•7601.

AS THE LAST RAYS OF SUMMER SUN FADE AWAY, I wonder who will share my adventures this year! Humorous white male, 39, 5'10", 165 lbs, hazel eyes, brown hair, 4yrs clean & sober, seeks a woman to share life, laughter & the pursuit of happiness. The frost will soon be on the pumpkin; will you let me light your fire? EXT•7613.

SEEKING HIS SWEETHEART! Bearded black male, 34, 5'10", 200 lbs, nice looks, shy & quiet. Seeks an open-minded female, 18-34, for movies, TV, bowling, theatre, cultural events, fairs, board games, museums, concerts, hugs, kisses, honesty, monogamy, affection & more. No drugs or smoking! EXT•7607.

VERY TALL BLACK MALE, 50, 6'6", 210 lbs, with a shaved head & short beard, seeks a female, 30+, who likes music, sports, dancing, fishing & billiards. Race unimportant! All calls answered! EXT•7602.

THE SEARCH IS OVER! Good-looking, employed black male, 27, father of 1, seeks attractive black woman, 24-35, who is above head games & materialism. I'm for real, are you? No smokers please! EXT•7611.

VERY HANDSOME, "GQ-TYPE" MALE, 33, 5'8", 160 lbs, lean & muscular, into bikes, running, lifting, racing, shopping, blading, Sox, Celts, B's & especially music. Seeks very pretty, fit, active & spontaneous lady under 35. EXT•7592.

PAUL NEWMAN LOOKALIKE...HONESTLY! White male, 37, 5'11", 165 lbs, salt & pepper hair, deep blue eyes & a great smile. Looking for a woman who's as BEAUTIFUL on the inside as she is on the outside. Let's meet! EXT•7667.

SENSITIVE, INTELLIGENT, attractive & athletic white male, 42, seeks like female friend that wants to have fun! Age or ethnic background is not an issue, but sincerity is! Call and tell me about yourself! EXT•7597.

OH NO! CULTURE SHOCK! White male, 26, 6', 175 lbs, seeks black, Asian or Hispanic female with a great sense of humor, sexuality, sensitivity & self esteem. I'm very artistic, athletic, enthusiastic & out of the ordinary. Give me a call! EXT•7641.

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! White male, 36, 180 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks a fit lady of quality, 28-42, for an honest & monogamous relationship. I'm sincere, and happy in my work. If you enjoy music, movies, dining out & good conversation, give me a call! EXT•7615.

SIMPLY TERRIFIC! Attractive white male, 38, looking to meet a down to earth, cute white female, 28-35, who would enjoy an adorable, 5 month old yellow lab, Vermont foliage, hot cider, country inns, dungarees & romantic dinners. EXT•7629.

REDHEAD DESTINY! Do you believe? This well-bred, 5'9" guy, 34, with dark hair & blue eyes is handsome, humorous, fun, and has Christian values as well as a healthy body & mind. Seeking fit, fiery-haired woman, 24-32, for the ultimate rapture & a mind for life-long love. Respond and be pleasantly surprised! EXT•7668.

HANDSOME, ATHLETIC & HUMOROUS white male professional, 30's, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, with European manners, seeks educated, attractive, honest, responsible yet crazy, open-minded, emotionally & physically fit, white female, 27-32, who is happy with herself, and seeks a caring friendship & a quality relationship. EXT•7696.

ONE WOMAN MAN! Very attractive Italian male, 32, 5'6", 160 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, enjoys working out, the outdoors & quiet evenings. Seeks a very attractive woman, with a nice body & good sense of humor, for a 1-1 relationship & possible marriage. EXT•7606.

ATTRACTIVE, DIVORCED BLACK MALE, 41 (looks 35), 5'11", 165 lbs, very honest & sincere, enjoys tennis, movies & long walks. Seeks petite white female, 25-40. Please no games! EXT•7660.

WHITE MALE, 28, seeks sharp, self-styled, seemly, counterpart. This adventure traveler, PR exec., loves tennis, creative dining, visual arts & new music. Ideal date is a female, 23-30, with a taste for city & wondering conversation. EXT•7697.

PROFESSIONAL, WELL MANNERED, white male, 28, 5'10", brown hair & eyes, thoroughbred Italian, 100% American. Seeks female to enjoy blues, books, bikes, billiards, cooking, walking, talking, slight bar-hopping & photographic excursions during season changes. Open mind & sense of humor are prerequisites. Redheads a plus! EXT•7695.

MARRIAGE MINDED, Good-looking, divorced white male, 40, 5'8", 150 lbs, professional, business owner, educated, warm, caring, humorous, a good friend, athletically inclined, many interests. Seeks an attractive white female, 28-38, who would enjoy spending time with a real down to earth man. No children please! EXT•7630.

IN NEED OF HUGS! Attractive white male, 45, 5'10", 180 lbs, emotionally & financially secure, great sense of humor, physically fit, gentle, romantic, giving, affectionate & honest. Seeking attractive friend, lover, soulmate who can give as well as receive. EXT•7596.

A RARE FIND! Intelligent, secure & caring, white male, 23, athletic, enjoys skiing, tennis & other sports. Seeks fit female, age & race unimportant, for playing together, occasional weekend getaways, theatre, dinner & many other exciting adventures. EXT•7664.

YOU COULD BE THE ONE! Divorced Jewish male, 44, professional, strong & caring. Seeks divorced Jewish female, 35-45, who is self-assured, professional, sensitive & caring, for fun & possible relationship. EXT•7659.

WANTED: ONE ATTRACTIVE LADY! If you like sailing, motorcycles, travel, music, dancing, movies & dining out, call this handsome, divorced white male, 37, 6', 220 lbs, for a possible life-long relationship! EXT•7529.

HANDSOME, professionally employed white male, 39, enjoys theatre, movies, fine dining, dancing, tennis & travel. Seeks pretty woman who is intelligent, communicative, and fun to be with, for a serious relationship. EXT•7516.

OUTGOING, FRIENDLY, happy, divorced white male consultant, tall, fit, 40's, demonstrably successful (not too workaholic), handsome with out an ego. You: reciprocal, under 41, tall, slim, non-smoking white female. EXT•7574.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR COMPANIONSHIP & LAUGHTER? Handsome, clean-cut, professional white male, 31, with varied interests, seeks a white female. Let's get together! EXT•7521.

SOCIAL WORKER, 35, 6', slim, attractive, financially independent, seeks female, 22-42, who enjoys the outdoors, oceanfront living, walks, nature, quiet spaces & world travel. EXT•7537.

WHITE MALE PROFESSIONAL, 53, 5'9", 210 lbs, enjoys boats, sports, bar hopping & dancing. Wants to meet new people in Boston through a middle-aged, bright, somewhat wild, pretty female with a strong personality. EXT•7558.

TOM CRUISE SEEKS NICOLE! White male, 29, 6'1", 195 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks fun-loving, attractive white female, 21-30, who enjoys dining, dancing & good conversation. EXT•7511.

ALWAYS A BEST MAN, NEVER A GROOM! A godfather, never a father! Know the feeling? Great looking, Dbl-X white male, just turned 38, seeks great looking, old-fashioned white female. Autumn is here, so lets enjoy it together. All calls will be answered! EXT•7552.

WHITE MALE PROFESSIONAL, 43, PhD, 6'1", 165 lbs, bearded, balding & not bad looking, enjoys the arts, outdoors, walks, listening & laughter. Seeks bright, classy woman, 26-40, who is spiritually enriched, emotionally mature, attractive, sensual & spontaneous. EXT•7584.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple Interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7551.

SINGLE PARENT! Handsome white male professional, 6', 185 lbs, who is sincere, honest, trustworthy, athletic, and a gentleman with character. Seeks pretty, trim, single mom or single woman who is family oriented. No bad habits. Race or culture unimportant! EXT•7517.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7462.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINIER — OCTOBER 13 - OCTOBER 26

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)

Onca again hope springs eternal thanks to the Libra new moon — exactly on Friday morning at 7:36 — at 22. Libra, close enough to Bill Clinton's Jupiter to give his ratings a big boost. The Establishment endures, maturity and wisdom get the respect they deserve, traditions are honored (not in the breach) and everyone feels safer while the sun trines stable Saturn this weekend. Meanwhile Venus, slipping into sociable Libra, a sign she governs, makes us more amenable to hugs and kisses, happy meals and all sorts of deals. Negotiate your little heart away, but be prepared to pay full price for peace of mind and/or a piece of the action. Everything becomes enormously expensive yet utterly enjoyable when the sun meets exuberant Jupiter on Monday. You're willing to take a chance on your future, further your education, see the world. Coast on whatever optimism you can maintain dunng the week because, after Scorpio starts (next Saturday at 5:37 a.m.) weirdness prevails. Whether it's because erratic Uranus and delusional Neptune ara meeting for the third of the Triple Conjunctions (exact Monday, Oct. 24, at 2:32 a.m.) or because Mercury is turning retrograde at 6:40 p.m. for three weeks of confusion and disinformation is incidental, although not without incident. This year Halloween is raally scary.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

Allies and enemies, the self and society. Only big issues this week, no trivialities to disturb your quest for personal fulfillment in an impersonal world. Meanwhile, casual acquaintances, particularly one in a powerful position, could wind up on your side, favoring your cause, partial to your pitch. It pretty much depends on who you're hanging with — your mate, partner or lawyer provides the intro. And thanks to Venus entering Libra, sign of the cosmic soul mate, romanca is in the air, again.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

The new moon can bnng a new slant on your job description and a friendlier atmosphere among the folks at work. If you've been feuding, you'll make up. Pay attention to what the kids are telling you; young people are dropping clues to how you can go about fulfilling another long-range goal. Getting straight to the heart of the matter matters a lot right now, even if there's a chance you'll get hurt. A generosity of spirit wrapped in cautious optimism this Monday — grab for it while you can.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

A lucky shot, a shot at love and a chance to walk away with a prize. Games, sports, parties and shows could take up every waking minuta if you let them; however there are words to the wise that need to be said or information about health and insurance that should be exchanged before the weekend is over, certainly before Mercury turns retrograde on the 25th. Then you can party. Mid-June Geminis are in an extraordinary position to capitalize on a business opportunity that takes real brains and foresight.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

The Libra new moon hits home because it affects your roots. What happens over the next four weeks relates primarily to your house, history, Mom, food and the rest of the family. Solidify Thanksgiving plans before Mercury turns retrograde on the 25th, but don't get too carried away by the extravagant sun-Jupiter conjunction and buy everything and invite everyone in sight. However, if you're in the market for real estate, remodeling and a loan to go with it, this could be your lucky week. Next week it's back to playing relationship roulette again.

LEO (JULY 23-AUGUST 22)

Big week with bold moves and broad strokes. Writers, teachers, neighbors and siblings are the instruments of your good fortune, the means to a very happy end. However your real strength comes in partnership with an old pro or scientist of stature. The frustrations you've endured finally make sense, taking it slow and steady suddenly pays off. Exuberance, on tha other hand, while good for your soul, can cost a small fortune. Not that you'd mind, but be forewarned before you start spending.

VIRGO (AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22)

Excellent financial prospects, so concentrate on following the line of least resistance, the rainbow to its pot of gold. Yes, you'll have to make some effort, but luck and charm count far more than sweating and fretting. Plus money from having toed another line in the not-so-distant past and, if you did it right, respect and praise as well. Such excellent potential should not be wasted seeking out new diversions or waiting for messages from spaced-out ex-lovers and other spent sources of inspiration.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22)

Great expectations, celebrations and, as soon as tha sun joins jolly Jupiter in your sign, great expense. Another lucky week with endlass possibilities and good times, but not all is frivolity and fun. You might actually receive a material reward for having shown excellent judgment regarding a lover, child or creative project, let's say, enough bucks to pay for the latest round of partying. But don't take anything for granted. Being blessed by the gods won't last forever; it might not last a fortnight.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21)

Information is the key to your next move. Since the Libra new moon falls in your 12th house of mysterious motives, try a little harder to uncover a few facts that'll propel you into the future sanely and safely. Nobody knows for sure where we're headed, all we know is that we're (d)evolving at an alarming rate. So before Scorpio starts, get your personal agenda straight: double-check your reasoning, trust your intuition and have faith they'll lead you to sanctuary. And do it before Mercury turns retrograde in your sign on the 25th.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21)

Something is growing by leaps and bounds, but what exactly is your Jupiter ruler expanding? Your income, Halloween party-guest list, hopes for peace? Count on a professional peer or casual acquaintance to open doors, perhaps put you back in touch with a major influence from college days. This could be an extremely lucky time, particularly if you have a Libra and/or a Leo by your side. Or you may feel it's strictly "business as usual" and take your advantages for granted. Pity.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20)

This week could well turn out to be the high point of the year. As the Libra sun in your mid-heaven trines your Saturn ruler in your money house, the sacnfices you've endured to obtain what you truly value make a lot of sense and mayba a lot of money. Plus, you're graced with dumb luck just for hanging with your parents, boss or government brass. Dumb enough to go in on lottery tickets together? Next week however is another story. Unexpected changes can throw you off stride, friends may renege papers disappear mysteriously.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18)

Embrace the Librans in your lifa this week because they're the bearers of good luck, party invitations, travel arrangements and artwork from the Orient. (Libra rules China and is the glyph for Japan). While the Libra sun favors Saturn in your sign, you'll feel happier or at least relieved from whatever burden you think you've been shouldering. The word from tha front office about the future sounds supportive, too. Next weekend, however, is tricky: temporary gains, erratic decisions, weird desires.

PISCES (FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19)

New moon magic can reveal hidden resources, but not the kind you have to dig deep to unearth. Whether it's sheer luck or parental providence, there's financial opportunity in investments, insurance or inheritances. And if bucks aren't your thing, then good fortuna could come through psychological insights, research or hypnosis. Well, maybe you do have to dig deep. A romantic ralationship is easier to deal with once Venus leaves hypocritical Virgo for loving, lovable Libra.

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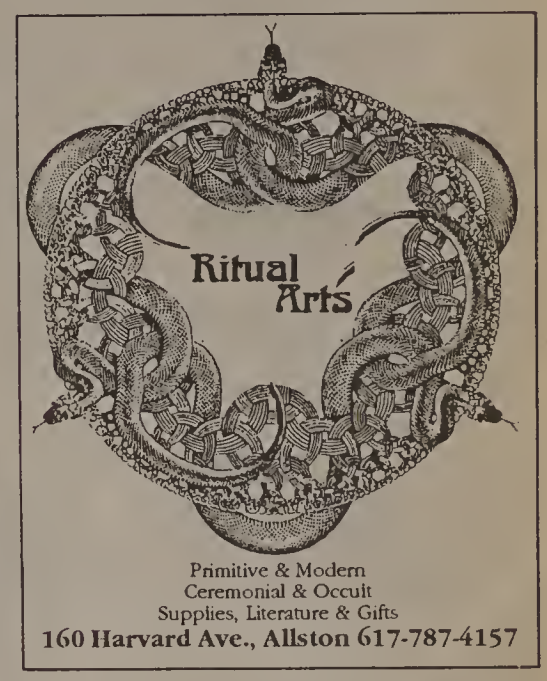
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HORROR At Home

Entertainment SHOCKERS To Terrorize Yourself

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Down-to-earth footwear

By the time these attractive, sturdy shoes have come into being, a number of questions have been asked and answered in good ecological conscience. First, what raw materials, having said "good-bye," now need to say "hello" in a new form? When you are wearing a Deja Shoe (who says environmentalists don't have a sense of humor?) old coffee filters, soda bottles, milk jugs, polystyrene cups,



tire rubber, magazines, cardboard and old clothes have been demolished and transformed into an afterlife of sneakers, hiking shoes and oxfords — none of which, of course, sport leather. (Thus bypassing the cycle involving cows, overgrazing, air pollution and deforestation.) Furthermore, to avoid toxic fumes harmful to the workers who make the shoes, water-based adhesives, not dangerous solvent-based adhesives, are used. Deja's corporate policies are definitely environment-first and not just footwear fashion shoelaced into more money, an attitude that certainly will take the pinch off your bunions. Revealing a hint of the goddess (the company's president is a woman, Julie Lewism), one shoe is called the Gaia Rover. Another looks like a very, very, very worn plaid blanket, a veritable Velveteen Rabbit of a shoe. Recycling, after all, means being worn to a useful fare-thee-well.

Deja Shoe
(800) 331-DEJA

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Nantucket Holiday

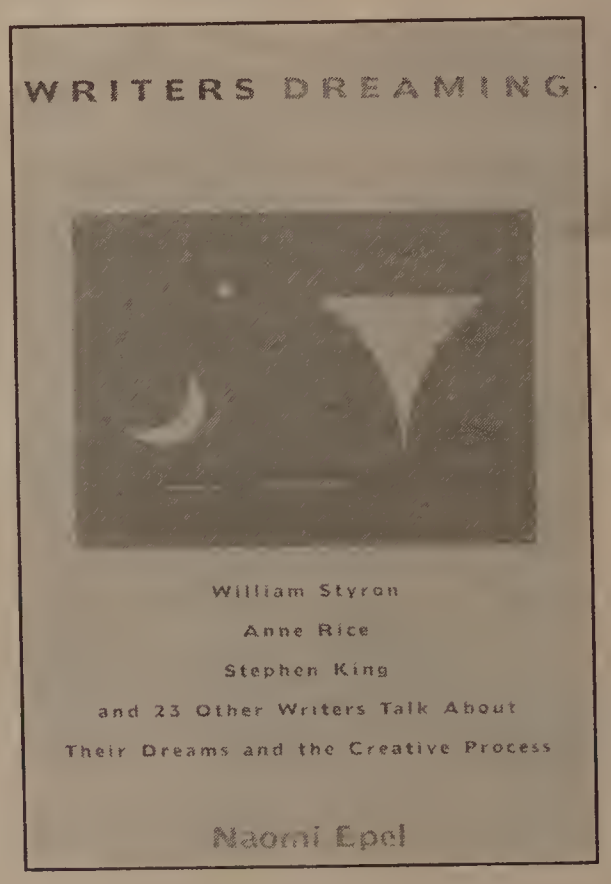


Not just a summer hangout nor an off-season place for vacation-home owners, Nantucket should still be considered when the leaves are off the trees and the tourists are off the ferry. People for whom away-from-home is either more possible or more desirable at Thanksgiving and Christmas could make a Currier-and-Ives time of it here. Conjure up the island's historic houses and inns with their widows' walk rooftop galleries from which sea captains' wives could look out for whaling ships. Imagine the merry buzz of shops and seasonal doings in Nantucket Town. Think of the movie *The War of the Roses*, before it got nasty, when the still-happy couple snuggles in snowy, cobbled Nantucket (where, apparently, they should have stayed). Guest houses are open for feasts and celebrations, and you might find residents wearing Victorian costumes. After Thanksgiving, Nantucket Noel festivities begin. During the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, more than 200 trees lend their greenery and illumination, while the Community Sing fills the air. On the first Saturday of December (oh, stay all month!) the Christmas Stroll brings together schoolchildren, merchants, fishermen, residents and visitors for a festive gathering with mulled wine, costumed carolers, and all things Christmas. Make a little holiday history for yourself in this traditional treasure of a place.

Holidays in Nantucket
For information on lodgings, call the Nantucket Chamber of Commerce
(508) 228-1700, extension 900

Writing's but a Dream

The river of the imagination and the river of dreaming flow alike; it's not surprising that many writers dip into the latter for inspiration. Writer-and-dream-researcher Naomi Epel had the idea of interviewing 26 writers about their dream lives, and the result is a chapter in which each one (William Styron, Gloria Naylor, Allan Gurganus, Amy Tan, Stephen King, Maya Angelou, among others) talks about how they dream, how they write, and the connection — whatever it may be. Many admit to doing their writing in a nearly trancelike state, so a natural whoosh often exists between their writing and dreaming. Styron reports, after sleeping and dreaming, having the lingering image of a young girl he had once actually seen with a concentration-camp tattoo showing under her summer-dress sleeve, which formed the core of the character in *Sophie's Choice* (causing him to abandon another book he was writing.) Other writers report being visited in dreams by characters they have created in their books; some have written actual dreams into their novels. Sue Grafton, when battling with her ex-husband, started fantasizing about murder. Her dream became a key plot feature in *A Is for Alibi*. Alan Gurganus recalls a seminal dream he had as a child about fixedly watching a 40-foot-long peacock outside his ranch-house window — a sign he interpreted as meaning that he had the power to imagine the unreal and "to notice as thoroughly as I could." They are lush talkers, these 26. Their real-life and novel-writing questions are posed in their dreams; knots are unknotted and unnoticed problems announce themselves disturbingly, interestingly, making *Writers Dreaming* a fascinating anthology.



Writers Dreaming
by Naomi Epel
Carol Southern Books, Crown Publishers Inc., $22.50

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146

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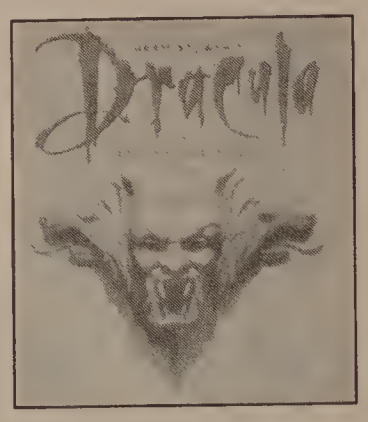
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Pour House	October 28	7:00pm
Alleycat	October 28	9:00pm
Frogg Lane	October 28	8:00pm
The Hard	October 29	9:00pm

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Home in on Horror



Think it's scary out there? Believe your home to be an oasis of domesticity? Beware — Halloween's horrors can creep inside your abode with a little help from our guide to ghoulishness. *IB's* reviewers have compiled the most fiendish books, videos and music to help you terrorize yourself.

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Grape Expectations



American winemakers have little wine worldliness, opines in-house oenologist Sandy Block, a limitation reflected in our domestic output. One heartwarming exception is David Ramey's just-released 1992 Chalk Hill Winery Sauvignon Blanc. Read all about it.

By Sandy Block

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Lauren Dare Stays In



On the couch with the Last Call Lady: Our intrepid Queen of the Night dares to ***not*** go out. In this week's column, she divulges her Top 10 reasons to abstain from Boston's nightlife.

By Lauren Dare

On the Cover

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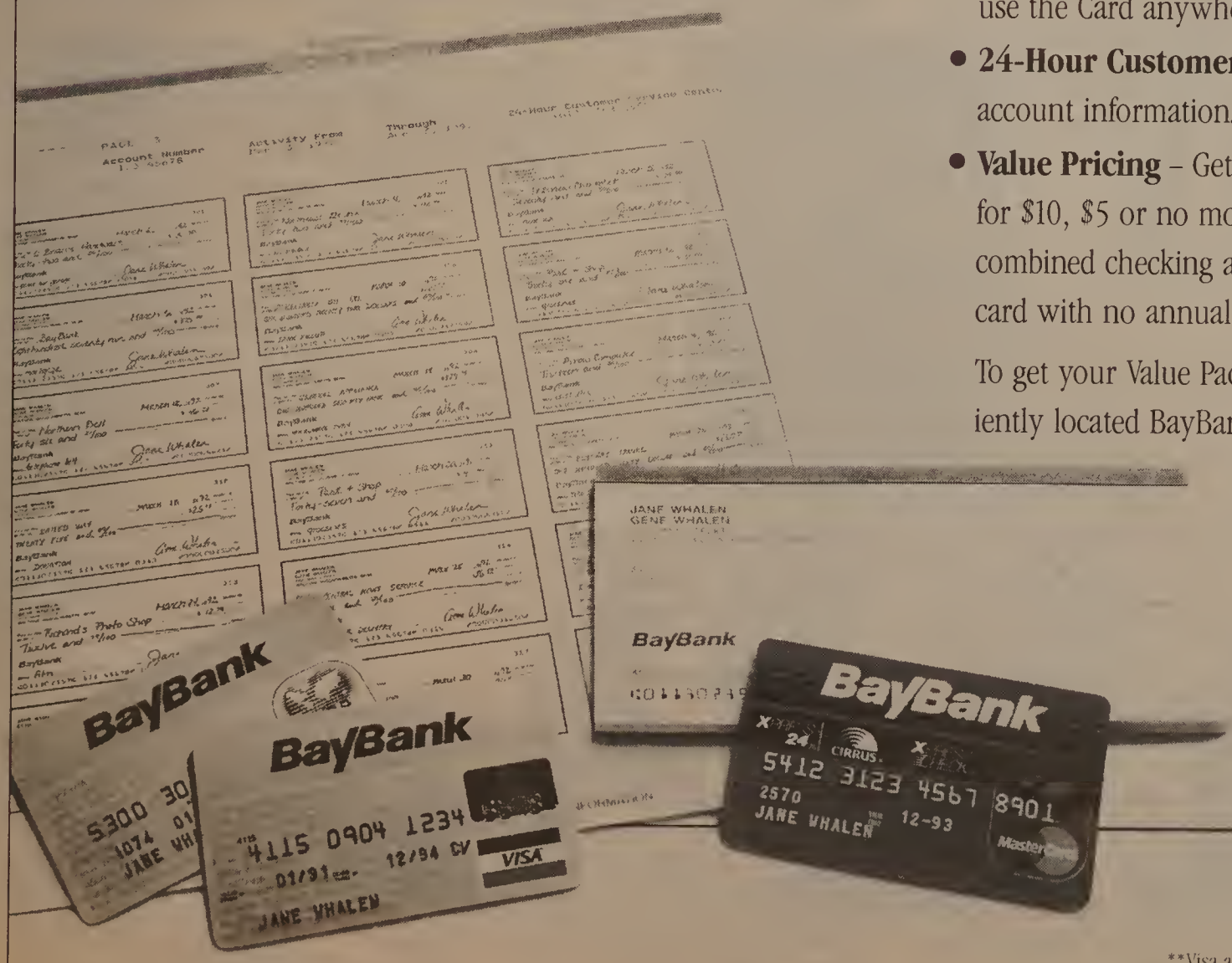
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WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

FILM

Between Nov. 11-18, a group of independent filmmakers are producing the fifth annual **Boston Jewish Film Festival** at the Museum of Fine Arts and Coolidge Corner Theatre. To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, the festival will feature Polish films but includes works from nine other countries, as well. At several screenings, filmmakers, critics and scholars will be on hand to answer questions. Also check out a movie with possibly the best title and premise ever: *Leon the Pig Farmer* from Great Britain, the story of a nice Jewish boy who discovers his sperm-donor dad is the title. (For ticket information, call 965-5226; $15 public, $12 MFA members and seniors.)

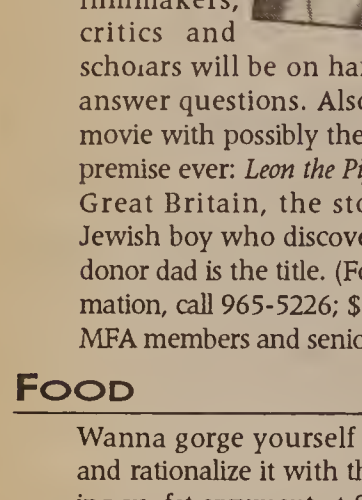


FOOD

Wanna gorge yourself silly? Pig out and rationalize it with the carbo-loading-vs.-fat argument at Sfuzzi's annual **Pastabilities Festival** (The Atrium at Chestnut Hill, 300 Boylston, 965-7707). Running through Nov. 30, you can enjoy a variety of more esoteric pasta dishes featuring everything from meat and vegetables to unusual spices and sauces.

BOOK

Well, the recession may be hard on magazines' longevity, but *Esquire* isn't plagued with such problems. In tandem with its celebratory 60th-anniversary issue, *Esquire* now boasts its first edition of anthologized fiction, ***Lust, Violence, Sin, Magic*** (is it me, or is the title suspiciously akin to the Red Hot Chili Peppers' LP?). The intro by *Esquire* editor Terry McDonnell indulges in some shameless PR for the magazine — he calls his mag the "most important cradle" of New Journalism — but, to his credit, he's compiled a formidable body of work from writers with both literary and journalistic sensibilities. Spanning from the '30s to the present, the 41 stories are arranged into the title's four categories: "Lust" authors include Capote, Bellow and Philip Roth; Steinbeck and Tim O'Brien tell tales of "Violence"; Flannery O'Connor (one of the few token women, but, hey, it's primarily a men's mag after all, and how many men's stories would be featured in *Ms.*?) and Ethan Canin fall prey to "Sin"; and Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Louise Erdrich whip up some special "Magic." Hindsight and the setup of the book beg the reader to decide: Do these stories form a fictionalized account of history or a historical perspective on literature? Either way, the book is a must for fiction collectors.



CELEBRATION

Do you cringe at the idea of arriving in a room, wearing the same outfit as someone else? Even if it's **Halloween**? Costume shops around the city are renting an especially high number of period-piece costumes this year. Scarlett-and-Rhett duos have been a big seller, store owners say, as well as Robin Hood-era ensembles. For the more whimsical, cartoon figures are a trendy hit this year, with Aladdin and Jasmine leading the way. (Unfortunately, superheroes are still in style, too.) Bostonians with a dark side are renting Morticia-and-Dracula get-ups. Finally, one source in the South End reports that its current best-seller for the drag-queen crowd is Lucille Ball.

MAYOR LEAGUES

If you thought last year's "Rock the Vote" campaign on MTV was ridiculous, you're gonna love this! Through Nov. 1, Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern (77 Broad St.) is holding a fun way to raise voter consciousness: the **Mayoral Meat and Potato Poll**. Order the Thomas Menino Burger or the Jim Brett Burger and cast your ballot in a mock poll. Nov. 1 at 3 p.m. is the Big Eat-Off, followed by the Grand Poll Showdown, hosted by an Uncle Sam. According to Dooley's representatives, Brett has already come in to order his own burger. So far, Menino hasn't deigned to stop by.

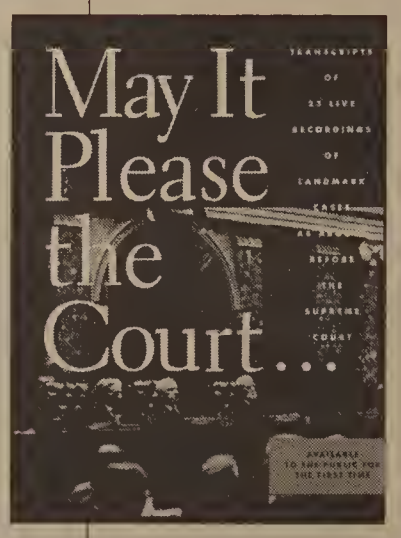


COOKING

Whether you're a Francophile, a gourmand or just a '90s type of gal looking for men who'll make you dinner at the end of a hellish day, the French Library of Boston (53 Marlborough St., 266-4351) has just the class for you! Aside from the perpetually sold-out wine tastings, the FLB offers two epicurean options. The first is the **Ultimate Dinner Series**, which consists of five demonstration-and-tasting classes (one for each course of a traditional French meal) taught throughout the year by master chefs such as Todd English from Olive's. The other, less-expensive route is the individual hands-on classes, which are limited to 15 people and cost $30-35. Bon appetit!

LAW

One of those good ideas that should have been thought of a long time ago: The New Press's ***May It Please the Court***, live recordings of 23 Supreme Court landmark cases since 1955. Edited by Peter Irons and Stephanie Guitton, the $75 package provides a book with background, transcripts and expert opinions, but it's the six 90-minute cassettes that are the real goods. Among the watershed cases are the Watergate trial, *Loving v. Virginia* (interracial marriage), *Miranda v. Arizona* (the right to remain silent), *Bowers v. Hardwick* (gay rights), and of course, *Roe v. Wade* (if you don't know what this one is about, you're hopeless).



KIDDIE KORNER

Video

Sure, Princess Jasmine's pinpoint of a waist is probably no better for your little niece's self-esteem than the nefarious Barbie. But *Aladdin* is hipper in ways that *Snow White* and *Sleeping Beauty* never were. The kids will appreciate the rapid-fire jokes, executed by Robin Williams and Gilbert Gottfried (and so will you), and finally, with its young street-urchin hero with his mischievous pickpocketing streak, Disney's caught on that we all love a bad boy.



Book

Meanwhile, Maurice Sendak reveals where the wild things really are: in alleys all over America, desperately seeking food and homeless shelters. The renowned children's author deals with pertinent, sobering issues in adaptations of nursery rhymes — no mean feat. ***We Are All in the Dumps with Jack and Guy*** leads its young readers through grimy streets riddled with starving vagrants, abandoned babies and urban filth. The artwork is classic Sendak, but because the violence is real this time (how scary could



In the Night Kitchen get?), the cartoons become nightmarish. It might be a good idea to be on hand to answer the young'uns' questions.

Playtime

All you yupsters: Remember "playdates," when you'd pencil your friends' children in for ice cream and Legos with your toddlers? Well, the **Boston Public Library** at Copley Square has updated the convention so your tots can hone their social skills while sharpening their ever-expanding minds. Through Nov. 16 (except Nov. 2), the BPL devotes Tuesday mornings to little people. From 10-10:30 a.m., the general public is invited to accompany (read: BPL ain't no baby sitter) children 1-3 years old. Between 11-11:45 a.m. is **preschool story time** for kids 3-5 years old. The morning includes nursery rhymes, songs, "lap jogs" and "finger games." On Thursdays, the BPL accommodates organized groups of children by appointment For more information, call 536-5400, ext. 328.

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HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

27 Get in the Halloween spirit a little bit early this year with Twilight Mystery Tours. Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past (remember the Boston Strangler?). This 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.



OENOLOGY: *Learn how to match your grape to your entree at the French Library's series of wine classes.*

THURSDAY

28 The fur could fly at tonight's live **mayoral debate** between candidate Jim Brett and current Acting Mayor Tom Menino. At the Boston Public Library's Rabb Lecture Hall, the face-off will be broadcast live on WBZ-TV (Ch. 4) beginning at 7 p.m. Call 536-5400, ext. 336.

FRIDAY

29 Actor/author/comedian **Richard Belzer**, who has performed in TV-comedy shows as well as movies and TV shows (most recently *Homicide*), performs tonight and tomorrow night at Nick's Comedy Stop, 100 Warrenton St. Shows at 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.; tickets are $14. Call 482-0930.

SATURDAY

30 With the 1994 Winter Olympics just around the corner (Lillehammer, Norway — remember?), the U.S. Ski Team stops in at the ninth-annual **New England Ski Ball**, tonight from 6 p.m.-1 a.m. at the Westin Hotel, Copley Place. Call 338-2288 for ticket information.

SUNDAY

31 Go figure — eight! Kristi Yamaguchi and Nancy Kerrigan are just two of the many, many world-class Olympic ice skaters who will perform today in **Skates of Gold** at 4 p.m. at Boston Garden.

MONDAY

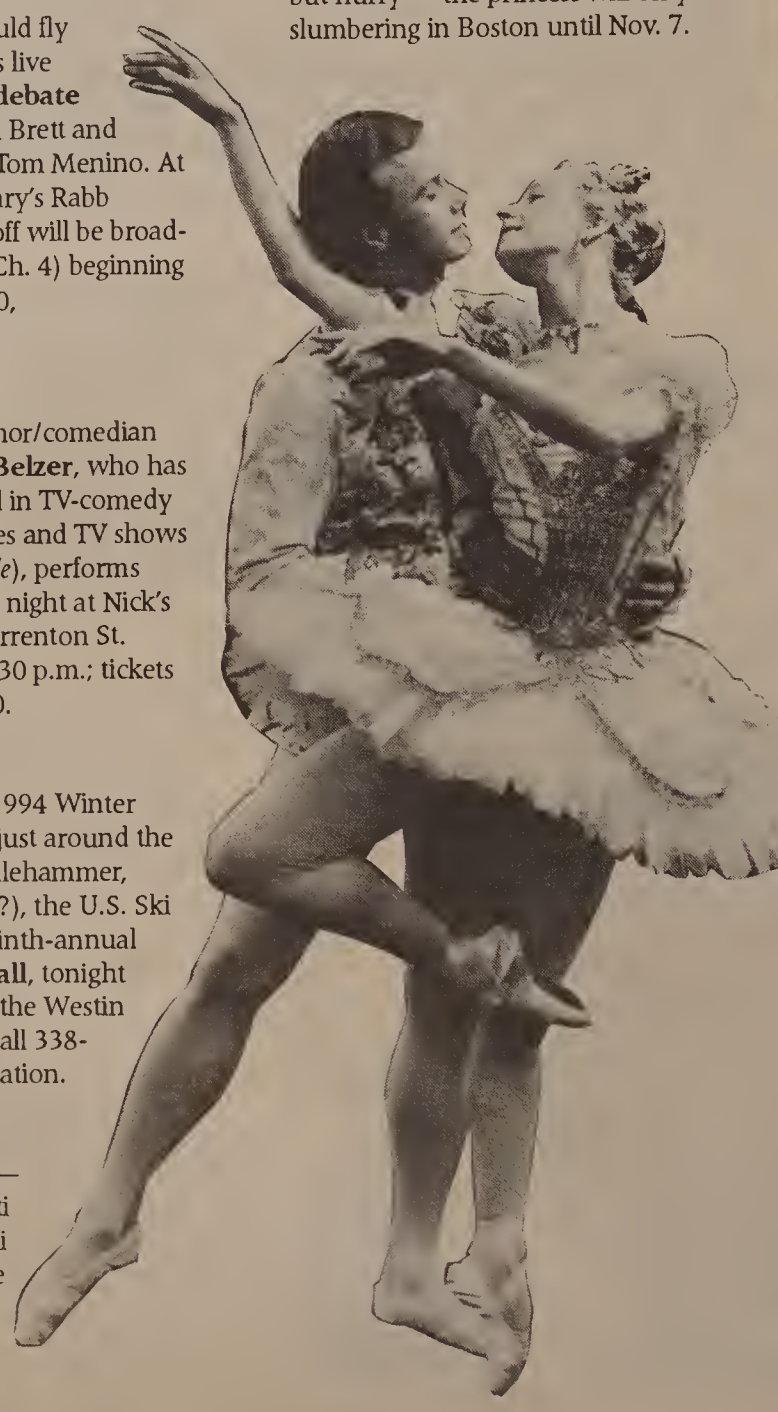
1 It only took several-million years, but the dinosaurs are finally in Boston. The ferocious velociraptor and the poison-spitting dilophosaurus are just two of the **dinosaurs** from Jurassic Park at the Museum of Science. It's best to get tickets in advance. Call 723-2500.

TUESDAY

2 She wants to suck your blood … not. But it is true that Anne Rice, author of the *Vampire Chronicles*, will appear at the Arlington Street Church today at 7 p.m. as part of the **Boston Globe Book** Festival. She will discuss her newest book, *Lasher*. Admission is free. Call 929-2649.

WEDNESDAY

3 See a fairy-tale romance tonight at the Wang Center as Boston Ballet stages the classic ***Sleeping Beauty***. Call 931-ARTS, but hurry — the princess will only be slumbering in Boston until Nov. 7.



HIGH POINT: *The Boston Ballet presents* Sleeping Beauty, *featuring Roland Price, left, and Larissa Ponomarenko, right, until Nov. 7.*



COMEDIAN: *Actor/author/funny-guy Richard Belzer stops in at Nick's Comedy Stop Oct. 29-30.*

THURSDAY

4 Indulge in a **gala five-course dinner**, beginning with champagne, as you learn about matching food with wine. Taught by one of the premier wine experts in the business, this evening of learning at the French Library should be an exquisite dining experience. Tickets are $70; call 266-4351.

FRIDAY

5 The **Boston Celtics** once again take to the hallowed parquet of Boston Garden in their opening home game against the New York Knicks. Tip-off is at 7:30 p.m. Watch this space for the words "Shawmut Center" in the near future.

SATURDAY

6 With the release of his new album, **Billy Joel** is packing them in on his national tour. He plays the Worcester Centrum. Call 931-2000.

SUNDAY

7 As part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity Series, the **Wynton Marsalis Septet** plays at Symphony Hall (301 Mass. Ave., Boston) tonight at 8 p.m. Trumpeter Marsalis, of course, is a world-class jazz musician, and his band is just as talented. Call 266-1492.

MONDAY

8 Do you "vant to be alone?" Fine. Or you can bring a friend to the Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St. in Harvard Square, tonight for the last day of the **Greta Garbo** film series. Call 876-6837.



A TASTE OF RICE: *Author Anne Rice reads from her new novel,* Lasher, *at the Boston Globe Book Festival on Nov. 2.*

TUESDAY

9 Nobel Peace Prize-winner, Boston University professor and author **Elie Wiesel** delivers the second part of his three-lecture series tonight at 7 p.m. at BU's George Sherman Union, 775 Comm. Ave. Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, only gives these free lectures once each year. See *IB*'s "Calendar" for more details.

Photo by Alan Marotta



MURDER, SHE WROTE: *Cambridge writer Susan Kelly hangs out at the Middlesex County Courthouse in preparation for her detective-fiction series.*

Susan Kelly
Mystery Woman

By Mark Robinson

"The eyes of a murderer," says Cambridge author Susan Kelly, as jurors — nervous and reticent — file into the cafeteria of the Middlesex County Courthouse, "have a hard, flat shine. Like reflector plates, they shine without depth. Eyes are the windows to the soul, and there's no soul there."

The process of restoring order: for the jurors, perhaps a fretful inconvenience, but for Kelly, it is the drama that entertains readers. To slay the chaotic dragon, to restore order to a violated society was the duty of the literary heroes of yore. Today, although the process has become extremely complicated, it is the call of detectives.

To create authenticity and to find inspiration for her novels, Kelly immerses herself in the criminal-justice system. The Middlesex County Courthouse is one of her favorite places to go, even if it's just for coffee. She sits in on trials, reads police reports, talks to cops about the latest cases, and accompanies them on investigations. Kelly knows her murderers: from the moron who shoots people for parking their mopeds in the wrong spot, to the intelligent and charming Ted Bundys of the world who in their spare time volunteer on suicide hotlines.

"For the morons of the typical two-guys-doing-it-to-each-other variety, this is their way of life" she says. "Everyone is so fed up with revolving-door justice, it's not even a political issue.

"Prison doesn't rehabilitate," she continues, "It teaches them how to be better criminals. The longer the sentence, the longer they're off the streets — that's the ultimate benefit."

All of Susan Kelly's six crime novels are set in Cambridge or as far as her sleuth Liz Connors can travel by bus. "The Boston area is good for murders," she says with enthusiasm, in "New Hampshire, they don't have as many, but when they do, they pull out all the stops."

Kelly's novels are so realistic that some readers might question where Kelly has drawn the line between fiction and reality. But although both Kelly and her heroine are tall, redheads, and crime writers with medieval degrees, the author insists she is an inch shorter.

Susan Kelly, who describes her work as "medieval romance in a modern dress," assures that despite a *New York Times* article linking writers to madmen and alcoholics, she will continue to write the Liz Connors series. Her book, *Out of the Darkness*, is due out in paperback shortly, and Kelly reports she is in the final stages of *Betrayal*, the next in the series. She also will be teaching a class, "Crime, Mystery and Detective Fiction" at the Company of Writers in January.

Alison Amoroso
A Voice of *Teen*'s Own

By Megan Gilmartin

In the basement of an aged building in downtown Boston lives a magazine that provides young women with a place to exfoliate their anxieties and celebrate their triumphs. *Teen Voices* offers young women an alternative to mainstream teen magazines.

Alison Amoroso, founder of Women Express, the progressive organization that keeps the publication going, started laying the groundwork for the organization in 1988. Disillusioned by the lack of enthusiasm and participation of local women in the women's movement, and disappointed by the less-than-challenging jobs offered to her, Amoroso decided to start a movement of her own. With her master's degree in counseling from Harvard and her extensive experience working with adolescents and their families, Amoroso, along with several colleagues, hatched the idea for *Teen Voices*.

"I just felt that there was so much that teen-age girls wanted to know — needed to know," Amoroso says.

Amoroso keeps her hand on the pulse of young women's world by letting them choose the outline for each issue. "We don't shape it as much as we let the submissions shape what we do," she says. Unlike most publications, *Teen Voices* does not have a rigid editorial calendar. "If we get 10 writings about somebody's mother dying from cancer, we'll do a piece on that," adds Amoroso.

Besides publishing the poems, short stories and creative expressions of young women, Amoroso and her team of volunteers tackle the controversial issues that most teen magazines ignore. *Teen Voices* features articles ranging from birth control to depression to interracial dating. Amoroso also assigns young apprentices to do hard-news articles and interviews with battered women and young, single mothers. "Their words can help other girls. It's a way to get information out and increase a sense of unity for women."

Besides fostering a sense of accomplishment and self-worth in teens, Women Express offers an impressive mentor program in a variety of occupations ranging from accounting and marketing to public speaking and publishing. "We want to help teen-agers grow and think about other people's perspectives," Amoroso says. "We want to be a parent to young minds."

What the future holds for Amoroso and *Teen Voices* is uncertain. Although "it's hard running a teen program on a shoestring," Amoroso promises that Women Express and *Teen Voices* will continue to provide young women with access to information, knowledge and power. "A lot of women like being here because they find other women who are like-minded and who care," Amoroso says. "It's a cool place to be."



Photo by Paul Pilcher

PIONEER: *Alison Amoroso founded Women Express and* Teen Voices *to help young women "grow and think about other people's perspectives."*

HORROR

Books, videos & music to terrorize yourself

At Home

The sharp, autumnal scent of bonfires reminds us of two of New England's favorite fall pastimes: picking apples and burning witches. They gave traditional-Boston Halloweens a distinctive feel. Of course, these sorts of hobbies aren't as popular now as they once were. With the spread of the suburbs, it's difficult to find an orchard intact.

This Halloween, it may be wiser to seek our thrills at home.

On those nasty October evenings when northeasters howl in the chimneys like the undead, and sirens scream in the chilly darkness, and the rain pelts the aluminum siding, there's nothing so pleasant as lying curled up inside, frightening oneself goofy within easy reach of the Oreos. It doesn't matter whether it's with the latest paperback thriller, or a video shocker, or even some arcane tome with woodcuts obscene and outré, there's something particularly pleasurable in bringing horror into the home on a ghastly evening. One can lie there, inside, with someone one likes, hands and feet all toasty stretched out in front of a roaring television, and feel comfortable and terrified at the same time. It's a very giddy, enjoyable kind of feeling. It throws people together.

"...It doesn't matter whether it's with the latest paperback thriller, or a video shocker, or even some arcane tome with woodcuts obscene and outré, there's something particularly pleasurable in bringing horror into the home on a ghastly evening..."

Freud called it the *unheimlich.* We call it a pickup maneuver.

We have some suggestions for those who want to sample some home-style horror this fall. Whether fear is a solitary vice or you're trying to scare the pants off a loved one, here are some tidbits of terror that should darken further those gloomy New England evenings. For once, feel more frightened at home than out on the streets. — *M.T. Anderson*

Reading yourself scared with Boston horror masters

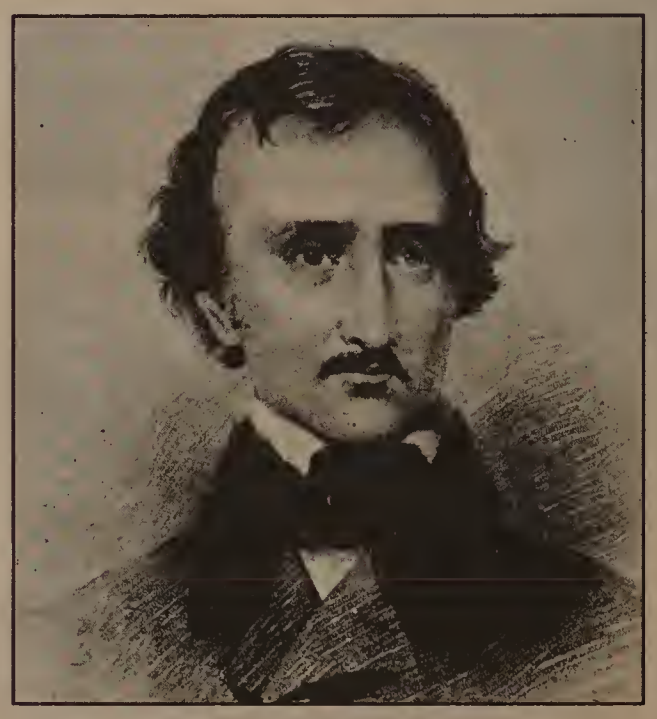
BOOKS

Something about Boston's forbidding aspect — the cold climate, the colder stares — inspires horror in many. Four of America's greatest Gothic visionaries were local, and they continue to unsettle us on grim New England evenings.

Edgar Allen Poe, the ornate and deranged father of American horror, was born in Boston, although he spent his life moving from Baltimore to Richmond to Philadelphia, fighting neurasthenia and his wife. Some of Poe's stories are set in the New England area; Arthur Gordon Pym, from the adventure yarn of the same name, hies from Nantucket, for example. However, Poe's most famous pieces involve strange foreign locales. His fascination with rotting castles, ancestral homes and weird Oriental panaromas is, paradoxically, peculiarly American.

Poe's short stories are usually collected under the name "Tales of Mystery and Imagination." For Poe, there was a distinction between the two types of tales. The tales of mystery are based on rationality and are meant to be solved, such as "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," in which a detective investigates several repulsive homicides (a victim, infamously, is found jammed in the chimney); the tales of imagination, on the other hand, are hallucinogenic and irrational, based more on nightmare imagery than on coherent or believable plots. These have received more attention: "The Pit and the Pendulum," "The Cask of Amontillado," "The Masque of the Red Death," "The Fall of the House of Usher," and so on. In an age before Freud, Poe already struck on the power of half-glimpsed symbolism and motive; "The Tell-Tale Heart" is a masterpiece of brilliantly observed sadism and neurotic decline. The language of some of the tales may seen ornate to a modern audience, but Poe's lush, hypnotic prose is part of his power. It

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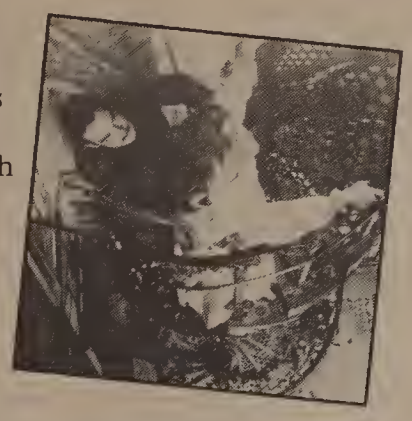
POETIC POE: *The language of some of the tales may seen ornate to a modern audience, but Edgar Allen Poe's lush, hypnotic prose is part of his power.*

Minireviews by Kaj Wilson

The Haunting, 1963

Starring Julie Harris, Claire Bloom

This chilling adaptation of Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House,* re-released on its 30th anniversary in time for Halloween. An anthropologist and his three assistants search for evidence of the supernatural in Hill House, an 80-year-old mansion with a history of tragedies, and find far more than they bargained for.

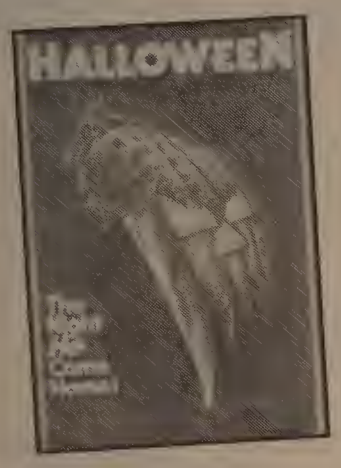


Bloodsucking Pharaohs in Pittsburgh

Starring Jake Dengel, Joe Sharkey, Susann Fletcher

Comedic horror movies a la *Evil Dead* . Someone is murdering the hookers of Pittsburgh in gruesomely imaginative ways (with special effects by horrormeister Tom Savini). It's up to the dregs of the police force — Detective Sweeney and his queasy partner — along with the perky DeeDee Taylor to decipher the hieroglyphic clues.

VIDEOS



Halloween, 1978

Starring Jamie Lee Curtis, P.J. Soles, Nancy Loomis

A classic by director John Carpenter with lots of imitators. About a psychotic killer who — as a child — struck on Halloween. Fifteen years later, will he strike again? Starring Donald Pleasence and Jamie Lee Curtis.

Frankenhooker, 1990

Starring James Lorinz, Patty Mullen, Charlotte Helmkamp

Sick laughs from the makers of *Basket Case*. Jeffrey Franken is a mad-scientist-in-the-making whose girlfriend is shredded in a freak remote-control lawnmower accident. Armed with the body parts of Times Square prostitutes, Jeff reassembles his fiancee, but she's not quite the same .... Good, gruesome, campy fun, with cameos from Louise Lasser (*Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman)* and Shirley Stoler (Mrs. Steve in *Pee-wee's Playhouse*).



Carnival of Souls, 1962

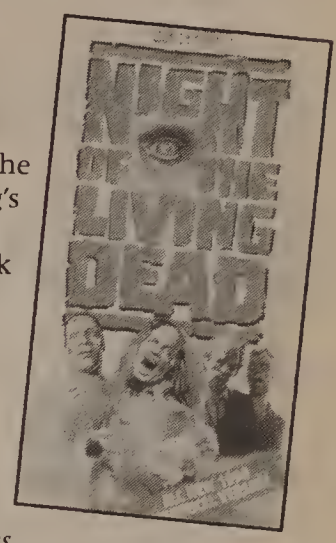
Starring Candace Hilligloss, Herk Harvey, Francis Feist

A woman is believed to have drowned with her friends when their car plunges off a bridge. When she emerges alive from the river, she is soon haunted by phantoms. Rescued from the drive-in circuit, this cheapie directed by Herk Harvey has become a cult film. Either way you take it — horror film or remarkable psychological study of repression and madness — *Carnival of Souls* is a chiller. Said to have influenced George Romero's *Night of the Living Dead*.

The Shining ,1980

Starring Jack Nicholson, Shelley Duvall, Scatman Crothers

This tour de force remains one of the better adaptations of Stephen King's novels. Frustrated-writer Jack Torrance (Nicholson) agrees to look after a remote Colorado hotel for the winter, and the place literally has a life of its own. Who can the tidal wave of blood or Nicholson's scenery-chewing performance as an ax-wielding maniac who stalks his son in the hedge maze?



Night of the Living Dead, 1968

Starring Judith O'Dea, Russell Streiner, Duane Jones

Director George Romero's first feature is another classic. Zombies who feed on human flesh roam the countryside (the film was shot in Pittsburgh). Leonard Maltin's *Movie Video Guide* warns the reader not to

10 Fright Flicks by Gerald Peary

1. *Dead of Night* (1948). The British classic about a puppet trying to kill his master, the ventriloquist.
2. *Them!* (1954). Giant, radiated ants invade the Los Angeles sewer system.
3. *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956). The spooky original. Fall asleep and have your soul taken away as you turn into a pod.
4. *The Horror of Dracula* (1958). Christopher Lee as the most sexually charged of the many versions of Bram Stoker's evil vampire.
5. *Eyes Without a Face* (1959). A murderer kills young women to graft their beautiful faces onto the visage of his scarred daughter. A French surrealist classic.
6. *Rosemary's Baby* (1968). The devil (not Woody Allen) is after Mia Farrow's unborn child.
7. *Don't Look Now* (1973). Little people in red raincoats follow Donald Sutherland and Julie Christie in Venice.
8. *Halloween* (1978). A maniac comes home, slashing his way toward babysitter Jamie Lee Curtis.
9. *The Brood* (1979). Director David Cronenberg's horrific take on New Age philosophizing.

Grave Sounds by M.T. Anderson

The ancient dance of the dead and demonic continues to fascinate, perhaps because one is so rarely invited. Medieval paintings and crude woodcuts show the unholy Sabbat — bodies writhing, gargoyles grinning — to be repulsive in its ghoulish excess and gorging. Any number of classical favorites depict this harrowing hip-hop from Hell and the resulting loss of control. Here are a few of the most famous.

MUSIC

Saint-Saens's ***Danse Macabre*** tops the list, a tone poem depicting the Devil fiddling at midnight while corpses crawl out of their tombs and move swiftly from grave to rave. There's a rather touching moment when, after a night's hectic celebration, the undead hear the cock crow and realize they must return to their crypts and dry-rot. The mid-priced Barenboim recording is a strong performance (DG 415 847-2), and also includes the thunderous "Organ" Symphony (No. 3), guaranteed to move you and clear your sinuses.

Mussorgsky's ***Night on Bald Mountain*** is another frequent hit on Sabbat mix tapes, a nightmare vision of dark wings and splintered crags. Popularized by the demonic visuals of Disney's *Fantasia*, the work still retains its dastardly charm. Mussorgsky's own original orchestration is particularly barbaric (with Abbado, RCA 61354-2), although you might want to hear the piece paired with the famous ***Pictures at an Exhibition***, which also touches on the supernatural (depictions of gloomy catacombs and of the Russian-witch Baba Yaga, whose hut stalks the forest on chicken legs). Both the old Bernstein performance (CBS MYK 36726) and the newer, digital Sinopoli performance (DG 429 785-4) include the two works together in their most well-known orchestrations.

Edvard Grieg's incidental music for Ibsen's ***Peer Gynt,*** an exploration of how good things happen to obnoxious people, is famous on several counts. You'll recognize the rhapsodic *Morning Mood* and — if you are a devotee of Cinnamon Toast Crunch — the wild-dance-piece *In the Hall of the Mountain King*. The latter picks up an unhealthy momentum as Peer Gynt is swamped and surrounded by hopping trolls and finally overwhelmed. Just listening, one hyperventilates.

Herbert von Karajan's 1973 performance of the *Peer Gynt Suites* is available at mid-price (DG 423 208-2).

Liszt's ***Totentanz,*** another dance of the dead, is based on the medieval "Dies irae" chant, which depicts dolorous goings-on at the end of the world. Once again, death seems anything but restful. Krystian Zimmerman's recording with our very own Boston Symphony Orchestra (Ozawa, DG 423 571-2) is superb and also includes the two robust piano concerti.

And, of course, for the stout of heart, there are Halloween compilation discs that pair works such as these with Wagner's ***Ride of the Valkyries*** and so on. These are fun for parties, although the scariest things about them are the marketing executives involved in their production. *Fright Night* on CBS has a good selection. (CBS MDK 45530).

These should liven up your Walpurgis Night. Just the kind of thing your coven will covet.

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BOOKS *Continued from page 10*

makes his setting all the more oppressive, his narrators all the more bizarre.

Bostonian author **Henry James**, most famous for his contribution to the novel (he made it unreadable), wrote several ripping ghost stories, most of which take place in England. The most famous is "Turn of the Screw," which concerns, depending on how one reads it, either children molested and corrupted by baleful spirits or the mental disintegration of their governess, who insists against reason that her childish charges grow evil. James never reveals whether it's a tale of the supernatural or of the unstably paranoid. It's a masterpiece of creeping confusion and dread.

Edith Wharton, like James, took time out from her society novels (such as the recently paraded *Age of Innocence*) to write ghost stories. Unlike James, she sets some of her best ones in the New England area: "The Eye" seems almost a portrait of the repressed and world-weary James, taken to paranormal heights. "All Souls" concerns a bedridden invalid who finds her house strangely empty of life on the weekend and gradually learns of an unholy conspiracy. Like Wharton's novels, her ghost stories are finely felt and masterfully crafted.



H.P. Lovecraft: *The fiction of the American prince of horror in the '20s's served to show us that our New England dream of ancient, white steeples and rambling forests must also involve isolation and a grim Puritan silence.*

Pulp-fiction author **H.P. Lovecraft** inherited Poe's mantle of the American prince of horror in the twenties. Although he lived most of his life in Providence, his tales center on Massachusetts — on decaying, mythical towns such as Innsmouth, near Newburyport, where shambling fishermen make pacts with dark powers, and on Arkham, home of Miskatonic U., a sort of Ivy League for the damned. Lovecraft, like Poe, favors narrators steeped in arcane lore and decadent poetry. He's fascinated by rotting New England villages and dripping basements.

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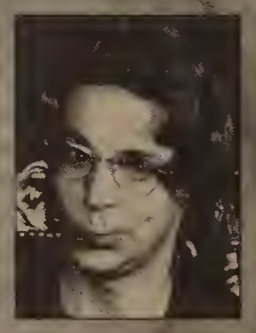


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Bostonians will enjoy familiar references. In "At the Mountains of Madness," about the exploration of an ancient, Antarctic city, a man chased down a corridor by a bubbling beast goes mad and starts screaming at the stops on the Red Line. In "The Dream-Quest of Unknown Kadath," an explorer in the dream world learns that the mystical city he seeks is nothing more than his own infant memories of Beacon Hill. Laconically displaying his latest paintings of ghouls feeding on subway passengers near the North End, artist Richard Pickman says, "You know, there are things that won't do for Newbury Street." Lovecraft never tires of writing tales of old Boston families that hide warped children in their attics, the products of blasphemous acts with apes or bloated gods (In this, he was somewhat misguided; proper Bostonians refuse to mate with anything from as far away as Saugus, let alone Venus.).

Although Lovecraft's science fiction now seems more quaint than awesome 70 years later, his misanthropic horror tales still thrill: "The Shadow Over Innsmouth," "The Whisperer in Darkness" and "The Call of Cthulhu" provide a good introduction to his style and his nihilistic pantheon.

His *Weird Tales* selections have vastly influenced the modern generation of horror writers. He, more than any other writer, served to show us that our New England dream of ancient, white steeples and rambling forests must also involve isolation and a grim Puritan silence. For this reason, he left the exotic monasteries and castles of earlier gothic writers and brought horror home to our doorstep.

"The true epicure in the terrible, to whom a new thrill of unutterable ghastliness is the chief end and justification of existence, esteems most of all the ancient, lonely farmhouses of backwoods New England ... for there the dark elements of strength, solitude, grotesqueness, and ignorance combine to form the perfection of hideousness."

— from Lovecraft's "The Picture in the House"

More scary reading

by Mark Robinson

With the solemn, misty evenings of fall walking the streets of Boston, nothing could be more comforting than burrowing deep into the woolen security of one's bed and reading about the mysterious happenings and ghastly killings of fictitious characters.

The sleuthing adventures of Arthur Conan Doyle's **Sherlock Holmes** are a staple for late-night reading. For more than 100 years, Holmes's scientific precision of investigation — simple, humble proof of the indomitable abilities of pure reason — coupled with the humanistic sympathies of Dr. Watson have entertained and thrilled readers. Oxford University Press honors the success of Doyle and Holmes (now more real than most historical figures) with a hardbound collection of nine of Doyle's most famous Sherlock investigations, including *The Hound of the Baskervilles*, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *His Last Bow* , for the first time printed directly from the manuscript, without any of the formerly made "ruthless revisions" due to its propagandistic slant. The collection, which features insightful introductions on the history of each of the books and detailed explanatory notes throughout the text, should please both the newly introduced and the Sherlock aficionado. But, as we contentedly retire in bed, we should all be thankful for Sherlock Holmes's pervasive, almost destructive, passion to stimulate his mind upon the most "intricate analysis," "obtuse cryptogram" and the baffling,

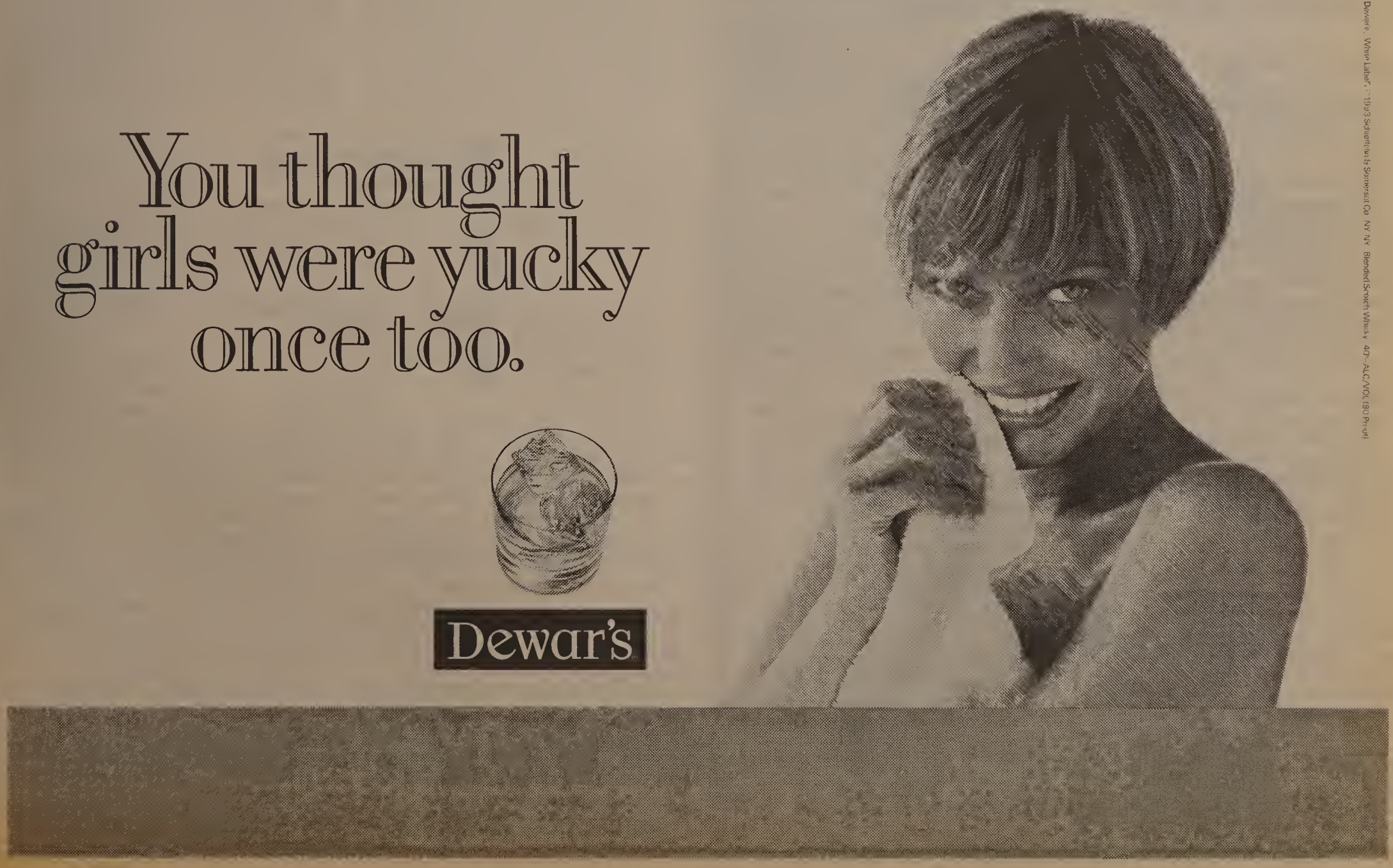
" . . . as we contentedly retire in bed, we should all be thankful for Sherlock Holmes's pervasive passion to stimulate his mind . . . "

so that we may vicariously live through his most captivating exploits.

For thrillers set in New England, let **Susan Kelly**'s sleuth, Liz Connors, a struggling free-lance writer in Cambridge, lead you into the oddest murders in Massachusetts. In *Out of the Darkness*, soon to be available in paperback, Liz rides the bus to Manchester to investigate the bizarre murders of Catholic girls, whose mutilated bodies, with green ribbons tied around their necks, are left like mannequins decorating the Merrimack River. Susan Kelly lives in Cambridge and expects her next Liz Connors novel to be released in November.

For reading of a different bent than Kelly's realistic settings and adventures, try the twisted imagination of **Jane Langton**, another Massachusetts writer. Langton has a number of paperbacks available from Penguin. Her stories are set in homey, New England towns. In her *The Transcendental Murder*, her sleuth, Homer Kelly, discovers letters suggesting that the famous intellectuals of the 19th century were not entirely calmed by the wind blowing through trees and had actually murdered a prominent, local citizen. *Emily Dickinson Is Dead* , and *Murder at the Gardner*, set in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, are some of her other titles.

Her next book, *Divine Inspiration*, about an organ player in the Back Bay whose instrument features a single button labeled "divine inspiration," is due for release in November.



FLICKS IN A FLASH

Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

THE BEVERLY HILLBILLIES
★★★

Although some adjustment is needed for those of y'all who've grown attached to the original cast, the new Clampett family will quickly win you over with their backwoods ways and down-home hospitality. Elly May is a little tougher (she wrestles bears for honey) and Uncle Jed, a little less wise (he gets arrested for breaking into his own house), but Granny's still mixin' her elixir, and there's still a raccoon in the pot. The film is star-packed and very funny. The casting is right on the money — all except for Jim Varney (Uncle Jed) who can't seem to shed his Ernest image.

M.R. D'Entremont

A BRONX TALE
★★★

A solid, engaging work by first-time director Robert De Niro and playwright-screenwriter Chazz Palminteri about a boy who is torn between his love for two men: his decent, working-class father (De Niro) and flashy, neighborhood-goodfella Sonny (Palminteri). What keeps *The Bronx Tale* from being a straightforward morality tale is the fact that the "fathers" aren't so dissimilar: in their fashion, both are honorable men. Francis Capra as the young son is smart, impressionable, and a wise guy — there's no question why he finds Sonny so appealing. Lillo Brancato as the teen-age son is not as convincing. He's sweet, too sweet; there's no question he'd rather be loved than feared.

K. Wilson

DEMOLITION MAN
★★

The year is 2032 in San Angeles, the site of old Los Angeles, a city ruled by drugs and crime in the 1990s. San Angeles has laws against everything unhealthy — alcohol, smoking, sex — in fact, humans rarely even touch each other. When '90s rival-cop-and-criminal-duo John Spartan (Sylvester Stallone) and Simon Phoenix (a peroxided Wesley Snipes) are defrosted three decades later, they continue their war in the now-peaceful city. *Demolition Man* is a predicatable macho-action flick, but it has its funny moments, such as when Spartan's 21st-century girlfriend mixes up her '90s curses. "Shovel it," she says.

C.L. Donchess

KING OF THE HILL
★★★★

A gritty, steamy, down-and-out version of *The Wonder Years*. The film's hero, Aaron (Jesse Bradford), does more than blush at giggling, pubescent girls in the school cafeteria; he also deals with the harsh, sordid life of St. Louis during the Depression. Prostitution, eviction notices, Hoovervilles and suicide are just some of the realities that force Aaron into premature manhood. Each scene brings us to new depths of discomfort (and horror), but still we want more. As ordinary brush strokes can result in a classic painting, so the vulgarity of each scene gives this film a unique beauty. The excellent casting includes Elizabeth McGovern as the hotel prostitute and Karen Allen as the kindhearted teacher.

M.R. D'Entremont

MALICE
★★

Good campy fun, although it is apparently meant to be a serious thriller. Taken at face value, the film is utterly ridiculous in all dimensions: plot, direction, acting, and most of all, writing. The marriage of a Yuppie college-town couple, played by Bill Pullman and Nicole Kidman, becomes strained after the new hot-shot doctor in town (Alec Baldwin) rents a room in their house. When Baldwin botches an operation on Kidman, she takes the huge settlement and leaves the dazed Pullman, who decides to track her down and discovers things aren't quite what they seem. Adding to the mess is a tossed-off subplot of a serial killer on campus. The best line belongs to the ultra-confident Baldwin: "I am God." Lots of shots of Smith College and Boston.

J.W. Hall

MR. JONES
★★

Can you imagine Nurse Ratchet in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* falling in love with Jack Nicholson? Actually, *Mr. Jones* is closer to the silliness of romantic thrillers such as *Final Analysis* in its taboo-breaking romance between psychiatrist and patient, in this case Lena Olin and Richard Gere, as a *very* manic patient. A lot of potentially gripping material in the vein of "Is he a genius or is he crazy?" is lost in Hollywood's demand for romance, which takes forever to occur. In the meantime, Gere strains to be Mr. Charisma and Olin doesn't seem to have a clue as to her character (nor do we). Poorly directed by Mike Figgis, with one awkward scene after another and a horribly weak ending.

J.W. Hall

MR.WONDERFUL
★★★

Just try to resist the charm and chemistry of Matt Dillon and Annabella Sciorra (is she not the most lovable of today's girl-next-door actresses? What a smile!). It's quite impossible, even if they're placed in a romantic comedy that's as predictable as the alimony payments that irk Dillon. He can't stand forking over his electrical-worker wages to his ex-wife, Sciorra, who ditched him when she decided to go to college. He decides to resolve his anger by finding her a new husband, "Mr. Wonderful." You haven't seen enough movies if you don't know the ending (the film pleads for the "date movie" tag line). Still, director Anthony Minghella gets terrific performances out of his leads and Dillon's frustrated girlfriend, touchingly played by Mary Louise Parker.

J.W. Hall

ROAD SCHOLAR
★★

Rumanian-born poet Andrei Codrescu drives cross-country to explore the spirituality and materialism of the United States. His investigative-style documentary, which visits at least a dozen communities, poses the question: How many of us are really free? A more pertinent question is: Are we really this weird? Codrescu contrasts New York City's homeless and wealthy; he laments abandoned Motown and Henry Ford's original car plant (now defunct); he deals a hand with professional Las Vegas gamblers; and he pokes fun at crystal healers in Santa Fe. What begins as a guilt trip for American capitalists turns into a freewheeling "things that make you go hmmm ...."

M.R. D'Entremont

TRUE ROMANCE
★

There's a moment that best captures *True Romance*'s spirit: Patricia Arquette picks up the top of the toilet tank and slams it over her attacker's head. In a just world, someone would do the same to the makers of this movie. In Detroit, Christian Slater and Arquette meet grungy-cute, fall in love, marry and then head for L.A. with a suitcase full of cocaine stolen from the Mob. The movie offers a fast-forward romance; mucho macho posturing and gut-wrenching violence that screenwriter Quentin Tarantino takes to its *Reservoir Dogs*-like logical, absurd conclusion. There are puke, my-name-is-Dick and toilet jokes galore; endless pop-culture references; and dialogue that sounds like bad Mamet. *True Romance* is all smart-ass attitude; it thinks it is sooo cool.

K. Wilson

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

SCARY CHRISTMAS

"... If Santa Claus and his ho, ho, ho get on your nerves ... you'll be delighted with the dark turn Christmas takes in *Nightmare* ..."

If you don't know and don't care what a sugarplum is, if Santa and his ho, ho, ho get on your nerves, if only eggnog and rum balls can make the season jolly, you'll be delighted with the dark turn Cristmas takes in *Nightmare Before Christmas*. But there's much more to *Nightmare* than wrecking the halls. Using state-of-the-art, stop-motion animation techniques, creator-and-producer Tim Burton, director Henry Selick, and composer Danny Elfman have created a macabre musical that sweeps you away in a dizzying rush of images and song.



LOVE AND WAR: *Sally, left, tries to prevent Jack, the beloved King of Halloweentown, right, from taking over Christmastown.*

Jack Skellington (the speaking voice of Chris Sarandon, the singing voice of Danny Elfman) is the beloved Pumpkin King of Halloweentown. Jack is a long, thin, elegant creature who looks like a skeleton crossed with a daddy longlegs. He moves like Fred Astaire and has the nobility and gravity of a classical-stage actor. Every year he brings the "real world" a bigger, better and scarier Halloween. But he's bored; his life seems empty. When Jack accidentally tumbles down a hole into Christmastown, he's enchanted by this red-and-white world that's frosty, merry and bright, and he becomes obsessed with the idea of taking over Christmas. Jack is a noble creature (his imperialist tendencies notwithstanding); his is a magnificent obsession.

Jack's kingdom is appropriately dark and eerie, a world of bold, swirling, twisted, highly textured shapes. Both Dr. Seuss and Dr. Caligari would feel right at home. (*The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* is a 1919 German Expressionistic film in which the viewer sees through the eyes of madman Caligari). Other artistic influences include Edward Gorey, Charles Addams, Ronald Searle and even Vincent van Gogh. But not Walt Disney. According to the program notes, right-handed assistant art director Kelly Asbury, a 10-year veteran of Disney's feature-animation department, had to switch to his left hand to "de-Disneyfy" his drawing style.

Burton insisted on a Halloweentown palette of black, white, gray, yellow and, if absolutely necessary, a little bit of orange. As a result, whenever a bright color appears, it jumps out at you, as does the glowing, lime-green toxic slime pouring out of a dragon-head fountain (art director Deane Taylor talked Burton into using green). Oogie Boogie (Ken Page) is literally the best source of local color. Not only is he the meanest creature in Halloweentown, his lair, modeled on a Las Vegas casino, glows in bright neon colors.

The takeover is great fun because of the Halloween spin that Jack and his subjects put on Christmas. They can't help it. Nobody knows a thing about Christmas except Jack, and what he does know has been gleaned from books, mathematical formulas, and dissected teddy bears. Carols sound like dirges, presents are wrapped in gray spider-web paper and black ribbon, toys have sharp teeth, and Santa's sleigh is a coffin pulled by reindeer skeletons and led by Zero, the red-nosed ghost dog. *Nightmare* beautifully illustrates how a society's frame of reference literally and figuratively colors its perception of, and interaction with, the world.

Jack may be the star, but he has formidable competition from Oogie and an assortment of marvelous creatures. Then there's Sally (Catherine O'Hara). A lovely cross between Frankenstein and a rag doll, she's the creation of the Evil Scientist (William Hickey), an nasty-looking duck. Sally refuses to stay at home and cater to her master. She knocks him out and runs around town trailing her love, Jack. Not only is she the moral center of the film, she's by far the most active and resourceful creature in Halloweentown. This is a female who really knows how to use her body to get what she wants. ❑

IF YOU GO

NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

★★★★

Based on the Story and Characters and Co-Produced By: Tim Burton
Directed By: Henry Selick
Playing At: The Cheri and suburbs

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

A Holy Mess

"...*Household Saints*... is Savoca's most ambitious and unorthodox film. Unfortunately, it's also her messiest and least realized..."

With *True Love* (1989) and *Dogfight* (1990), insightful tales of boy-girl love gone afoul because the boy can't resist the retrograde pleasures of his dumb guy pals, Nancy Savoca could lay claim to the title as America's most interesting contemporary woman filmmaker (not that there's a contest). *Household Saints*, her third feature, based on a novel by Francine Prose, is Savoca's most ambitious and unorthodox film. Unfortunately, it's also her messiest and least realized.



SAINT TERESA: *Lili Taylor, left, pictured with Michael Imperoli, plays Teresa Santangelo, a New York Italian-American student obsessed with Catholicism in Nancy Savoca's new film.*

Savoca's movie is a valiant attempt to make sense out of Catholic faith and religious fervor within today's totally secular world. Is there a place anymore for the True Believer, outside of the gothic South or grotesque, "Send in your dollars!," religious TV? The "saint" of the title is Teresa (Lili Taylor), an extremely serious and intellectual Catholic college student who goes deeper and deeper into her intense faith. She withdraws from the world. One day, across the room, she sees a beaming Jesus Christ. With a New Age smile and a British accent.

Unfortunately, Savoca's movie digs through tiresome flashbacks and several generations of a New York Italian-American family to arrive, at long last, at Teresa's intriguing story. The script repeats itself, and there's a woeful bit of miscasting: Tracey Ullman as Teresa's Italian-American mother. But Judith Malina is great as the shrewish, food-obsessed mother-in-law, and Lili Taylor is genuinely radiant as the almost-beatified Teresa. Look closely, you can almost see a halo.

At a press conference at September's Toronto Festival of festivals, Savoca explained her interest in making *Household Saints*: "I'm a lapsed Catholic who doesn't stop thinking about it. It wasn't hip anymore to be religious when I got to college, and I was embarrassed about it. Making the movie, I found out a bunch of stuff about myself, which is great, because it's all still with me, and the questions are still there."

But Savoca admitted to worries that a blatantly religious film could sell to the public. "We haven't gotten to the point that financiers believe people want to see such films. When you say 'God,' everyone thinks you mean born-again fundamentalists. Nobody wants to talk about it."

Films with spiritual dimensions have done OK in the American art-house market, as long as they are Swedish (Bergman films), French (Bresson's oeuvre), or Japanese (*Woman in the Dunes*, etc.). But an American film that takes Catholic doctrine seriously, without Scorsese's sex and violence? Alfred Hitchcock's biggest flop was *The Wrong Man*, his Catholic masterwork.

The Wedding Banquet

At the Berlin Film Festival, I walked out of *The Wedding Banquet* in the middle, annoyed by the amateurish male leads (Winston Chao and Mitchell Lichtenstein) and the sitcom-mercialism of the story: a gay Chinese-American yuppie living in New York is about to be visited by his straight Taiwanese parents, so he fixes himself up with a pretend fiancee. Yes, it's rehabbed *La Cage Aux Folles*, that toothless cross-dressing farce sucked up by mainstream audiences.

Since then, enough people I respect have expressed admiration for *The Wedding Banquet* to shame me into seeing it to the end. Well, the film does get better as it goes along, because the Taiwanese parents, arrived in America, prove genuine and affecting. And the long banquet is nice to watch, if only for all the young Chinese-Americans who have a ball appearing on screen as wedding guests.

A step forward: Chinese-American audiences, who are flocking to this film, are for the first time being absorbed by a story in which the main character is homosexual. Guys kiss on screen. Two steps back: (1) the parents in the film accept their son's gayness only because his new wife is giving birth to a child, so he's not *that* gay. And (2) *The Wedding Banquet* comes off eerily pro-life. An abortion is averted and that's a "happy ending." ❑

IF YOU GO

Household Saints
Directed by: Nancy Savoca
Written by: Savoca and Richard Guay
Playing at: Brattle Theater, Oct. 29-Nov. 11

The Wedding Banquet
Directed by: Ang Lee
Written by: Ang Lee, Neil Peng, James Schmaus
Playing at: Nickelodeon and Harvard Square theaters

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

CRITIC'S CHOICE

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	Village Voice	Time
The Age of Innocence	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
The Fugitive	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
The Joy Luck Club	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★		★★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Man Without a Face	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★
Secret Garden	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★		★★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★
Striking Distance	★★	★	★	★★	★★		
True Romance	★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★
Un Couer en Hiver	★★	★★★		★★★	★★★		★★★

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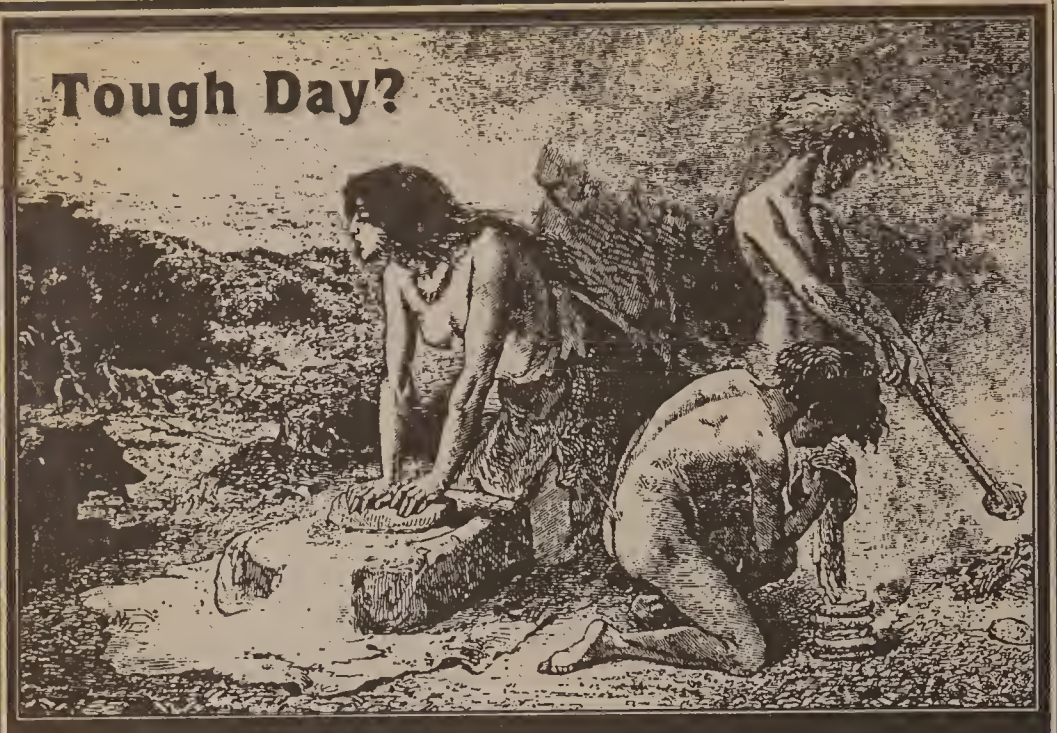
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Proper Bostonians

Photos by Roger Farrington

Yvonne's Celebrates Sixth Season

Yvonne's, the private club at Locke-ober, feted its sixth birthday with a champagne-and-candlelight dinner. Valued by those in Boston who appreciate a comfortable atmosphere and festive camaraderie, the club is a closely guarded secret in the style of Annabelle's in London.



FINE DINING: *Left to right, Sarah Crocker, Charles Coles and Luisa Pierce enjoy the festivities.*



THUMBS UP: *Rosemarie Resnik and Peter LeBlond give Yvonne's their stamp of approval.*



GOOD COMPANY: *Patrons Bill Galligan, Sue Dahling and Pat McGillicuddy*



TOAST OF THE TOWN: *Left to right, Patty Akopiantz, Melissa Akopiantz, Christine Hartley and Siri DeJudicibus raise their glasses high.*



BIRTHDAY GUESTS: *M. Lane Kussell and Kaydee Tessier*



GLASS ACT: *Alain Mestat and Carol Nebe discuss the evening's activities.*

Arts Review / Charles Giuliano

The Draw of Money

"... If art is all about money, then can money be art? ..."

If art, like everything else, is just a commodity, then art is all about money. If art is all about money, then, can money be art? According to the Institute of Contemporary Art's new show, the answer is "yes." Among the show's witty money-related pieces are photocopies of actual currency.

Commodity Image is one of two exhibits opening recently at the ICA. Both offer a rich feast of images and objects, full of visual information and concepts to make us think about social phenomena and crisis in provocative ways. Organized by the International Center of Photography in New York and sponsored by Phillip Morris Cos. Inc., *Commodity Image* explores tough questions about how advertising, Hollywood, corporations and the media use art and photography as a way to promote an image or product and result in sales. The second exhibit, *Day Without Art* includes visual and media art by Boston-area artists who are examining issues of HIV status and living with AIDS or who have died of AIDS. The show focuses on an annual, national event at museums and galleries that promotes an awareness of the ongoing loss to the arts caused by AIDS. Performance and gallery discussion with artists takes place on Dec. I, World AIDS Day. Both exhibits are on view through Jan. 2, I994.

The shows represent ongoing aspects of the agenda of the ICA's current director, Milena Kalinovska. As represented by the diversity of the cutting-edge work included in *Commodity Image*, Kalinovska is committed to exploring new ideas and issues in the arts, as well as an ongoing dialogue with Boston artists and specific concerns of its community, including AIDS, gender and multiculturism.

Viewers of *Commodity Image* will delight in finding old friends and icons of contemporary art: From the most famous photograph of the 20th century, Ansel Adams' *Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico*, (I94I) to erotic nudes of Madonna by Steven Meisel from the coffee-table book, *Sex*, as well as strong works by unfamiliar artists. Similarly, in the AIDS-related show, viewers can poignantly re-encounter work by now-deceased artists, including Ted Spagna's memorable sleep studies and the poetic creations of Mark Morrisroe.

From automobiles to fashion to entertainment, getting the right look is crucial to market share in these highly competitive, multibillion-dollar industries. On American TV, for example, commercials and MTV video clips seem more creative than the actual programs. Similarly, thumbing through fashion-and-art magazines, the ads routinely upstage the editorial pages. As ads get more artistic (The Gap, Guess?, Armani), the edges between art and commerce become hopelessly blurred, as this ICA show abundantly and relentlessly demonstrates.



GOLDEN RULE: *Sarah Charlesworth's* Gold, *1986*

The fashion industry and corporations pour zillions into photographers, art directors, supermodels, and celebrities to achieve the right look for a perfume, cosmetic or clothing line. But what to make of a series of images from the United Colors of Benetton print ads that features news-style color photographs of disasters and conflicts? Here, news photography becomes advertising imagery, which ends up on the walls of an art museum. So go figure.

Is a fashion photographer, who works for commercial clients, also an artist? This is a question being asked by the art world, at the news that David Ross, former ICA director, is planning a retrospective on fashion-photographer Richard Avedon. Ross, who organized a big Avedon show for the ICA, is planning another for the Whitney Museum of American Art, where he is currently director.

And, a final question: If advertising and the media can steal from artists with impunity, is turnabout fair play? Again, the answer in this provocative and clever exhibition is a hilarious "yes."

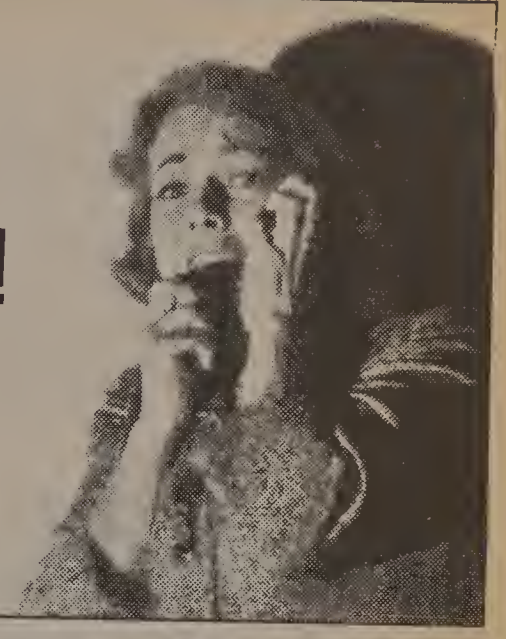
Alan Belcher has laminated a designer perfume bottle to a skunk pelt while Barbara Kruger, who has built a career undermining and rearranging advertising-and-marketing images and text, exhibits covers she designed for *The New Republic, Esquire, Ms.* and *Newsweek*. Once just magazines, now they are art. Unbelievable. ❑

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Commodity Image and Day Without Art

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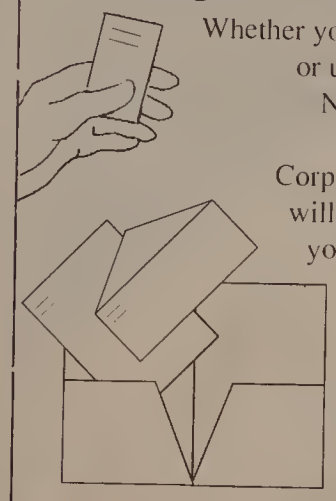
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Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

GRAPE EXPECTATIONS

"... Too few of our domestic winemakers work in a world context today. As a result many of our wines taste as though they were made by formula ..."



When I first visited some of Europe's classic wine districts, I recall being surprised, perhaps naively, at the composition of the restaurants' wine lists. The top hostelry in Chateauneuf du Pape at that time offered patrons literally dozens of selections from that appellation in the most important vintages since the 1920s — and nothing else. When in Burgundy, I learned, it was not *a propos* to whisper the virtues of Bordeaux. The most renowned viticultural regions, it seemed, betrayed more than partisanship but an extreme jealousy of rivals. Even today, if we examine what is reputed to be the finest and certainly one of the thickest wine lists in the state of Oregon, we may discover hundreds of classic choices but not a single selection from neighboring California.

Restaurateurs, who are usually businessmen first, politicians second and *artistes* somewhat further down the list, may be excused for their local patriotism. It strikes me as somewhat absurd, though, how some winemakers, who after all are commissioned to produce the finest expression of the grape, never even taste the classics. One assumes that an American making Chardonnay would have at least a professional interest in sniffing a glass of Meursault now and again. Several winemakers I have spoken to admit, quite ingenuously, that they taste wine with regularity but *never* white Burgundy.

There are historical explanations for this parochialism, chief among which is the wild expansion in domestic fine-wine production during the last 20 years. In 1973 California produced 87 Chardonnays; today it makes close to 500. All of the wineries that arose overnight had to find winemakers. In most cases, they snapped up recent graduates of oenology programs, which focused on processing sound, healthy fruit and making clean, salable wine rather than comparative tasting. Inexperienced as they were, many of these winemakers fell back on the best resource they possessed: technical know-how. They made safe, flawless wines. Others, however, set out to educate their palates, in some cases by working abroad. In effect, they wanted to further their education by adapting a wider range of practices to the local conditions.

Too few of our domestic winemakers work in a world context today. As a result many of our wines, emanating from successful, even prestigious, companies, lack essential aroma and flavor. They may be smooth, glossy and handsome, but their personalities exude dullness. They taste as though they were made by formula.

A recent blind tasting I attended at Sonoma County's Chalk Hill Winery established this point quite vividly. Winemaker David Ramey, whose background included stints in Australia and Bordeaux (where he worked two vintages at Chateau Petrus) as well as at Simi and Matanzas Creek, had assembled some of the market's most commercially celebrated Sauvignon Blancs to taste against his just-released 1992 offering. At Chalk Hill only since 1990, Ramey has evolved a unique style for the varietal, which features 100-percent-natural yeast fermentation in oak barrels, full malolactic conversion, and extended aging on the lees in small cooperage. The result is a blazingly bold wine with aromatic flashes of bay leaf, smoke, and white pepper and a thick butterscotch-like texture. This is as distinctive and delicious an expression of the grape in its local incarnation as one can imagine. At the tasting, it bore little resemblance to the stripped, minimalist Sauvignons offered by its Californian neighbors, although a lusciously spicy white Graves (Ch. La Louviere) and pungent Pouilly Fume from Didier Dagueneau provided delightful contrast.

To say though that Ramey's wine swamped the local competition is an understatement. In the calm anonymity of a blind tasting, with ample opportunity to focus on quality rather than labels, the verdict among the 11 tasters present was close to unanimous. Comparing these Sauvignons, it was not difficult to taste that a few were produced by people whose understanding gave them the confidence to make wines with something to express, while most strove mightily to suppress the grape's outspoken personality. Despite their marketing savvy, the latter wineries produced Sauvignons that were slick, polished and forgettable, if not inexpensive.

It is heartening to note that, given the chance, even inexperienced tasters can recognize the difference. ❑

Dining Review / R.E. Brunson

Catch a Wave

"... The appetizers were good and well-prepared, but it was with the rotisserie entrees that the Blue Wave really hit its stride ..."

On the corner of Berkeley and Columbus in the South End, Bostonians can go catch a wave, California-style, at the Blue Wave. On a chilly October evening, our party was seated by the friendly host, clad in shorts. The large, airy dining room was filled with the noise of the crowd, and along with the music, the decibel level rose to a roar. After a moment of panic, the sight of the patrons enjoying their meals reassured us that there is more to the establishment than loud music and good times. Before settling in with the menu, our attention turned to the sights: the white walls are covered with vibrantly colored works of art and each glass table sits atop a box filled with an eclectic assemblage — our table contained items saluting the musical *Miss Saigon*.

The extensive menu, created by chef/owner Russ Berger, is based on a healthy, West Coast-style of cuisine and features rotisserie items, grilled foods, salads and sandwiches. The wine list offers a selection of moderately priced, mostly California wines, including several organic ones. Our order was taken by a waiter in jeans and a T-shirt, who was experienced and professional but not as outgoing and friendly as one would expect in such an informal setting.

For appetizers, we chose the scallion polenta grilled with Portabello mushrooms ($5.95), and fried lobster-and-ricotta cheese raviolis ($6.95). After only a short wait, they appeared: The first: twin golden discs of polenta were paired with a grilled Portabello mushroom and a moist andouille sausage. A ribbon of mustard-tarragon sauce completed the dish. The polenta had a hearty texture and the mustard sauce was a delicious complement to the sausage. The bowl of mussels was tender and had a touch of heat with a coating of tomato salsa and spicy red-pepper sauce. The fried lobster raviolis looked more like fried wontons than raviolis, but they were hot, crispy and tasty with their yogurt sauce. The appetizers were good and well-prepared, but it was with the rotisserie entrees that the restaurant really hit its stride.

With so many entrees it was difficult to choose, but we settled for the penne pasta with scallops, prosciutto, and sun-dried tomatoes ($10.95); rotisserie chicken rubbed with chopped garlic, roasted jalapeño, and balsamic vinegar ($7.95); and rotisserie duck with an apricot jerk rub ($12.95). Arriving very hot, the penne pasta was al dente and had a nice taste. The accompanying sauce was filled with tender, correctly cooked scallops, prosciutto and red peppers and topped with crisp broccoli and mozzarella cheese. The ingredients were delicious, but as a whole, the dish did not come together; it needed more sauce.

The rotisserie chicken came with a mound of crisp, homemade curly french fries and a peppery jicama-chayote coleslaw. The chicken was perfectly done, plump and tender, with a hint of garlic. A tongue-numbing roasted jalapeño pepper topped the dish. The duck was also perfect, with its dark, chestnut-brown skin and tender, juicy meat. The mango-raisin chutney that covered the duck was wonderful, a *perfect* complement. The wedges of sweet potato and slices of grilled zucchini and summer squash that accompanied the dish were also delicious. The restaurant definitely knows how to grill and rotisserie.

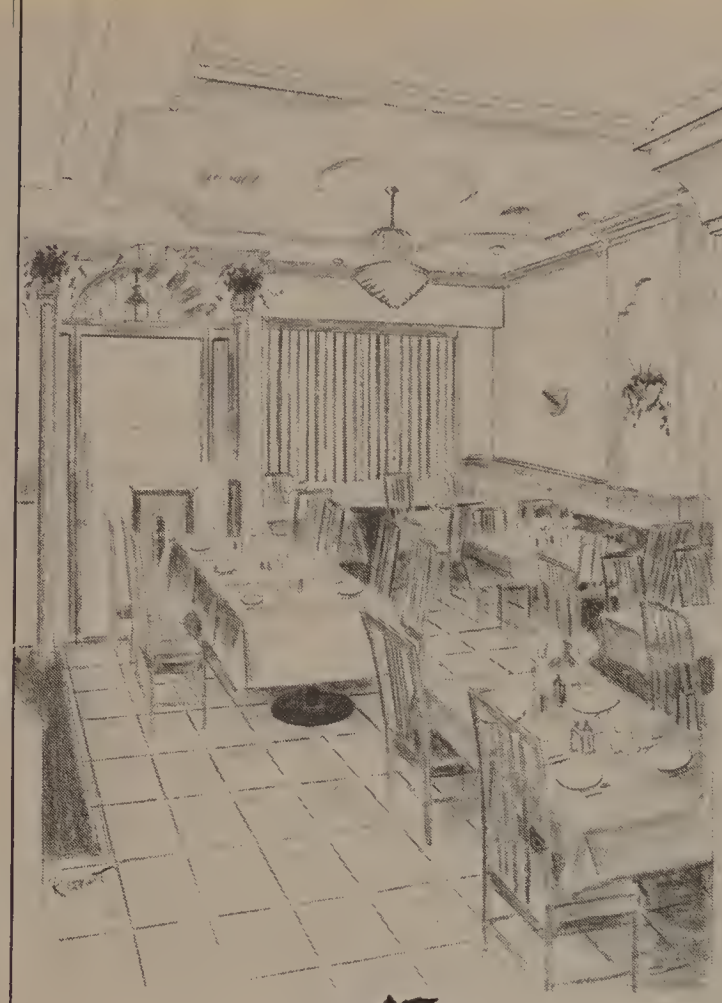
We decided to order a sampling of desserts because they were homemade and sometimes a meal just doesn't feel complete without them. Our first choice, gingerbread cake with hot-brandied apples, was sold out, as was the second choice, the chocolate paté. Regretfully, we ordered the apple-blackberry pie ($4.50) and the white-chocolate-pecan-brownie pie ($3.95). They were both not to our liking. The apple-blackberry pie had a slightly interesting brown-sugar topping, but the apples were a little underdone and a lot under-spiced and -sweetened. The layer of blackberries added little to the flavor of the dessert. The white-chocolate-pecan-brownie pie is an interesting idea but the pie itself had none of the moistness and richness of a brownie; its texture was that of a muffin. Both desserts were left unfinished.

As the evening came to a close, the consensus was that the ambience was lively and loud (a little too), the food and service good, and the rotisserie items exceptional. All agreed that the Blue Wave is the type of place where one could eat several times a week, trying different dishes, and have a reasonably priced meal. We certainly would, if only they would save us a piece of the gingerbread cake. ❑

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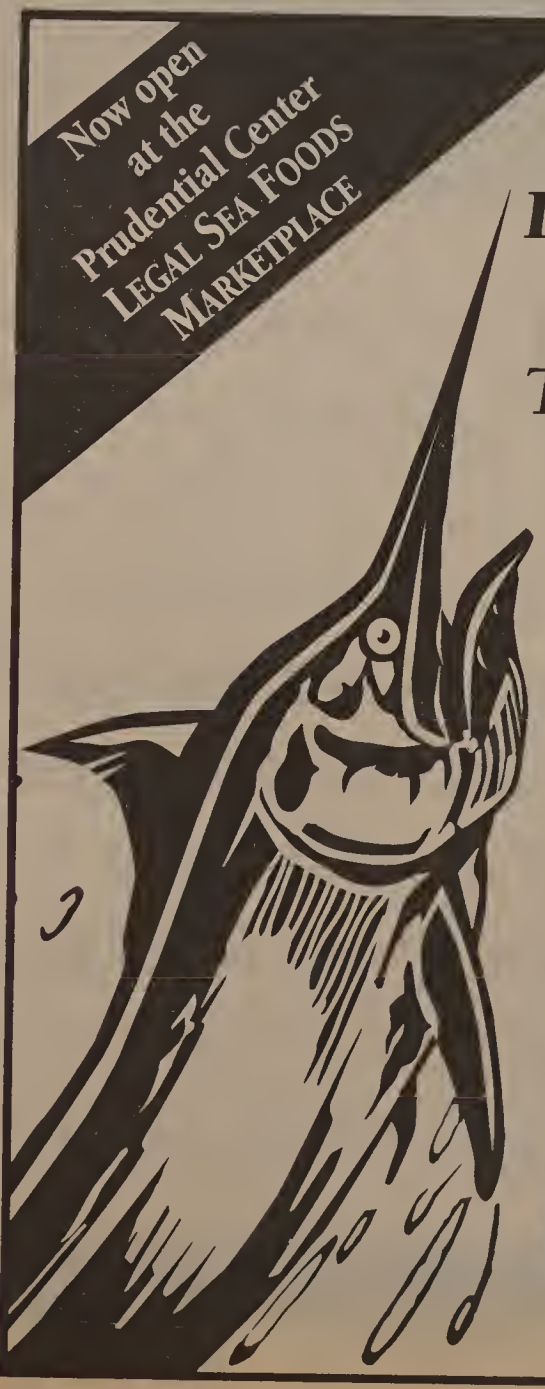
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BENNETT ST. CAFE

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.

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BLUE WAVE

142 Berkeley St., Boston, 424-6711.

The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative West Coast style, stressing fresh, clean food; generous portions; creative open spaces; and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés, and all items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch begins at 11:00 and is one of Boston's best. Open daily 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., brunch on Sunday from 11:00 a.m.-5 p.m.

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604 Columbus Ave., Boston, 536-6204.

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1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.

The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining, weather permitting. Serving until 10:00p.m. Sunday -Wednesday, 10:30p.m. Thursday-Saturday.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

100 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-0300.

New American-New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are spectacular- Cornucopia won the Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for "Tastiest Dessert"; Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar" in Boston. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised. Open for lunch 11:30a.m.-2:30p.m. Monday -Friday, Dinner 5:30p.m.-10:00p.m. Monday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 'til 10:30p.m.

DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.

\215 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.

261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093. 441 Harvard St., Brookline 734-5696.

This original 20-year-old Sicilian-style seafood & pasta restaurant is best known for its specialty-classic calamari. The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes— synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a dear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years." Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989.

DAVIO'S

269 Newbury St., 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810; 202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.

Davio's in Boston captures the flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, and the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

DICK'S LAST RESORT

55 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02199. 267-8080. Open 11am - 2am Mon. thru Sat. 10am - 2am Sun. Free parking after 5pm.

A restaurant (of sorts), Dick's has the kind of food that is not particularly fashionable and definitely not spa cuisine–buckets of messy ribs, chicken, catfish, shrimp, lobster and crab legs–served on butcher paper. There are also 74 kinds of beer for the novice or serious sudsman. Dick's has obnoxious live Classic Rock, Rhythm & Blues and Dixieland Jazz seven nights a week, no cover charge, no dress code and certainly no class. On Sunday, Dick got religion and hired some Gospel Singers at a surprisingly good brunch from 10am to 3pm. A buffet full of goodies such as salads, hot entrées, omelet station, waffles, desserts and make-your-own sundae station. Dick's Last Resort is billed as "The Shame of Boston's Back Bay" and an embarrassment to any neighborhood. Dick says, "Although the food is good and there's plenty of it, places with great food are a dime a dozen." It's the restaurant's style (or lack of it), loud music, wisecracking service people, bullyish doormen, and insulting promotional attitudes that raises eyebrows. Major credit cards accepted – Dick loves cash.

THE FISHERY

718 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 868-8800.

Major credit cards accepted.

Dock yourself at The Fishery's hand-crafted, boat-shaped raw bar or enjoy dinner in its casual, nautical dining room. The Fishery's own pan-fried crab cakes rival Maryland's best. "Delicious pan-fried crab cakes..." The Boston Herald.. The Boston Phoenix calls The Fishery "a local gem," and The Fishery Calamari "irresistibly addictive." The Fishery is proud to serve only the freshest, quality seafood. Specialties indude: sour cream and mustard catfish, lemongrass mussels, southwestern shrimp, and a variety of grilled seafood. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 12:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

GANDHI RESTAURANT

704 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 491-1104

All major credit cards accepted

At Gandhi restaurant enjoy a fresh and healthy, light and spicy menu that offers a plenitude of vegetable, seafood, chicken, lamb and rice entrees. For vegi lovers Baingen Bartha, roasted eggplant mash cooked with peas and tomatoes, and the Bhindi Bhuna, fresh okra roasted with onion, ginger and

Enjoy Chef Andrée Robert's new prix fixe menu at Ben's Café
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garlic are exotic treats. Gandhi offers tender chicken and lamb dishes, curried or cooked with vegetables such as the Lamb Mango, lamb with mango and broccoli, and the Chicken Marsala, boneless chicken cooked with onions, tomatoes and spices. Shrimp Nargassi, shrimp cooked with spinach, and Fish Vandaloo, spicy fresh curry mixed with potato, are other light and healthy alternatives. Dinner is served 7 days a week 5 to 10:30 p.m.

Geoffrey's Café - Bar

651 Boylston St., Boston, 437-6400. 578 Tremont St., Boston, 266-1122.

With two convenient locations, in the heart of the Back Bay at 651 Boylston St., and in the heart of the South End at 578 Tremont St., Geoffrey's Cafe - Bar has become a favorite for many of the locals. Geoffrey's serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner and decadent desserts 7 days a week. Geoffrey's prides itself with serving the healthiest portions of the freshest food at extremely reasonable prices and was the Improper Bostonian 's winner for "Best Waitress" and "Best Brunch." Stop by one of their two locations today. Open Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. to midnight, Saturday 8 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Green Briar Restaurant

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.

Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads and, burgers at this Brighton Irish restaurant. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Brunch every Sunday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Open from 11:00 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week.

Grendel's Restaurant and Bar

89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160.

Major credit cards accepted. Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food- such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

Harvard Street Grill

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.

Major credit cards accepted.

Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek is a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: grilled salmon with shiitake, spinach, bean sprouts, ginger, and tamari; smoked chicken and tart cherry pate, or the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce and desserts such as chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce, lemon buttermilk tart with blueberry coulis, or homemade fruit ice. 1993 Wine Spectator award of excellence, 1993 Ivy award. Open Tuesday-Thursday 5:30-9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

House Of Blues

96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583

Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 pm.-2:00pm., Mon.-Sat. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere, to shelter your blues.

Icarus

3 Appleton Street, Boston, 426-1790.

Major credit cards accepted.

Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including best restaurant from The Improper Bostonian. Chef/owner Chris Douglass' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeño sorbet, juniper and pepper crusted venison, and a Wellfleet littleneck clam roast with tomatoes, basil, and zucchini. A sumptuous list of home-made desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level dining room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly from 6-10 p.m., until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Monday-Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

India Pavilion

17 Central Square, Cambridge on Western Avenue, 547-7463

All Major Credit cards accepted

Savor royal recipes, centuries old, preserved from the time of the mughals! India Pavilion offers a variety of delicious Indian cuisine, cooked in traditional Indian style. From a host of entrees select lamb entrees such as Lamb Pasanda and Lamb Vindaloo Curry, or chicken entrees such as Chicken kandhari, chicken cooked with cream sauce and cashews, and Chicken Masala, a boneless roasted chicken cooked in spices and a thick curry sauce. Curry dishes may be prepared hot or mild to your taste. The ample menu offers other meat dishes such as Beef Shahjhani and Shahjahni Biryani, as well as popular vegetable enrees like Malai Kofta, vegetable balls fried and cooked in a delicious gravy sauce; or Thali, a traditional platter of Aloo Chole, Vegetable Mix Curry, Mater Paneer, Raita, Bread, Rice and a slice of Parpadamm. Dishes ordered for take-out, available any time, will receive a 10% discount. The India Pavilion is open 7 days a week. Lunch is served 12-3p.m.; dinner from 5 to 11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club

17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, 776-2004.

Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and now it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around, and it's healthy to boot. Natural free-range, antibiotic-free beef, chicken, eggs, and more. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna with Jamaican relish, and home-made pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. The atmosphere is unpretentious and casual, and prices are reasonable. In October, enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., and brunch is served Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Located on the red line.

Jose's Mexican Food

131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, 354-0335.

For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into the super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible, lunch specials 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, Saturday 12 p.m.-4 p.m.. Dinner Monday-Thursday 4 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 p.m.-11 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

The Kells

161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.

Looking for a great place to take yourself or the family for delicious food that won't hurt your wallet? The Kells of Boston is the place for you. With an authentic Irish atmosphere and menu sure to please all. After starting the meal with appetizers like potato skins or shrimp cocktail, the posibilities are endless. Meat lovers are sure to be thrilled with the large New York sirloin steak or teriyaki steak tips, while dishes from the sea include baked stuffed shrimp, New England broiled scrod, scallops, and many more. Children's portions are also available. This is more than just another Irish pub and restaurant; The Kells prides itself on great food, prices, and service. Food specials all day. Open from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. for cocktails. Parties and functions welcome.

The Last Hurrah! Bar and Grill

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street, Boston , 227-8600.

This popular turn-of-the-century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston creme pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Noon -5 p.m. Saturday. Serving dinner 5-11 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and 2-11 p.m. Sunday. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

Legal Seafood

Park Plaza Hotel: Restaurant & Café 35 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-4444, Statler Office Building: 27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566 Kendall Square: 5 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, 864-3400 Chestnut Hill: 43 Boylston St., Rt 9, 277-7300 Copley Place: 100 Huntington Ave. Boston, 266-7775 Prudential Center: 800 Boylston St., Boston, 266-6800

Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Sea Foods has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the Seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp, and scrod.

Lucia Ristorante

415 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 367-5915.

Since 1877 Lucia Ristorante has followed a basic philosophy: to present authentic cucina Italiana as well as innovative dishes with a pledge toward freshness and quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Monday-Thursday 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Maison Robert

45 School St., Boston, 227-3370.

Two restaurants and café bar. Elegant formal dining rooms and unique private party rooms for meetings and parties. Cosy intimate café with private party rooms like the "vault". A new place to gather with friends is the newly renovated café bar entered through the terrace. This sunny space makes you feel like the warm waters of the Mediterranean are just outside. The new bar menu offers tastes of the Mediterranean with your favorite drink. Prix fixe complete dinner in the café at $15 and $22. Serving lunch, cocktails and dinner.

We put le "chic" into CHICKEN



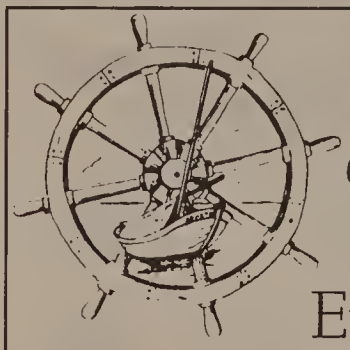
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Shrimp & Garlic Fettucine	$10.95
"Huge" Fried Seafood Platter	$9.95
Calm Bake Special:	
Lobster Cup of Chowder, Steamers	$13.95

Daily Lunch Specials

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$4.75 - $5.95

Specials Change Daily

Choice of one side order

Raw Bar

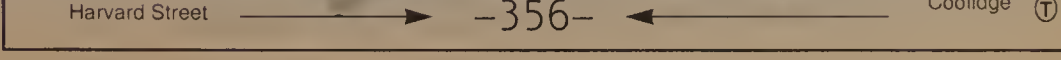
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63 Salem Street
Boston's North End
523-9802

RESTAURANT LISTINGS, CONT.

MAGNOLIAS SOUTHERN CUISINE
1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971.
Major credit cards accepted.
Formerly The Cajun Yankee. Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings the best the south has to offer. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep fried cheese, home smoked salmon and goat cheese, and blackened scallops. Entrees include Maryland soft shell crabs, grilled pork loin with corn relish and hot pepper jelly, blackened prime rib, and sautéed shrimp with pineapple and cherry tomatoes with southern cilantro pesto, and pan-seared Tuna Belle Watlings' style. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday-Saturday 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

MAMMA MARIA
3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code.
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Choice Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's "Best of the Best", offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu, and daily baked bread. Be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Open 7 nights a week Monday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA
207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959.
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples's Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth-watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Very close to North Station T stop; convenient parking.

MICHAEL'S WATERFRONT
85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.
Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom raviolis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in the Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sunday-Thursday 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes. Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11-4.

LA PICCOLA VENEZIA
63 Salem Street, Boston, 523-9802.
No credit cards accepted.
Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, polenta, tripe, Scungilli, baked caratelli, veal scallopini, an traditional pasta favorites. Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

POPPA & GOOSE
69 First St., Cambridge, 497-6772.
Created by several Harvard, MIT, and Tufts alumni, Poppa & Goose's main mission is to serve as the link between the local community and Cambridge's greatest resource: the country's largest and most diverse international student population. The theme of the restaurant and market is to promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition. The menu attests to this theme, with its ever-growing variety of authentic international dishes contributed by students. The "Poppa & Goose Community Kitchen" is dedicated to cooking classes conducted by volunteering international students. Come and be chef for an evening; relax in the cheerful dining room and enjoy scrumptious food and reasonable prices; or take a Poppa & Goose kit home and effortlessly prepare an exotic dish in your own kitchen. Whether you are in the mood to eat, cook, or participate in the cultural exchange, Poppa & Goose's door is open. Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dinner 5:30-10 p.m. daily.

POSITANO
93 Salem St., North End, 367-4878.
Major credit cards accepted.
At Positano, you will experience the flavor and warmth of the Mediterranean Amalfi Coast right in Boston's North End. Within Positano's friendly, casual decor, ample portions of authentic, carefully crafted recipes are served up at everyday prices. Start your meal with their fresh antipasto, a medley of grilled eggplant, shiitake mushrooms, zucchini, and roasted Belgian peppers; or a salad of homemade mozzarella, plum tomatoes, and fresh basil. Enjoy linguini tossed with swordfish in a fresh basil sauce for a mere $9.95, or chicken saltimbocca layered with fontina cheese, and Parma prosciutto in a cream sauce for $10.95. All of the prices are this reasonable! Come in any time of day for Positano's truly home-style Italian cooking. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

THE RED TERRIER GRILLE
1096 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 566-4144. One of the few restaurants in Boston where breakfast is served all day everyday. Owners Carol Tringali and Robert DeFilippo serve up home-cooked meals. They boast huge portions and exceptional value. Dinner prices range from $5 to $6. Try hot home-cooked dinners with real mash potatoes, or the roast beef dinner, stuffed roast pork, or corned beef & cabbage, just to name a few. Now open Sunday 9am to 2pm. Monday - Friday 6a.m. to 5p.m., and Saturday 8a.m. - 2p.m.

SEASONS AT THE BOSTONIAN HOTEL
Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

SPASSO ITALIA CAFE & BAR
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7 days from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Tuesday 5 p.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday until 11:00 p.m.

TAJ MAHAL AT KENMORE
484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

THIRD & CHARLES BAR & GRILL
202 Third St., Cambridge; Kendall Square, 547-9310.
Major credit cards accepted.
Don't let the name fool you; the T&C is a bit of Mexico moved to Cambridge. Featuring food "mild, hot, or insane," the menu includes everything from traditional tacos to the house specialty T&C pollo—a chicken breast with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a light sour cream sauce. And to rinse it all down, try a brew from the extensive beer list, or a margarita in an exotic flavor like melon or black raspberry. Moderately priced with an extensive bar. For an atmosphere that is as lively and colorful as the food, stop by the T&C. Take out available. Serving food from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; until 11 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Bar closes at 12:30 a.m.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring fresh seafood, poultry, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to order, and great hamburgers. The Sunday brunch offers made to order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest, and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities available, free parking. Just one-fourth of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

Peter McNamara & R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

Robert builds up Maison; service survey; Cafe Suisse menu is game for the wild

On the Table

The Roberts have started renovations of **Maison Robert**. However, things are still busy in the kitchen with a new bar menu and a new fixed-price menu, which includes such favorites as the fillet of sole and the boneless rabbit with polenta. A vegetarian dish, peppers-and-zucchini lasagna, has also been added. The fixed-price dinners are $15; $22 per person for a three-course meal. **Maurizio's** in the North End has a new special, grilled veal chops stuffed with roasted peppers and provolone in a Madeira sauce. And, we submit a correction to the review of Maurizio's in the last issue: Linda makes the tiramisu, not Maurizio. **Enzo's Ristorante** in Brookline is also introducing something new: homemade ravioli stuffed with grilled eggplant in a light gorgonzola sauce.

The Lenox Hotel has a new executive chef, **David Schmidt**. **Giacomo's** of the North End will soon open a second location on Columbus Avenue. **The San Francisco Noodle Company** is coming to Boston with a spot on Commonwealth Avenue. Look out Newbury Street, **Starbuck's** is coming!



Photo by R.J. Studio Needham

HYATT REPORT: *Celebrating the reopening of the Empress Room at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge are: Eric Howson, chef; Steve Vissotzky, general manager; Julie Neberman, director of catering; and Joseph DeMille, director of sales.*

Service With a Smile

Several weeks ago, we were on **WBZ** with **Tom Cuddy,** talking about waitstaff and service in restaurants. The following week, a listener sent us information on a survey conducted by MasterCard that examined restaurant patrons' attitudes on service in restaurants. Since service is one of our favorite subjects, we wanted to let readers know about it.

Why is service important? According to the survey, service is important in the selection of a restaurant. Of the top-10 reasons why survey respondents would select one restaurant over another, six had to do with service, three with food, and one with value. The aspects of service listed as most important were: having a friendly and well-trained waitstaff, quick service, having orders filled correctly, and the correction of any mistakes.

If the respondents had a positive experience, the survey showed that they would tell an average of six people and return to the restaurant an average of four times. If the experience was negative, the respondents would tell an average of five people and three out of four would never return to give the restaurant a second chance.

Everyone has a pet peeve about service and the individuals surveyed were no exception. The most common one had to do with reservations — reservations being lost entirely or a table not ready at the reserved time. A couple of the most annoying things a waitperson could do were being unfamiliar with the menu and reciting specials aloud. When there was a problem, most of the restaurateurs surveyed hoped that the problem would be reported directly to the management. However, only one in five surveyed restaurant patrons said they would actually do so. The most common response to poor service was simply to reduce the tip.

The goal of the survey is to help restaurants improve service. MasterCard also offers seminars on the subject. Call (800) 677-2926. If you have a story or pet peeve, please let us know, we would like to hear about it. Write to "Appeteasers," c/o *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146.

Game Plan

Not since the **Marquis de Lafayette** restaurant has there been such inspired food in downtown Boston. The **Swissôtel's** new executive chef, **Christopher Moos**, has created a menu for a wild-game festival at the **Cafe Suisse** from Oct. 26 through Nov. 24. At a preview tasting last week, all the dishes were found to be wonderful. The entrees include roast pheasant, venison pot pie, buffalo pot roast, stuffed wild-turkey breast, and wild-mushroom strudel. Food like this will certainly put the Swissôtel back on the culinary map.

Next issue: What new restaurant will bring shame to Boston's Back Bay? ❑



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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston-Boston, 232-4242
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include chile poblano relleno, roast chicken enchiladas, fajitas, "Brunch Chili", "Louisiana Lost Bread", and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sunday 12-3 p.m.

THE BAY TOWER ROOM
33rd Floor- 60 State Street, Boston, 723-1666.
This great restaurant has an unsurpassed, breathtaking view of the Waterfront and Boston Harbor. The Bay Tower's new chef Raoul Jean-Richard will delight the senses with a buffet of salads, raw bar, terrine cheeses, and fruits. Diners receive a complimentary flute of Moet and Chandon. You then decide between 12 sumptuous entrees to be served at your table. Delightfully tempting desserts include tiramisu, creme caramel, Black Forest kirsch cake, and crepes filled with your desired ingredients. $32 per person/$16 for children under 12 10:30 to 2:00 Sundays, reservations recommended.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600.
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. And you can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an an a la carte menu from traditional Eggs Benedict to sizzling fajitas, Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm. Arrive early and enjoy Brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225.
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-7440.
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine truly indigenous to our American southwest brings to you such wonderful brunch items as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 pm.-2:00pm., Mon.-Sat. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere, to shelter your blues.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Boston. 426-1790.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. " One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- Boston Globe. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30pm.Cajun dansing every Monday 8pm.with Krewe de Roux and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30pm. Great food-Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

THE KELLS
161 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub and restaurant features one of the best brunch offerings in the area. Sundays at The Kells means all you can eat brunch for just $6.95! Some of the many delectable items from which you can select include steamship roast beef, honey baked ham, chicken curry, rice pilaf, scrambled eggs, a variety of salads and much more. Great lunch and dinner menus also available, with special children's portions—all at Kell's low prices. Food specials available all day, every day. Brunch hours are Sunday 11:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Open 7 nights until 2 a.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049.
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie, will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995.
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates, hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30a.m. - 2:30p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's Best Bloody Mary since 1987. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

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About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

Top 10 Reasons Not to Go Out

"... Maybe I'm just experiencing some sort of mid-20s crisis, but right now my couch is much more attractive to me than anyone I've seen at a bar lately..."

I know what you're thinking: Lauren Dare, not go out? What an outrageous thought. But yes, even I, denizen of the night and habitué of the Boston scene, need to rest sometimes. But why, you ask politely, with a hint of disbelief, would anyone want to stay in when they can escape the confines of the domestic abode? After all, home offers such tried-and-true familiar favorites as dirty dishes, roommates squabbling over who took out the trash last time and what movie to watch on Pay Per View, and the possibility of a call from your mother with her litany of woes. Going out offers anything but the above, and in general, that seems like a good thing.

However, there comes a moment in every girl's (excuse me, woman's) life when she has to sit down and re-evaluate her priorities. And sometimes, dragging your dressed-up sorry self to another crowded nightspot full of people who definitely are not members of MENSA and who possess all the social graces and skills of trained circus weasels seems a bit lacking in charm, a bit worn, if you will. Maybe I'm just experiencing some sort of mid-20s crisis, but right now my couch is much more attractive to me than anyone I've seen at a bar lately, and the TV — insipid, uncultured, unenlightened company that it may be — can at least be shut off with the push of a button, which is more than you can say for most people.

So I put on my footy pajamas, surgically attached the remote control to my hand, and surrounded myself with munchies while I came up with reasons to justify not going **anywhere** this week.

Number 10: Domino's Delivers. Actually, I have discovered that in modern America, you can get just about anything you want delivered, right to your doorstep, even a date for the evening, but I'm holding off on that one for a while because it sounds a little sketchy to me.

Number Nine: There's a possibility that John-John Kennedy might become single again, and I'm on strike until I know one way or the other.

Number Eight: Same old scene, same old scene, same old... oops, sorry, I was dozing off there for a second.

Number Seven: Recovering from a week of dizzy partying following my birthday. (No, I **won't** tell you how old I am!)

Number Six: I opened my closet, and I have Nothing To Wear.

Number Five: I'm either trying to get closer to God by watching as many televangelists as possible, or determine whether or not televangelists are actually the first wave of an alien takeover.

Number Four: Vodka and tonic at home tastes as good as vodka and tonic at a bar, and I make my drinks stronger.

Number Three: I don't have to worry about passing out and not making it home because, hey!, I'm already there.

Number Two: I'm just getting much too mature for all this going-out nonsense.

Number One: *Mystery Science Theater 3000*.

There they are. I've been sitting on the couch for a week, and this is all I could come up with for excuses. Call it laziness or lack of motivation if you will. Call it another pathetic example of a couch potato trying to justify her complete immobility for an entire week. Call it cable brainwashing. Call me anything, but just don't call me until next week, when I work up the energy to go back out into the scene. Until then, come on over, there's still room on the couch. ❑

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Oct. 29 Standing Hamptons
Oct. 30 Gregg Buckley Band
Oct. 31 DAMN YOU PETER PAN & Parade D.J. at 10pm
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Nov. 2 Eoin Woods & THE FAT LADY SINGS
Nov. 3 Mr. Buttercup
Nov. 4 Standing Hamptons
Nov. 5 A HOUSE & Parade DAMN YOU PETER PAN
Nov. 6 Gregg Buckley Band
Nov. 7 Jim Majorowski Acoustic Jam 4-8 D.J. at 9pm
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Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

Breweries

Commonwealth Brewing Company
523-8383, 138 Portland St., Bos, "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 Cover. Have dinner here and no cover.
Irish

Dancing

Avenue C
423-3832, 5 Boylston Pl., Bos, A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or just dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Fri. & Sat. nights
Piano Rooms

General

Atrium Lounge
The Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston 523-3600
Every Wednesday from 7 p.m.-11p.m. relax in the comfortable setting of the Atrium Lounge at The Bostonian Hotel with some of the best jazz artists from the Boston area. Enjoy the talents of artists like Mike Jones (piano) Gray Sargent, (Guitar), Dave Whitney, (Trumpet) and more! Complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

Beacon Hill Pub
49 Charles St., Bos, A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thur.-Sat. college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

The Littlest Bar
523-9766, 47 Province St., Bos, Located near Downtown Crossing. A quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. Weekdays and Saturdays.

Maxwell Jumps
335 A Huntington Ave. Boston 266-1705
Maxwells, on Hunington Avenue across from Northeastern University always has something going on. Try your skill at jello shots or maybe racing down the World Famous Maxwells' Bobsled course! DJ and dansing during the week plus live acts too. Join The Digg Band every Friday night for the area's most rockin' blues. Maxwells always fun- all the time!

The Rowes Wharf Bar, Boston Harbor Hotel
439-3995. 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." The Improper Bostonian. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Also, lunch is served from 11:30a.m. to 4p.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166
Located next to the Boston Tea Party Ship, 1/2 block from South Station. Monday: Monday Night Football Party 9-12. Thursday: Three Cheers Karaoke Contest 8-12. Weekly 1st prize of roundtrip airfare to Hawaii. Friday: Friday Night Dance Party. DJ Dave Stewart spins your favorite music. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed. thru Sun. Boston's dinner theater to die for. Free parking 7 nights a week.
Dancing

Irish

Black Rose
742-2286, 160 State St., Bos, Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton 789-4100
Entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun - Wednesday nights; "Karaoke" prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1am. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010
Party and dance at Boston's Newest Hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wed-Sun. After-work parties on Thurs. and Fri. with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's Biggest and Best Bands! Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's Best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

The Irish Embassy Pub
234 Friend Street Boston at the Boston Garden
742-6618
Do you remember The Irish Embassy Pub in Falmouth? Ofcourse you do! Now we are also at The Boston Garden. Come down and enjoy a great crowd in a fun, casual atmosphere. Sundays there are acoustic jams in the afternoon and a D.J. at night. Monday nights come down and beat the winter blues with our blues jam.Tuesdays: Eoin Woods. Wednesdays: Best original music. Thursdays: College cover bands. Fridays: Alternative music. Saturdays: Classic hits.

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub The Kells prides itself on featuring "the best in live bands." Everything from the cutting edge of rock to original Irish folk music. Live entertainment is featured 7 nights a week, and Irish/American folk music can be heard on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. For those important sports events, check out the TV at The Kells, the biggest screen in Boston! Students are welcomed to visit. Open 7 nights until 2:00 a.m.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400,
If you are looking for a lively pub with an Irish flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wed-Sun. Sun. night - DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guiness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2am and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
734 -0049, 1010 Beacon Street, Brookl, If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.

Live Music

Cafe Grappa
1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Day's Inn
Brighton 254-4336
A jammin' place featuring live music Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Tuesdays from 7:00-12:30p.m. feature Splash, a tropical band that combines the best influences of reggae, Latin, and Afro Carribean. Wednesdays from 8:00p.m.-1:00a.m. heat up fast as Alvin Terry, Boston's premiere jazz drummer is joined by a variety of the area's best musicians for a mighty jazz jam. Thursdays from 8:00p.m.-2:00a.m. feature Jose Ramos and his bad for what's fast becoming the best blues jam in Boston.
All major credit cards accepted. Free pkg.
Great Italian food available at Bennino's Restaurant

next door.

CANTAB LOUNGE
738 Mass. Ave. Central Sq. Cambridge 354-2685
Live music every night. Upstairs Monday- Geoff Bartley's new open stage (folk & more), Tuesday- Geoff Bartley presents Irish, Blue Grass Country Woman & Acoustic Rock. Call for details, Wednesday: blues, blues, blues!!! Thursday: Trudy Sandhaus Quartet (jazz), Fri & Sat. Little Joe Cook & The Thrillers- world famous blues!! Downstairs Fri. Poetry Slam! with Patti Smith & Michael Brown 6:30-midnight Sat.: something special- Call for details Must be over 21yrs. Positive Id required.

HARPERS FERRY
158 Brighton Ave. Allston 254-9743
Voted Boston's Best Blues Club by Rolling Stone Magazine. Harpers Ferry is undeniably home of Boston's best live rhythm & blues. Featuring rhythm & blues jam every Sunday with Host Stovall Brown and every Wednesday with Host Rick Russell and The Cadillac Horns Live music 7 nights a week with the very best in local, national and international artists. Call the club for schedule of shows and advance ticket sales.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free 12:30 pm.-2:00pm., Mon.-Sat. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, & gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere, to shelter your blues.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. " One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- Boston Globe. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30pm.Cajun dansing every Monday 8pm.with Krewe de Roux and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30pm. Great food- Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.



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Monday: 9 p.m. - midnight.
Featuring 50¢ hotdogs,
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& lots of prizes.

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Thursday: 8p.m. – 2 a.m.
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First prize round trip tickets for two to Hawaii!

Dance
Friday: 8 p.m. – 2 a.m.
DJ Dave Stewart plays all your favorite dance tunes.

Mystery Café Dinner Theater
Thursday through Sunday.
"Dinner Theater to Die For!"

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Boston's Only Club with Free Parking
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Oct. 31	Joe O'Meara
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Nov. 2	Free Jukebox
Nov. 3	In Transition
Nov. 4	Exit 17
Nov. 5	Da Mud Hens
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Nov. 7	Cupla
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Oct. 27	Karaoke
Oct. 28	Mark Morris & Catunes
Oct. 29	Classic Trax
Oct. 30	Swinging Johnsons
Oct. 31	DJ Ed
Nov. 1	Irish Sessiun
Nov 3	Karaoke
Nov. 4	Lime Rockets
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Nov. 10 **CHARMAINE NEVILLE**
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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

Buffalo Stampede

"...With *Big Red Letter Day,* Buffalo Tom's fourth album, the Boston-based band is poised to break into the alternative-rock big leagues..."



Photo by Paul Robicheau

ALTERNATIVE ROCK: *Buffalo Tom's* Big Red Letter Day *sold a stunning 50,000 copies within weeks of release.*

Bill Janovitz remembers that when his band Buffalo Tom came together in the mid-'80s, there wasn't a lot happening around U-Mass Amherst. At least compared to Boston, where "you could go to T.T. the Bear's and see the Neats and Volcano Suns or Moving Targets on one bill.

"If I could get a gig on a Friday night at a packed house at T.T.'s — that was my goal," recalls the carrot-haired guitarist.

Granted, it might be a Thursday night at Avalon, but Janovitz's wish has certainly come true. When Buffalo Tom headlines a Nov. 4 show at Avalon with the Dutch group Bettie Serveert and New Zealand's Verlaines, it should be a bill to inspire other fledgling rockers.

Even today — with *Big Red Letter Day*, Buffalo Tom's fourth album, poised to break the Boston-based band into the alternative-rock big leagues — the amiable Janovitz maintains a down-to-earth attitude.

"Really, we go along thinking, `Well, if we sell more records than the last one, and if we get more people to the live shows, or if we get to make the next record ... ," Janovitz says during a recent interview before the band embarked on a touring binge. "I don't think we'd be comfortable with runaway success. I think it would frighten us. We just want to move at our own pace."

Nonetheless, Buffalo Tom's pace has quickened in the wake of its *Big Red Letter Day*. Before a video for the single "Soda Jerk" was added into regular rotation at MTV, the album sold 50,000 copies within a few weeks of its release — already breaking sales for previous-album *Let Me Come Over*.

"We had no plan," bassist Chris Colbourn recalls of the band's start. "We had a lot of extra time in college, and we spent it going to see the Feelies and Violent Femmes. It was just a real natural thing. It wasn't immediately to record demos or anything. We'd just trade instruments."

The trio eventually settled into place with Tom Maginnis handling drums by default. Buffalo Tom released its self-titled debut in 1989 on the SST Megadisc label, produced by Dinosaur Jr. guitarist J. Mascis, a compatriot from U-Mass.

Like Dinosaur Jr., Buffalo Tom's first records were steeped in gristly guitar noise. But *Big Red Letter Day*, produced by the Robb Brothers (Lemonheads), rounds out an evolution to a more acoustic-layered rock sound that seems quite natural for the group's songcraft.

"There's a real lush, acoustic kind of flow to a lot of the stuff we write," says Colbourn. "Basically, [songs] are written on acoustic guitars."

"With the vocals,too," Janovitz adds. "We came from a more guitar-central point of view, where the guitar is the primary instrument. It was kind of like a punk-rock or garage attitude, where with the vocals, you do a couple of takes and that's pretty much it.

"But the Robbs came from [respecting] the vocal records of the '70s with the vocals up front — commercial-sounding records," he says. "So I think between the two philosophies, we struck a balance."

ELSEWHERE — The fall is heating up with several outstanding shows. When Dead Can Dance first toured these shores in 1990, it provided one of that year's most mesmerizing shows. Lisa Gerrard fronted the British group with an ethereal soprano that made Sinead O'Connor sound like an amateur. Dead Can Dance returns to the Berklee Performance Center Oct. 29 with its exotic blend of Gaelic and medieval musical influences.

Liz Phair doesn't like to play live, but the Chicago native — whose frank *Exile in Guyville* is one of the year's best indie-rock outings — plays Axis on Oct. 30. And for honesty and emotion in pure country, you can't beat songstress Iris DeMent, returning to Sanders Theater Nov. 7. She's a real sweetheart. ❑

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Pieces of Poe

"...The forgotten fragments of Claude Debussy's projected Poe-opera *La Chute de la Maison Usher* have somehow stirred into plushly putrescent life and stand before us in a new recording..."

Roderick Usher was quite surprised when his dead sister returned from the tomb to strangle him. And just as Usher, aghast at clanks from the family crypts, turned to find the dearly departed framed and snarling in the doorway, we're delighted to turn and discover that the forgotten fragments of Claude Debussy's projected Poe-opera *La Chute de la Maison Usher* have somehow stirred into plushly putrescent life and stand before us in a new recording (George Pretre and the Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, EMI 7-64687-2).

The new disc features the re-animated Debussy opera, lasting about 25 minutes, and two shorter works in a similar vein: André Caplet's harp capriccio based on "The Masque of the Red Death" and Florent Schmitt's symphonic etude based on "The Haunted Palace." The union of Edgar Allen Poe's dark vision and the orchestral pastels of the French Impressionists may seem unlikely, but in fact, the marriage makes perfect sense. Poe's gothic vision, after all, was closely tied to the work of the French decadents. Debussy milks this connection; his lush orchestral palette provides the perfect expression for Poe's ornate and feral prose.



COLLABORATION: *Debussy's lush orchestral palette provides the perfect expression for Poe's ornate and feral prose.*

The opera in its reconstructed state is compact and subtle. Like the other pieces on the disc, it unsettles one not through broad ax strokes, but through a lingering sense of fear and decay. From Madeline's opening chant, here hauntingly sung by Christine Barbaux, we immediately inhale the pungent fumes of the rotting and recherché. The hazy languor of Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande* has become immobile ennui. The lush summer atmosphere has become clammy. Like Poe's writing, Debussy's opera works not through shock, as modern horror does, but through mounting dread. The brief piece culminates in a scene of unhealthy agitation as the narrator babbles fragments of an ancient-and-obscure epic in an attempt to drown out the rising music and the sounds of fumbling from the crypts below. The murder of Usher's heir is brutally depicted — and then the piece seems cut short. One imagines there would have been a few final bars to depict the sinking of the House of Usher and the quiet lapping of the murky tarn. The performance is strong and can be highly recommended. A major flaw, however, lies in the presentation: As with several previous issues in EMI's "L'Esprit Français" series, no text — in neither French nor English — is included. Needless to say, this kind of omission is bound to mar the performance for many.

André Caplet's contribution to the disc is almost as strong as Debussy's, with similar merits of subtlety of corruption. "Le Masque de la Mort Rouge," for harp and orchestra, depicts a ball held by a decadent prince during plague-time. Buoyant dance music floats through monastic halls, underscored occasionally by a morbid whiff of decay or disinfectant. The party is a smashing success until, at midnight, Death RSVP's. Caplet's vision of the tale is dreamlike and rich, self-consciously weird (the harpist, at one point, raps in ghastly fashion on the frame of the harp), and wholly enjoyable, although perhaps not as apocalyptic as Poe's own story.

Florent Schmitt's tone poem on "The Haunted Palace" is every bit as ripe but not as menacing. The rich perfumes of the poem's first half predominate. We are given only a brief-and-hectic glimpse of the "Vast forms that move fantastically/To a discordant melody" and the hideous rushing throng that closes the poem. The piece is passable, but not as deeply felt or creepy as the other works on the disc. It's sort of like riding the Tunnel of Love with Scriabin.

This is a disc for those who savor fear and corruption more than they do horror. It would be perfect for a Halloween party that features overripe fruit and Mexican spun-sugar skulls. In spite of some serious errors in presentation — the lack of libretto, the miscued tracks — we can't help but be glad that someone has finally bid Debussy's hideous progeny go forth and prosper ❑

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THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31	1	2	27 3	28 4	29 5	30 6
7	8	9				

DANCE

ART OF BLACK DANCE AND MUSIC
MIT's Kresge Auditorium
84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Boston's first annual rhythm festival is a celebration of the drum-and-dance traditions of the Boston community. The festival features the best of New England's master dancers and drummers from Africa, Brazil, the Caribbean, and the Americas. Capoeira Camara, the Earth Drum Council, Ibrahima and the Afro-Latin Pop Ensemble perform Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. Call 876-9240.

BOSTON BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for the BB's 30th season, which begins with a production of *Sleeping Beauty* through Nov. 7. Tickets are on sale for *The Nutcracker*, which runs Nov. 26-Jan. 2. Call 931-ARTS.

BOSTON CONSERVATORY
31 Hemenway St., Boston
In celebration of 50 years of dance at the Boston Conservatory, faculty members perform original works Nov. 4-6 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 7 at 3 p.m. Call 536-3063.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
Caribbean Faces and Places is a cultural, historical and photographic exhibition by Rick Weinberg; it's on view throughout the month of November. The opening reception is Nov. 1, 6-8 p.m.

NE SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Square
Boston's top fashion photogs — shooting the creations of the town's top fashion designers — exhibit in *Fashion Plate*, through Nov. 12.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Comm. Ave., Boston
Other Africas, a joint show of three photographers, goes against the grain of both historical representations of colonial Africa and contemporary photojournalistic documents representing Africa as a continent defined by dependence and chaos. These photos show urban and rural Africans as citizens who share concerns and aspirations with their contemporaries everywhere; on exhibit Oct. 29-Dec. 19.

TOURS

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley Square
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating — and free. Monday, 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday-Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 11 a.m.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY OBSERVATORY
For you stargazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open-observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that is clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. The entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave.; take the elevator to the fifth floor.

GARDEN IN THE WOODS
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham
GW is the largest landscaped collection of wildflowers in the Northeast. Its staff offers guided walks at 10 a.m. every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday at 10 a.m. through Oct. 31, or just come in and explore the garden yourself. The cost is $6. Call (508) 877-6574.

TWILIGHT MYSTERY TOUR
Explore Boston's darker side as you delve into both the solved and unsolved crimes of this city's sinister past. This 90-minute tour will take you right to the scene of the crime. Now through Oct. 31, the tours run every Thursday-Saturday, starting at 7:30 p.m. Special family shows will run Sunday, Oct. 31 starting at 4 p.m. Call 542-2525 for all the gory details.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Send an electronic message to President Clinton in the new exhibit *Become an Electronic Citizen*. In the Person-to-Person booth, make a "virtual visit" with a friend using a videophone. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit, *Robots & Other Smart Machines*. Enjoy more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Before the weather gets too cold, be sure to go see both outdoor and indoor exhibits at the FPZ: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds, and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The Armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
Through Jan. 2, the ICA presents *Commodity Image*, a photography exhibit that demonstrates the impact of consumerism on art, and a *Day Without Art*, an exhibit of visual-and-media art by artists dealing with AIDS in some capacity. Call 266-5151; free admission Thursdays, 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of mostly early-Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. Call 566-1401.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Call 929-4523.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Through Jan. 2, *The Age of Rubens* is the first major survey of Flemish Baroque painting ever mounted in the United States, and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe. Its companion exhibit is *Rubens, Bellange, Rembrandt: European Graphic Art, 1580-1660*, a collection of 90 prints, drawings and illustrated books; through Feb. 6. MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2. Contemporary artist Robert Cumming presents *Cone of Vision* through Nov. 28. Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27. MFA presents *Deities, Saints and Allegories*, full-length images and busts of classic mythological figures, through March 6. American homes, from squatters' encampments to fancy Manhattan penthouses, will be examined in *In and Out of Place: Contemporary Art and the American Social Landscape* through Jan. 23, 1994. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
The dinosaurs - including the ferocious velociraptor - from *Jurassic Park* have stormed into New England, but you better have advanced tickets if you want to see them. Also, there's *It's All in Your Head*, where you can walk through a giant (9-foot-long) brain replica and explore the wonders of the mind. Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Call 723-2500.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The aquarium's newest exhibit is called *Catch Some Rays*, about the mysterious — and dangerous — stingray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea-lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 — ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has everything that has anything to do with New England sports, including interactive exhibits, such as the one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

THEATER

HASTY PUDDING THEATER
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
The CTC puts on the classic drama *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Nov. 5-28, starring Sally Kellerman (*M*A*S*H*). Call 496-8400.

CATBOX CABARET
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The Catbox Cabaret hosts a late-night potpourri of music and theater, featuring the work of Boston's best actors, playwrights, songwriters and directors in an open-mic format. Every Sat. at 8 p.m. through Nov. 21, with a special show on Friday the 13th. Call 354-2685.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve a murder mystery. Call 426-5225.
What has long hair parted in the middle, bell-bottoms and platform shoes? The *Real Live Brady Bunch*, of course! Yes, it's true, the Fab Nine have hit Boston to indulge in all the '70s kitsch we couldn't get enough of the first time around. Until Nov. 7. Call 426-6912.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
See *Falsettos*, also a Tony Award-winning musical, with the original Broadway cast, through Oct. 31. It's a funny, touching story about love, relationships and a different kind of family. From Nov. 2-14, see the highly acclaimed comedy *The Madness of George III*, the story of the British king who "lost the Colonies" and then his mind. Call the box office or 931-2787.

COYOTE THEATRE
ICA Theatre
955 Boylston St., Boston
Three women narrate a story about a gay man with AIDS in *Jack*, on stage Oct. 29-31 and Nov. 12-14. Call 695-0659.

EMERSON STAGE
69 Brimmer St., Boston
Emerson presents *My Mother Said I Never Should*, a play that spans the 20th century as it tracks the relationships between mothers and daughters over four generations of one family, Oct. 27-30 and Nov. 3-6 at 8 p.m. Call 578-8782.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Sometimes the strongest ties are those that do not bind. The HTC presents Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from the Sea* until Nov. 14. Call 266-0800.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
David Drake's one-man drama *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*, was heralded an undisputed winner in the *New Yorker*'s survey of gay-and-lesbian plays. It runs Oct. 29-Nov. 28; call 437-7172.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its fifth year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four-course dinner plus the show, are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
541 Tremont St., Boston
The Other White Meat, Beantown's acclaimed sketch-comedy troupe, premieres its all-new stage show *Mystery Loaf*, Nov. 4-7 and 11-14. Show starts at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinee, 5 p.m.

FOREVER PLAID
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
This musical hit about a group's second chance at

IMPROPER PICK



HISTORY AND HUMOR

Tired of Rubens already ? Get thee to the Armenian Library and Museum of America in Watertown. Known for exhibitions of exquisitè objects representing three millennia of Armenian history and culture, the museum is also committed to the art of our moment. The current show, featuring the watercolors and collages of San Francisco-based artist Sonia Kouyoumdjian, is delightful and immediately engaging.

The artist's collages invite close inspection. *Symphony in the Language of Tapestry* pays homage to the grand gardens of Europe and to the romantic activities that such lush surroundings traditionally inspire. Amid the waves of color that characterize this floral landscape, winged putti and secluded arches beckon us to enjoy the traditional pleasures of springtime — the ones where you don't get dirt underneath your nails. The same sense of humor manifests itself in Victorian Treasures, a world of sumptuous antiques peopled only by coquettish Lolita lookalikes. Ultra-'90's, *Country Music* evokes a world of glitz, cowboy boots and guitars.

Many of the most beautiful illuminated manuscripts in the world were made in medieval Armenia, and Kouyoumdjian's most striking work draws from this heritage. Christianity features a complex design of multicolored Armenian crosses while the *Armenian Alphabet* show wonderfully ornate individual letters. First and foremost, these animal letters are simply beautiful.

Landscapes dominate the show; Kouyoumdjian is equally at home with both broad vistas and intimate cityscapes. Her depictions of Italy are particularly atmospheric: the splashes of color evoke *la dolce vita* and a good glass of chianti. A more somber mood pervades *Our Church*, a deeply personal portrait of a medieval building and a quiet reminder of Armenia's crucial contributions to the development of Western ecclesiastical architecture. The artist's melding of aesthetics and historical vision make this show one of the more unusual and emotional offerings on the local scene.

BY RUTH C. MORSS

IF YOU GO

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WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY KIM CAVINESS AND MEGAN GILMARTIN

"What will your funeral be like?"



Christopher, 30, Cambridge
"I was raised near the sea, so a cremation, with the ashes spread from a boat over the North Sea."



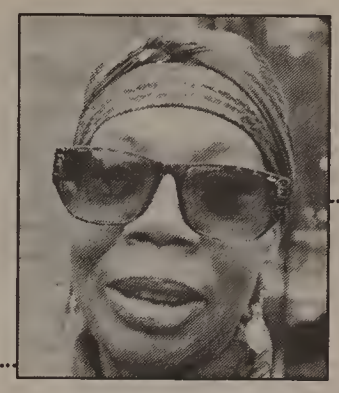
Richard, 26, Boston
"It'll be a state funeral, with the First Lady walking down Pennsylvania Avenue; the whole country is in mourning."



Roberta, 29, Boston
"Peaceful, with family and friends, maybe a ceremony at the burial site; with remembrance and inspiration I may have left them from my life."



Mike, 37, New York
"Burn me up and throw me in my mother's front garden next to the birdbath."



Dianne, 50, Boston
"A quiet little good-bye party, maybe in the Hopi Desert, and a bonfire, with me in it."



Ezia, 30, Newton
"No. 1: closed casket; No. 2: videotapes of me going the whole time; No. 3: lots of food, all Italian; No. 4: Prince music; and No. 5: no crying."

stardom continues its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner-show packages are $52 and $49. Call 357-8384.

THEATER OF RELATIVITY
Little Flags Theatre
550 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Split, about the lighter side of failed marriage and the trials and tribulations of being single, is up Oct. 28-30 at 8:30 p.m. Call 576-2800.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant-theater packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872 or (800) 382-8080.

TRIANGLE THEATER
Paramount Penthouse Theater
58 Berkeley St., Boston
Triangle, New England's only professional theater company dedicated to productions exploring gay-and-lesbian issues, opens its 15th anniversary season with *Green Fingers*, a courtroom comedy-drama about two lovers accused of looting a British mansion. Until Nov. 13. Call 426-3550.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Jesus Christ Superstar, Nov. 9-14, stars the two men who made the movie so popular 20 years ago. Originally a rock opera, *JCS* is based on the last seven days of Jesus's life. Call 931-2787 or the box office for times and ticket information.

WILBUR THEATRE
246 Tremont St., Boston
Five Guys Named Moe, the smash musical that packed 'em in on Broadway and in London, has come to Boston for the month of October. It's a wonderfully entertaining tribute to the music of blues/jazz great Louis Jordan — a must-see. Call 931-2787.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

ACTOR'S WORKSHOP
40 Boylston Street, Boston
Interviews and registration are now under way for the 37th Autumn Term of Theater Arts and self-improvement classes, which begin the week of Nov. 6. Call 423-7313 for a free brochure and a no-obligation interview.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
"The Shakespeare Authorship Question" will be debated Nov. when Lord Burford, a descendant of the Earl of Oxford (an Elizabethan nobleman who many believe was the real author), presents his case supporting the Oxford theory.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
George Sherman Union
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, gives his annual series of lectures beginning Nov. 2, with "In the Bible: Samson or the Price of Victory." Nov. 9: "In the Talmud: Lesser Known Masters." Nov. 16: "In Hassidism: Rebbe Mendel of Riminov & Rebbe Moshe of Ujhely." Admission is free to the public. Call 353-2224. Also, Boston City Councilor Rosaria Salerno and state Sen. Dianne Wilkerson are two of many panelists who will discuss "Women in Politics: Roadblock and Rewards" on Oct. 28 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 130 of the School of Education, 605 Comm. Ave., Boston. Call 353-4126.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
808 Comm. Ave., Boston
Still a sucker for the 10-cent Big Mac-cheese specials? Break free! On Nov. 2, author-and-television-personality Martin Yan conducts a workshop on wok cooking, and each participant receives a free copy of Yan's book *The Well-Seasoned Wok*. On Nov. 8, *New York Times* food editor Molly O'Neill demonstrates recipes from her award-winning, historical *The New York Cookbook*. Workshops are from 6-9 p.m. and tuition is $60. Call 353-9852.

FORD HALL FORUM
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Downtown Crossing
NASDAQ stockmarket CEO and President Joe Hardiman examines the dynamic changes under way in world-equity markets, strategies to keep the U.S. competitive now and in the future, and growth prospects for the '90s. On Oct. 28 at 7 p.m.; free. Call 373-5800.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Tufts University and Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy professor Pierre-Henri Laurent lectures on France's partnership with the European Community Oct. 27 at 6:15 p.m. Admission is free, but reservations are recommended; call 266-4351.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY
Columbia Point, Dorchester
The JFK library presents a free public forum on "National Health Care: The Moment of Political Truth" Nov. 8 at 5:30 p.m. Experts will discuss and analyze the many proposals being considered by congress, including the options of managed competition and the Canadian single-payer system. Call 929-4571 for reservations.

JFK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT
Harvard University, Cambridge
A Harvard teach-in, *Lead or Leave*, is set for Nov. 1, with Paul Tsongas and other speakers from national, state, and local levels. It starts at 4 p.m. Call 277-6544 or (800) 99CHANGE.

MIT/BARTOS THEATER
20 Ames Street, Cambridge
Charles North gives a poetry reading as part of the "Poetry at MIT" series Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. Call 253-7894.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
Crawl through the museum's attic and see all the treasures that aren't on permanent display, such as a bird's nest donated by Thoreau, Nov. 6 on the "Behind the Scenes" tour. For $29; the tour lasts from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Also, you can discuss the ever-puzzling question about life in outer space on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. Free tickets are given out at the museum beginning at 6 p.m. Call 723-2500.

S.A.M.
Various locations
Sexually Assaulted Males is a free peer-support group for men who are survivors of sexual assault. S.A.M. meets every Monday, 7-9 p.m. in members' homes. Call 437-9663.

GALLERIES

ABSINTH
215 Hanover St., Boston
Don't miss your chance to see the innovative neon sculpture of Ed McAllister as this gallery hosts new-exhibit, *Pheneonomenon*. Also showing will be *Places To Do... People To Be* featuring the photography of IB's own Paul Pilcher. The gallery's hours are Thurs.-Sat., 12-9 p.m., and Wed. and Sun., 12-7 p.m., and this exhibit runs through Nov. 3. Call 248-6962.

ALIANZA
154 Newbury St., Boston
What time is it? Time to go see *Clockworks*. This exhibition (until Nov. 14) includes sculptural clocks that are made of ceramic, metal, wood and/or stained glass.

GALLERY 2200
1 Kendall Square, Bldg. 200
Second Floor, Suite 2200, Cambridge
Amy Kaufman: Oil Paintings and Pastels runs from Nov. 1-Nov. 30, with a reception in honor of the artist scheduled Nov. 14, from 2-4 p.m. Viewing hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m - 5:30 p.m., and by appointment. Admission is free. Call 527-3930.

ROLLY-MICHAUX
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
Rolly-Michaux presents *Joan Miro: A Centennial Celebration* until Dec. 31. As its tribute to the Catalan surrealist (1893-1993), R-M presents the gallery's collection of important aquatint etchings and early lithographs. Call 536-9898 for gallery hours.

WALTHAM MILLS ARTISTS
144 Moody St., Waltham
One of Greater Boston's oldest and largest visual artists' communities will be holding its 17th annual *Open Studios* Saturday, Nov. 6 and Sunday, Nov. 7 from 1-5 p.m. This multimedia, multi-theme event will include 45 artists and crafts people exhibiting new work and works-in-progress in an open-studio environment. Admission is free. Call 893-9544 or 899-3657.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOSTON SKI & SPORTS CLUB
Hyatt Regency, Boston
Last year's bash spooked 500 people, so don't miss BSSC's Halloween party Oct. 29. Cash prizes for best costume. Call 789-4070.

CAMP FIRE AUCTION
Westin Hotel
Copley Place, Boston
The Camp Fire Boys & Girls of Eastern Massachusetts hold their sixth-annual auction Nov. 6 from 8-10:30 p.m. Pre-holiday shopping is made easy at silent-and-live auctions; a valuable raffle prize, champagne, coffee and delectable desserts are also included. Tickets are $25. Call 523-6006.

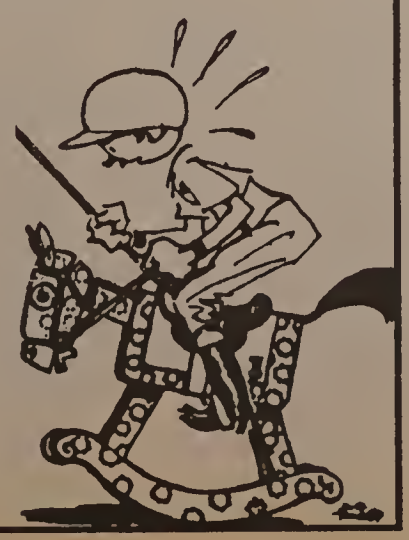
CHRONS & COLITIS
Four Seasons Hotel
Park Square, Boston
The CCFA's annual gala fundraiser celebrates their Year of the Woman honoring three women including Susan S. Balif, Rosabeth Moss Canter, and Nancy F. Korman at a black-tie dinner dance. Starts at 6pm on November 7. Tickets are $200 per person. Call 449-0324.

CROWN JEWELS GALA
The British Pavilion
Bayside Exposition Center, Boston
The British Automobile Dealers of New England will be presenting a preview of the 1994 auto imports at a gala benefit to support the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation, which in turn supports food programs for those in need. Proceeds from this gala will go towards establishing a Spinazzola Food Fleet, delivery vehicles for Boston Hunger relief agencies. Black-tie is suggested, and the event will feature cuisine from some of Boston's finest restaurants. The gala is Friday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m., and costs $50 per person. The auto show itself will run from Saturday, Oct. 30 through Sunday, Nov. 7. Tickets are $7 for adults and $3 for

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Ellis Antiques Show
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
The 1993 Ellis Memorial Antiques Show, one of the country's most prestigious, is scheduled Oct. 28-31; dealers from New England to North Carolina will be there. A special preview, at $100 per person, takes place Oct. 27 from 4:30-9 p.m. Members of the public can also bring jewelry, silver, porcelain, paintings, prints, drawing, Oriental art and small furniture to have it appraised; $5 per object. Call 482-6400.

Evening With Champions
Harvard University
Cambridge
Spend an evening with Olympic and world championship figure skaters, including 1992 Olympic silver abd bronze metalists Paul Wylie and Nancy Kerrigan. This "Evening With Champions" takes place at Bright Arena at Harvard University, November 5 to 7. Tickets are $20 adults, $10 children and seniors. For more information call 493-8172.

For the Love of Life Gala
Sheraton Boston Hotel & Towers
Copley Square, Boston
For the Love of Life, a foundation that grants wishes to people living with the HIV/AIDS, presents their second annual fundraising gala Nov. 6 at 8pm in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton Boston Hotel & Towers. The special guests for the evening are Goldie Hawn and Patty Larkin. Tickets are $75 or $150 (includes VIP reception with Goldie Hawn.) Call 542-LIFE.

Incest Survivors Benefit
Tsai Auditorium, Boston University
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
The premiere screening of "Surviving the Family," a short film by prosurvivor Sam Kauffmann to benefit the Women's Center of Cambridge, Mass., takes place Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. The movie will be followed by a panel discussion on incest survival. Tickets are available at the Women's Center, 354-8807 or 354-6394, the Tsai Auditorium, 353-8724, BU's Broadcasting and Film Office and Ticket Pro, (800) 828-7080. Tickets are $4.

"Keep the Magic Alive!" Gala Benefit
Westin Hotel, Boston
On Nov. 6, dine, dance and bid on auction items at the Sixth Annual "Keep the Magic Alive!" Dinner Dance and Auction, to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. Tickets are $125, black-tie optional. Call (800) 341-5800.

KISS Halloween Party
The Roxy
279 Tremont St., Boston
June Knight hosts the KISS-108 FM Halloween Costume Ball Oct. 30. Call 227-ROXY. You must be 21 or older.

New England Ski Ball
The American Ballroom
Westin Hotel, Boston
Mingle with New England's ski celebrities on the ninth-annual New England Ski Ball, on Halloween Eve, Oct. 30, from 6 p.m. -1 a.m. The evening includes a dinner dance, party and ski-related fun. Tickets are $150 for the entire evening, and $25 in advance, $35 at the door for the party and dancing only. Call 338-2288.

New Blue Wine Sampling
Boston Harbor Hotel, Boston
The Castle Restaurant, Leicester
Two gala arrival dinners will celebrate this year's Blueberry Nouveau wine in style: Nov. 3 at the Boston Harbor Hotel, 6:30 p.m. ($75 per person, call (508) 779-5521) and Nov. 4 at the Castle Restaurant, 7 p.m. ($50 per person, call (508) 892-9090). Proceeds go to the American Institute of Wine and Food.

NOW State Conference
U-Mass/Boston
The Massachusetts chapter of the National Organization for Women holds its annual state conference, "NOW and in the Future," Nov. 6 from 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; registration begins at 9:30 a.m. Join feminists from across the state in workshops, discuss the future and hear the keynote address on "Building the Women's Movement: Combating the Right Wing." Tickets are $60; all new members and activists welcome. Call 782-9183.

Thayer Academy Designer Outlet Sale
Thayer Academy
745 Washington St., Braintree
Men, women and children's brand-name clothing, jewelry, scarves, ties, athletic wear and handbags at 50-to-75 percent off price retail. Friday,Nov. 5, 12-8 p.m.; Saturday Nov. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Call (617) 380-0500 for additional information.

Tribute to Women
Hyatt Regency, Cambridge
The Cambridge YWCA sponsors its eighth annual "Tribute to Women" luncheon Nov. 5 at noon; tickets are $50. Keynote address given by Margot Stern Strohn, founder of Facing History and Ourselves National Foundation, who will speak on "Choosing to Participate." Call 491-6050.

Writers' Rights Day
Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
Freedom of expression, economic justice and ownership of our written work will be the focus of a distinguished panel of professors and authors Nov. 9 at 6 p.m. in Rabb Lecture Hall. Free admission; call 437-9013 for details.

MUSIC

Boston Conservatory Chamber Ensemble
First and Second Church
66 Marlborough St., Boston
The BCCE performs an all-Mozart concert at 4 p.m. Oct. 31. Call 536-3063 for tickets.

Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
Renowned pianist Abbey Simon will perform a program of Schumann, Chopin, Ravel and Prokofiev Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. Also, Italian pianist Maria Tipo performs a program of Mozart, Clementi, Scarlatti, Schumann and Grieg, Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. Call 536-2412 for tickets.

Symphony Hall
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
The Handel & Haydn Society gives a concert, "Birth of the Romantics," Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 31 at 3 p.m.; it features the music of Mendelssohn, Schubert and Schumann. Call 266-3605. The Boston Symphony Orchestra, under the conducting of James Conlon, performs Roussel, Britten and Ravel in a concert Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. In addition, the London Philharmonic's Franz Welser-Most will direct the BSO for the first time, performing the music of Schreker, Schumann, and Beethoven, with Heinrich Schiff on cello, Nov. 10 through 16. Call 266-7575. The Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra, the official ensemble of the Bolshoi Ballet and Opera, performs an all-Tchaikovsky program Nov. 9 at 8 p.m. Call 266-1200. And, don't forget to bring the children when the BSO begins its 1993-94 Youth Concert Series with opening concerts Oct. 27 through Oct. 30. BSO-assistant-conductor David Wroe introduces as well as conducts the works of Stravinsky, Debussy and Berlioz. Call 266-1200.

Theater Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
A Sunday with the Classics is held each week in the North End from 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., with live music performed by the Cantabile Trio. This innovative concert/brunch series will offer food and music to delight the senses and relax the mind. Music and brunch, $20.. Students get in for half-price, and WGBH cardholders receive a 10-percent discount. Call 227-9872 for tickets and information.

Tsai Performance Center
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
The Muir String Quartet performs an all-Beethoven program Nov. 3 at 8 p.m., with a lecture by an 18th-century-repertoire expert before the performance at 7 p.m. Call 353-3345.

FILMS

Boston University
Marsh Chapel
735 Comm. Ave., Boston
"Mother? Mother?" Get in the spirit of Halloween with this Alfred Hitchcock double feature of *Psycho* and The Birds Oct. 30, 7:30 p.m.-midnight. Admission is free.

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St., Cambridge
The Brattle Theatre presents a variety of film series, from classic to cult. Through Nov. 11, Mondays are "Garbo Acts!"; Tuesdays are "French Noir: Policiers"; Wednesdays are "The Films of John Woo"; Thursdays are "Kurosawa and Mifune"; and weekends are special engagements. Themes change every few weeks. For a full program, call 876-6837.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St., Brookline
Accessible by the Green C Line MBTA (Coolidge Corner stop), this independent first-run moviehouse with renowned art-deco features boasts two screens, including the second-largest silver screen in Boston. The Coolidge specializes in presenting the works of independent, creative filmmakers from all over the world. Call 734-2500 for a program.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
How do you say Halloween in French? See Edgar Allan Poe's "Fall of the House of Usher" in a 1928 French version of the eerie short story, Oct. 29 at 8 p.m.; a live-piano accompaniment and a Halloween reception follow the film. Also, see the more-recent (1985) film "Rouge Baiser" ("Red Kiss"), a coming-of-age film about a Parisian teen-ager and her Polish Jewish immigrant parents. Both movies have English subtitles; tickets are $5. Call 266-4351. 723-2500.

Mugar Omni Theatre
Science Park, Boston
The world of Omnimax presents *Beavers*, about the world's greatest engineers. Call 723-2500; purchasing tickets 24 hours in advance is advised.

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REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

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APARTMENTS

BROOKLINE Cleveland Circle. Large 41/2 bdrm w/ 2baths in gorgeous building. Back porch, close to T & stores. Avail. now. Call Rimma at 232-8433 or 731-3244

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

APT. SHARES

BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

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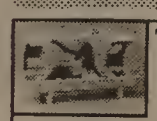
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

LINUS WHERE ARE YOU? Voluptuous white female, 32, blonde hair, sky-blue eyes, seeks secure, employed male to share her silk blanket with. If your 32+, dependable & enjoy snuggling, call me! EXT•8083.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SINGLE! White female, 25, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, athletic, mature, honest & professional, seeks a male, with similar interests, for a 1-1 relationship. Enjoys all sports, long walks & talks, dancing, the beach, skiing, cooking, family & friends. Tired of the bar scene type! EXT•8031.

MY FANTASY GUY BUYS 7 INCHES, knows what Sonic Bubble gum is, has long hair & maybe glasses. He's a little shy, but very bright & funny. This attractive white female, 26, is hoping he also reads the personal ads! EXT•8046.

HONEST & SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 34, 5'6", 130 lbs, intelligent, loving, good sense of humor. Seeks sincere, energetic black male, who enjoys music, dancing, movies & quiet times, for friendship or whatever comes naturally. EXT•8032.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPLANT working in Cambridge! Professional white female, mid-30's, good shape, attractive & secure, loves MacGraphics, cats, a wide range of music, Healthworks, dancing, exploring the East Coast, Champagne & fun! Looking to share future experiences with the right man! EXT•8066.

DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, slim, divorced white female, 41 (looks & feels younger), considered attractive, centered/happy with myself & my life. Optimistic, warm, animated, loyal friend, impassioned about my work (refugee/immigrants rights), quite irreverent, wry/lively sense of humor. A voracious reader/traveler, movie goer, physically active & fit. EXT•8043.

WHERE ARE YOU? Attractive, educated, honest white female, 29, 5'7", brunette, with one child, enjoys music, dancing, travel, cooking, camping & just being spontaneous. Seeks an attractive, financially secure white male, 28-35, with similar interests, who's looking for more out of life. Let's get together! EXT•8120.

MISCHIEVOUS, IRREVERENT, intelligent, absent-minded, 30yr old, professional white female with lots to offer. Cute, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy (but fit), musical, spiritual (liberal Protestant), grad student, loves family, friends, cooking, old movies, cozy fires, XC-skiing, swimming, beaches & more. Seeks kind, funny, bright, basically happy man, 30-40. EXT•8069.

PETITE, ATTRACTIVE BLACK FEMALE, 24, working student into fitness, dancing & reading, seeks tall, attractive Italian male, 25-31, with similar interests. Please no players! EXT•8061.

SWEET, PETITE & PRETTY white female, 22, nice shape, dark brown hair, green eyes, non-smoker, enjoys music, dancing & movies. Seeks honest, caring, thoughtful, handsome white male, 23-28, with dark hair, who is mature, well-built, likes to have fun, and has a nice personality. Call me! EXT•8073.

END RACISM! LOVE SEE'S NO COLOR! attractive, eclectic Jewish female, 26, with exotic looks, long brown hair & alluring brown eyes. Seeks mature, open-minded male, under 40, of higher spiritual & moral values, for a deep & emotionally intense, 1-1 committed relationship. Interests include classic cars, biking, travel, Kabballa, Reggae & dancing. No losers! EXT•8044.

LOOKING FOR ROMANCE! Very attractive & well-built, divorced white female, 30, 5'8", slim, brown hair, blue eyes, from the Metro-west area, enjoys music, dancing, sports, the beach & the simple things in life. Seeks white male, 35-40, with similar interests, who also enjoys children. Lets have some fun! EXT•8082.

VERY ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN FEMALE, 34, 5'3", dark blonde hair, divorced, independent, non-smoker. Seeks tall, dark & handsome, Italian male, 30-38, 5'10"-6'2", non-smoker, with a good sense of humor & a good job, for possible relationship. Reply only if you fit description! EXT•8110.

ITALIAN FEMALE, 40, professional, attractive, physically fit, financially & emotionally secure, with many interests. Seeks a male professional, under 50, who's interesled in a serious relalionship. EXT•8054.

SEEKING ROMANCE! Attractive, classy, non-smoking Jewish female, late 30's, financially & emotionally secure, physically fit, energelic, great sense of humor. Desires a non-smoking Jewish male, 38-48, for adventure, affection, stimulating conversation, fine dining, jazz & moonlit walks. Only sincere should reply! EXT•8003.

ATTRACTIVE, MATURE, proportioned, full-figured white female, 25, 5'8", seeks an attractive black male, 25-37, 6'+, "Basketball type", who is a sharp dresser, monogamist, mentally & financialty secure or at least knows what he wants. No smokers or drug users! EXT•8101.

DIVORCED WHITE FEMALE, 48, petile, slim, blue eyed blonde, children grown, college educated professional. Desires companionship now, possible commitment later. EXT•8035.

SWEET & SINCERE! Full-figured, very attractive, single white mom, 34, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, great dimples, enjoys movies, cooking & quiet evenings. Seeks good-looking, kind, sincere gentleman, 34-44, 5'10"+, for friendship & possible relationship. Sincere replies only! EXT•8062.

LOOKING FOR A GOOD MAN! Attractive white female, 24, lite brown hair, blue eyes, sincere. Seeks a white male, 24-35, in good-shape, good personality, social drinker, and enjoys movies, dining & dancing. Looking forward to hearing from you soon! EXT•8102.

DEVOTED & COMPASSIONATE black woman, 25, 5'9", 143 lbs, seeks handsome black male professional, 25-33, 6'2"+, who is independent, sympathetic, trustworthy, respectable & creative, to seek & share excitement, adventure & laughs. EXT•6953.

IT'S HIGH TIDE, so you better catch this unique, 29yr old, 5'9 1/2", attractive black mermaid who wishes to love, honor & cherish a honest, trusting & open-minded, tall black male, 30-45. EXT•6975.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, HARDWORKING, dedicaled teacher, 30, 5'9", 135 lbs, blonde hair & sky blue eyes (Swedish), sensual, sensitive, classy, open & honest. Enjoys exercise, modelling, singing & dancing. Seeks very attractive male with similar interests & qualities. EXT•8019.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionate & sincere, seeks younger male for long-term relationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

FIT, PROFESSIONAL, eclectic white female, 37, from Boston, enjoys all music, old movies & romance. Seeks to share city life, concerts, arts, comedy, White Mtn. camping, hiking & canoeing, with a white male, 35+, with similar interests. No tobacco, moderate alcohol! EXT•6974.

MOCHA BROWN & HEALTHY black female, 5'5", light brown eyes, enjoys clubing, movies, cooking & more. Seeks fun-loving, tall, handsome & well-educated white or Spanish male, 25-28, for friendship & possible relationship. I'm waiting sexy! EXT•8020.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN FEMALE, 28, 5'5", 125 lbs, college educated, vivacious & fun-loving. Seeks attractive white male, 5'7"+, who is serious about a long-term relationship. EXT•8015.

ATTRACTIVE & DOWN TO EARTH, non-smoking Jewish female, 35, enjoys 70's rock n'roll, jazz, most sports, road trips, arts & entertainment, bowling & animals. Seeks a Jewish male, with some similar interests, for a long-term relalionship. EXT•6990.

UNFORGETTABLE! Very pretty, fun professional Jewish female, 31, enjoys dining out, travel, fitness, comedy clubs and baseball. Seeks handsome sincere professional Jewish male, 28-35, for possible relationship. I'm one in a million and you are too! EXT•6986.

WHITE CATHOLIC STATE WORKER, 31, who enjoys family, friends, pets, dining out, the movies, camping & most sports, seeks Catholic male. Sincenty, level headedness & beach walks are important to our growth! EXT•8021.

START YOUR SIRENS! White female seeks blue collar guy with white collar values! Sassy, professional redhead, 38, 5'6", 135 lbs, seeks policeman or fireman, 35-45. He must be educated, in-shape, knows how to have fun, and treats women with class. EXT•8018.

TALL BRUNETTE! attractive white female, 28, 5'10", intelligent, great sense of humor, interests include art, theatre, dance, movies, long walks & quiet times. Seeks tall & attractive white male, 28-38, with similar interests, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•6964.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar interests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6987.

LISTEN UP! Full-figured, attractive white female, 25, seeks a 1-1 relationship. If you have a great sense of humor, like quiet nights at home & walks along the beach with an old-fashioned girl, give me a call! EXT•6806.

MS.CLEAN SEEKS MR.CLEAN for friendship & hopefully more! Light-skinned black female, 48, pelite (5'5", 120 lbs), with beautiful blue eyes, enjoys dancing, dining out, bowling & weekend trips. Seeks energetic male, 45-60, who shares similar interests. EXT•6811.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. **WANTED:** White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relalionship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

ATTRACTIVE, FUN-LOVING black female, 27, with nice sense of humor, loves going to movies & late night walks. Seeks a sincere, caring & romantic male, 25-35, for friendship plus whalever comes naturally. EXT•6863.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable while male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, buxom, black college student, 23, 5'6", 160 lbs, with varied interests. Seeks educated, adventurous, funny, confident, sincere, tall, dark, handsome, smoke/drug-free male, 23-33, for friendship & fun. Race irrelevant! EXT•6941.

SEXY, SENSUAL, PASSIONATE woman of substance! White female, 45, 5'5", 125 lbs, blonde hair, blue eyes, great shape, compassionate in & out, emotionally secure, secure job. Seeks physically fit white male, 38-50, 5'9"-6'1", dark hair, who is ready for a 1-1 relationship with me. Serious replies only! EXT•6881.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

PAUL NEWMAN LOOKALIKE...HONESTLY! White male, 37, 5'11", 165 lbs, salt & pepper hair, deep blue eyes & a great smile. Looking for a woman who's as BEAUTIFUL on the inside as she is on the outside. Let's meet! EXT•7667.

BACK BAY GUY, 44, 5'9", 165 lbs, black hair, brown eyes, looks like Bruce Willis with glasses, interests include golf, sailing, exercise, movies, dining & travel. Seeks a younger, intelligent, adventurous, professional woman with similar interests. You won't be disappointed! EXT•7665.

AMIABLE, ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC white male, 30, 6'1", 195 lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, kind, caring, considerate & exciting, enjoys animals, sports, Boston, art, travel, dining, dancing, quiet & loud times. Seeks similar, tall, elegant & fashion conscious white female. EXT•7689.

CHIVALROUS, HANDSOME, solid quality, svelte, divorced white male, 48, 6'2", 190 lbs, into fitness, antiques, arts, bordeaux, fireplaces & romantic walks. Seeks an attractive & fit woman, 28-42, who wants quality. Boston Area! EXT•7729.

REDHEAD DESTINY! Do you believe? This well-bred, 5'9" guy, 34, with dark hair & blue eyes is handsome, humorous, fun, and has Christian values as well as a healthy body & mind. Seeking fit, fiery-haired woman, 24-32, for the ultimate rapture & a mind for life-long love. Respond and be pleasantly surprised! EXT•7668.

BLACK MALE PROFESSIONAL, 32+, divorced, seeks the companionship of a female, 28-32, for possible relationship & commitment. All races welcome! EXT•7674.

A NICE GUY! Black male, 24, 5'9", enjoys movies, working out & more, seeks a white female, 18-35, for a relationship & possibly more. Give me a call, you'll be very surprised! EXT•7723.

IF THE SOUND OF THE SURF soothes your soul, if you might enjoy a counlry picnic as well as an elegant dinner, if love can soften your touch, then lets find each other! Handsome, fil, divorced white male, 41, no children, seeks very attractive & responsible black female, 28-38. EXT•7704.

ATHLETIC, ENERGETIC, humorous, sensitive, professional, divorced white male, 44, 5'8", blue eyed Sagittarian with a black lab, enjoys candlelight, oceans, travel, adventure, music, friendship & romance. Seeks an attractive companion, 30's, to make waves on a quiet pond or a raging ocean. EXT•7745.

RECEPTIVE, ATTRACTIVE white male, 34, 5'9", 150 lbs, creative, thoughtful, with a great sense of humor (ok, ok...slightly cynical) and a youthful (but not immature) outlook & disposition. Fascinated by expressive conversations with unpretentious people who are candid & open. Seeks attractive female who's casual, relaxed, sincere, insightful & FUN! EXT•7747.

VERY SUCCESSFUL, HANDSOME, professional, caring, funny, divorced Jewish male author, 41, 6'1", 183 lbs, fit, into the outdoors, books, music & friends. I think that Republicans suffer from a serious mental disorder. Seeking attractive, intelligent woman, 24-35. EXT•7736.

ARCHITECTURE STUDENT! Athletic white male, 22, 6', 180 lbs, enjoys biking, roller blading & walking around Boston. Seeks a fit, non-smoking female, 21-26, with interest in the finer things in life, such as art, architecture & the blues! Would like to get together & talk. EXT•7746.

JEWISH MALE, athletic, sensitive, romantic, professional, likes sports, music, movies & meeting people. Seeks a caring, interesting woman, 21-35, who wants to have fun & enjoy life. If you think you're that special someone, call! EXT•7739.

TALL BLACK MALE, 23, 6', 180 lbs, college student, seeks understanding, open-minded female, 20-25, who enjoys spending quality time with someone special, long walks & good conversation. She should have a good sense of humor, and not be afraid to be herself. Race unimportant! EXT•7711.

HANDSOME WHITE MALE, 37, professionally self-employed, sincere, affectionate, romantic, secure & passionate. Seeks an attractive, intelligent, spontaneous, fun-loving woman for a monogamous relationship. The holiday season is here, let's spend it together. You won't be disappointed! EXT•7708.

HANDSOME, ATHLETIC & HUMOROUS white male professional, 30's, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, with European manners, seeks educaled, attractive, honesl, responsible yet crazy, open-minded, emotionally & physically fit, white female, 27-32, who is happy with herself, and seeks a caring friendship & a quality relationship. EXT•7696.

WHITE MALE, 28, seeks sharp, self-styled, seemly, counterpart. This adventure traveler, PR exec., loves tennis, creative dining, visual arts & new music. Ideal date is a female, 23-30, with a taste for city & wondering conversation. EXT•7697.

A RARE FIND! Intelligent, secure & caring, white male, 23, athletic, enjoys skiing, tennis & other sports. Seeks fit female, age & race unimportant, for playing together, occasional weekend getaways, theatre, dinner & many other exciting adventures. EXT•7664.

PROFESSIONAL, WELL MANNERED, white male, 28, 5'10", brown hair & eyes, thoroughbred Italian, 100% American. Seeks female to enjoy blues, books, bikes, billiards, cooking, walking, talking, slight bar-hopping & photographic excursions during season changes. Open mind & sense of humor are prerequisites. Redheads a plus! EXT•7695.

COLLEGE EDUCATED Italian-American male, 31, 5'8", 165 lbs, brown hair, seeks attractive, warm, intelligent, Italian-American female, 24-30, for friendship, relationship & possibly more. No head games please! EXT•7721.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7671.

EXCEPTIONALLY ROMANTIC, handsome & alluring Jewish male, 30, very athletic, sophisticated & emotionally stable. Seeks female, 20-30, who is physically fit and feels happiness & passion in her heart. EXT•7688.

SPIRITUAL AWAKENING! The woman that loves God as much as I. Is the woman I will love. EXT•7648.

ABOVE AVERAGE LOOKS! White male, 32, 5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair & eyes, usually in blue jeans & boots, but also likes dressing up for romantic nights out. Enjoys camping, motorcycles (Harleys), snowmobiling, skiing, guitars & music. Seeks a white girl/woman, with an above average body & face, for companionship. EXT•7643.

AS THE LAST RAYS OF SUMMER SUN FADE AWAY, I wonder who will share my adventures this year! Humorous white male, 39, 5'10", 165 lbs, hazel eyes, brown hair, 4yrs clean & sober, seeks a woman to share life, laughter & the pursuit of happiness. The frost will soon be on the pumpkin; will you let me light your fire? EXT•7613.

SEEKING HIS SWEETHEART! Bearded black male, 34, 5'10", 200 lbs, nice looks, shy & quiet. Seeks an open-minded female, 18-34, for movies, TV, bowling, theatre, cultural events, fairs, board games, museums, concerts, hugs, kisses, honesty, monogamy, affection & more. No drugs or smoking! EXT•7607.

VERY TALL BLACK MALE, 50, 6'6", 210 lbs, with a shaved head & short beard, seeks a female, 30+, who likes music, sports, dancing, fishing & billiards. Race unimportant! All calls answered! EXT•7602.

THE SEARCH IS OVER! Good-looking, employed black male, 27, father of 1, seeks attractive black woman, 24-35, who is above head games & materialism. I'm for real, are you? No smokers please! EXT•7611.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7551.

ALWAYS A BEST MAN, NEVER A GROOM! A godfather, never a father! Know the feeling? Great looking, Dbl-X white male, just turned 38, seeks great looking, old-fashioned white female. Autumn is here, so lets enjoy it together. All calls will be answered! EXT•7552.

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! White male, 36, 180 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks a fit lady of quality, 28-42, for an honest & monogamous relationship. I'm sincere, and happy in my work. If you enjoy music, movies, dining out & good conversation, give me a call! EXT•7615.

SIMPLY TERRIFIC! Attractive white male, 38, looking to meet a down to earth, cute white female, 28-35, who would enjoy an adorable, 5 month old yellow lab, Vermont foliage, hot cider, country inns, dungarees & romantic dinners. EXT•7629.

WHITE MALE PROFESSIONAL, 53, 5'9", 210 lbs, enjoys boats, sports, bar hopping & dancing. Wants to meet new people in Boston through a middle-aged, bright, somewhat wild, pretty female with a strong personality. EXT•7558.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

ATTRACTIVE, GAY WHITE MALE, 21, non-smoker, non-drinker, wanting to meet a good friend in Boston, 18-21, to hang with on weekends. Call for more information! EXT•7683.

ATHLETIC, SPIRITED & HANDSOME white male, 37, 6', 180 lbs, black hair, green eyes, muscular, clean shaven, into running, lifting, biking & swimming. Seeks vicarious man for sweaty workouts, fun & perhaps intimacy. EXT•7752.

MASSAGE ACTION! I'm a 28yr old, clean-cut jock/bodybuilder with a tight, muscular body. I'm seeking another straight, athletic & clean-cut white male who could also use a relaxing massage after a long day. Straight, masculine only! EXT•7598.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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By Rockie Gardiner — October 27-November 9

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)

The full impact of the mysterious Scorpio-Taurus full moon exactly Saturday at 8:38 a.m. won't hit home until the hornific Halloween weekend and Election Day are history, maybe by Wednesday, while loving Venus reaches out to Saturn in a sincere attempt at reconciliation. That's when you'll remember that the full moon made you crazy; that "it" — not you — was responsible for your obsessive behavior or inexplicable attraction to a real creature of the night. Costumes and makeup (while Venus squares inspirational Neptune and oddball Uranus on Saturday) are sure to be more artistic, more otherworldly than ever, but appearances alone won't account for the nasty vibes, the foul character traits that can erupt when bloody Mars squares Saturn/Satan 'round midnight. And if that isn't enough to unleash the worst in you, the vile and vicious Mars-Pluto conjunction on Monday will. Slash and burn, cut the crap and go for the jugular. The upside — and there always is one — can be a powerful wave of catharsis, the beginning of another two-year period of Scorpionic research, cleansing and healing. Another day, another dollar; another purification, the purge of another plague. Apocalypse when?

ARIES (March 20-April 19)

Well, you'll want to kill 'em (they being the U.S. Senate, the FDA, an association you belong to, or even your poker pals). Groups are your obstacles this week and attacking them your means of self-expression, maybe self-defense. Try to keep arms at arms' length, use your intelligence instead. While your Mars ruler, a heavy in its own right, contacts Saturn and Pluto, the other macho men of the solar system, big, bad, bold things happen. You're tapping into powerful forces, for good or for ill. Be careful, be clear.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Fickle. Facetious. Fractious. And finally fawning. Your Venus ruler steers you through a strange turn of events, starting with a simple change of heart (and costume) for Halloween, through a nasty (good nasty or bad nasty?) sexual experience, a hard-edged confrontation with authority and, as this thrilling ride ends, a heartfelt attempt at placating the powers that be. In the old days, we would sacrifice a virgin. Since that ain't you, babe, you'll have to buy your way out. Much luck, many bucks on the 8th.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

Mercury, backtracking through your house of debts, service and small animals, could send you straight to the vet's or it could insist on sheltering whatever stray comes your way. The full moon illuminates karmic relationships, particularly love-hate, kiss-me-kill-me scenes from another marriage in another time. How you tiptoe through this minefield is not clear, but the message, "Watch your back," is. Actually, you're safer than most, but keep an eye on the ones you're with this week, particularly coworkers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

As your moon ruler reaches its glorious fullness and exaltation in Taurus, the sign, other than Cancer, where its influence is strongest, you might feel a bit like a potentate yourself. Power goes to the person who's respected, who has the deepest understanding of the human condition. Money doesn't enter the picture until Sunday, and then it's more about sheer entertainment and creativity than financing. Playing with the kids will cost, but not as dearly as changing your domestic arrangement on a whim.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Dancing by the light of the full moon this Halloween? Do it in the neighborhood or on native soil. Staying close to home can have dramatic results, producing a big-enough show to amuse family and friends for quite a while. And best of all, you don't have be the star, a Scorpio or Aquarius can play that part if you want to sneak off into the bushes. But make sure nobody's there casing the joint; security is an issue when Mars and Pluto meet at your house. Better check the locks, fuses, plumbing, etc.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Curiosity can too easily kill the cat this Halloween, so take precautions before you become too familiar with a stranger or a weirdness new to you. And if you're inspired to buy like mad, fight that feeling, too. Tackiness just might replace tastefulness this week. Fun, but ultimately folly. Writers, teachers and sales people, however, should give their all to their latest because passion pays off in spades. Advertise, philosophize and propagandize about the changes you want made now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

A more hopeful, better-looking change goes down at home or among family members while your Venus ruler tests the upsetting Uranus-Neptune vibe that's been hanging out in your Fourth House this year. This should be the last domestic inconvenience of '93, so get it over with and get on to something else. Come January, you might have to make new arrangements. Come Wednesday, you'll try to make peace with an intractable child or lover after they've been denied something they dearly desired on Sunday. Big day on the 8th.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You've felt it coming and now it's here: Catharsis, redemption, restitution, call it what you will. While Mars and Pluto, your two ruling planets, meet in Scorpio, you are honor-bound to get your due. Let's hope you've been the soul of goodness and can welcome your resurrection with open arms. (Bad guys go to Hades in a hand basket, which might be a trip worth taking.) This is the perfect backdrop for Halloween high jinks sacred, secretive, magical and extremely erotic, dangerous, too. Birthday bliss.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Associates, rather than true friends who know better, appeal to your on-again, off-again generosity by making a pitch for a political contribution or a social commitment you're not quite ready to give; awkward, but bearable. Less obvious, but no less forceful, are the demands your unconscious (or shrink) makes toward understanding and accepting a nasty aspect of your childhood or more likely, a nasty or troubled sibling. Good fortune through artists, decorators, etc. on the 8th.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)

Frivolous or fickle-hearted women who have some power over you exercise it this weekend. Hope all they manage to accomplish is a makeover. There's a certain amount of distress, but nothing major, no real character assassination or financial ruin. On the other hand, professional peers can do real damage if they attack what you value dearly. Are we talking about real life, a haircut or an extraordinary get-up for Halloween? Kiss and make up Wednesday night when loving Venus trines your Saturn ruler.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 18)

A high drama abroad may affect you at home. While your attraction to exotic people and places continues (for another week or so) you'll happily accommodate other lifestyles. This tolerance could get you through the less-than-happy events of the weekend, so don't abandon hope for a brighter future yet. Wednesday brings your just desserts and some sugar, too. Now, if only you could defuse militant governmental action, a suspicious employer or a paranoid parent, everyone (including you) would feel better.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 19)

I hate to remind you, but another of those ridiculously romantic, insanely inspirational Venus-squares-to-your-Neptune-ruler arrives just in time to transform you into a vision of beauty and/or beastliness for Halloween. Remember how willingly you sacrifice your all on the altar of art and spirituality? Before you manage to get nailed to the cross again, done in by another crusade, why not give your oppressor/idol the slip, fade into a crowd of supportive friends and save face? Maybe ass, as well.

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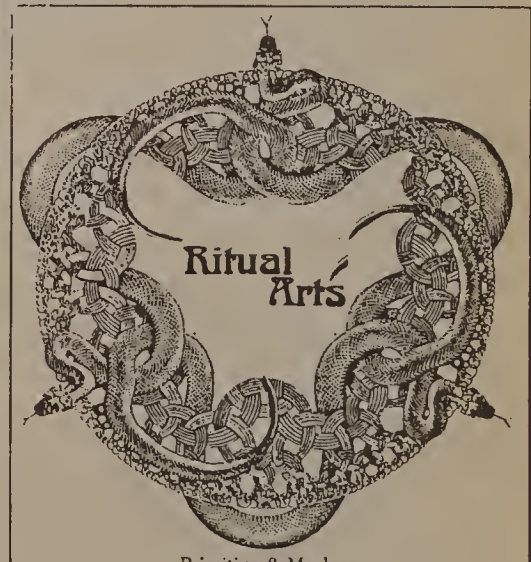
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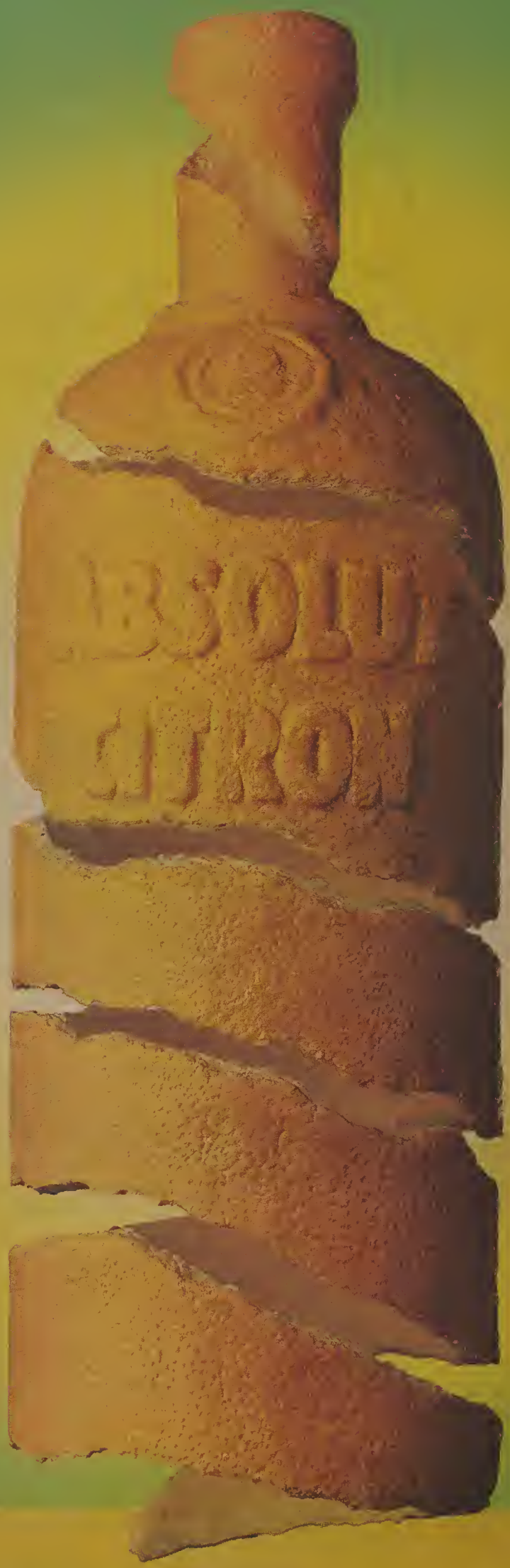
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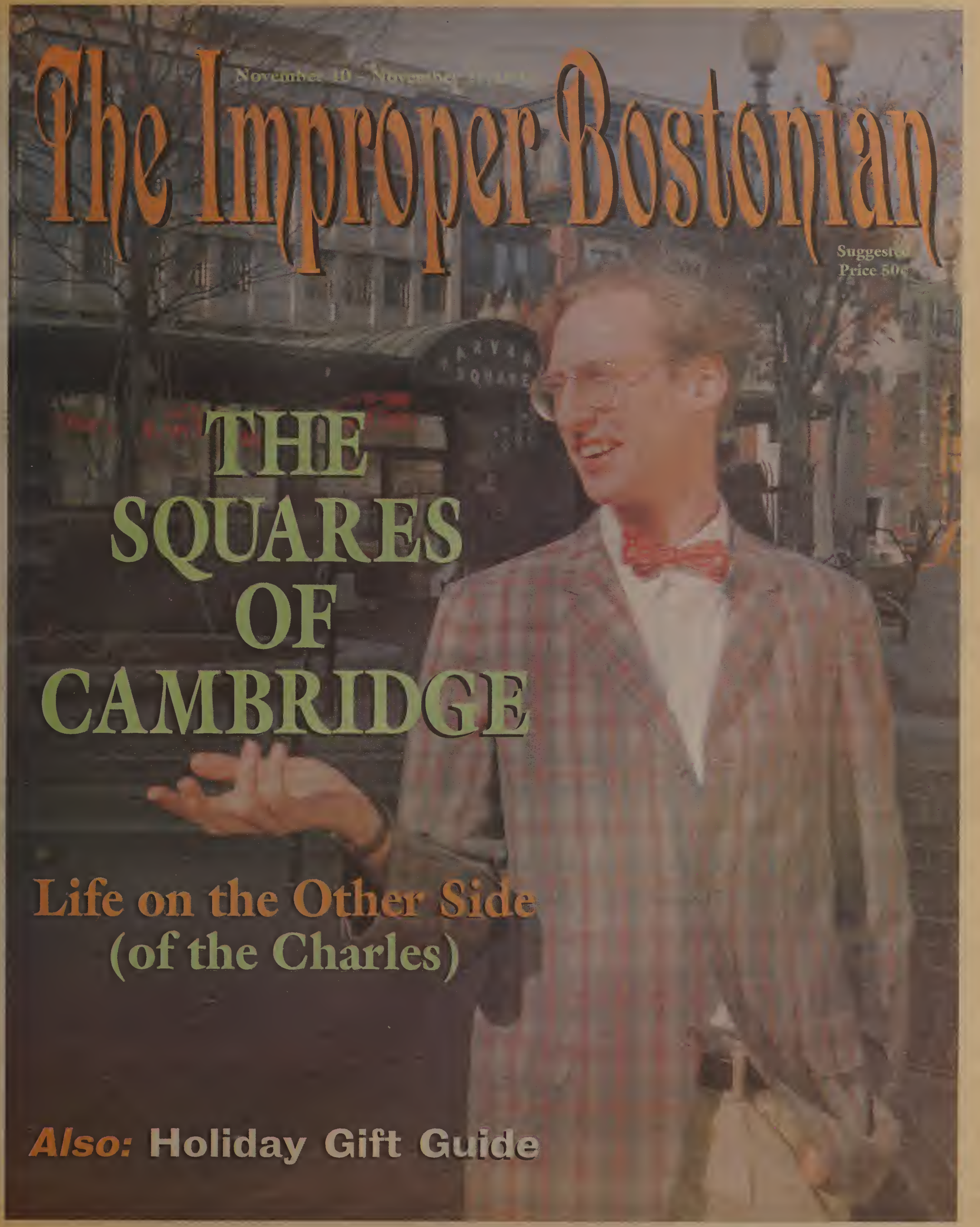
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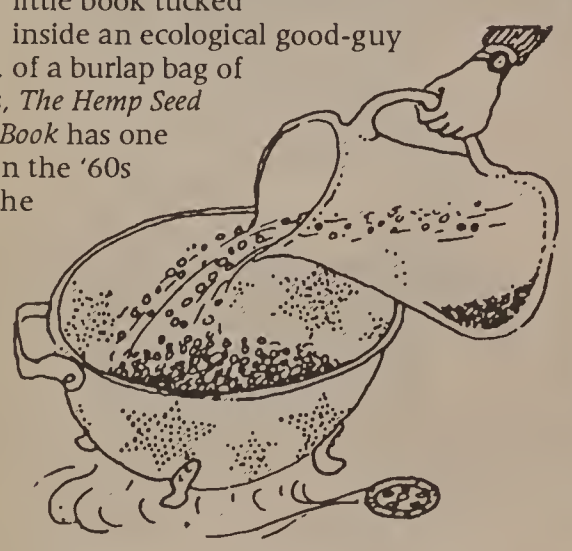
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The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Pot and Pans



A little book tucked inside an ecological good-guy of a burlap bag of seeds, *The Hemp Seed Cook Book* has one foot in the '60s and the other in a future it argues could be made mighty by the use of this ingredient. As the authors explain, with political anger (an irritation offset by the book's charmingly tidy, ink handwriting), the psychoactive properties of cannabis hemp have thrown people off the herb's ancient and could-be-again powers. Historically, hemp has been key in the production of food, fiber and cooking oil; it has all eight essential amino acids, and — coming in just behind soybeans — is 24-percent protein. Apparently, hemp has been the saving grace in times of famine for many countries and is now being studied for possible uses helping people with degenerative diseases. Moreover, since these seeds have been shown to support the immune system, researchers are examining hemp's potential for people with HIV. The book solemnly assures you that the enclosed sterilized seeds — although actually cannabis — will *not* get you high ("Neither will smoking the linen."). The authors then ask you to consider supporting the legalization of cannabis, not for oh-wow-stoned reasons, but for its many sober uses. The cookbook is full of commune-style recipes, using the seeds in walnut-loaf burgers, spirulina, even cookies. And, you can order hemp-linen fabric from the publishers, too.

The Hemp Seed Cook Book
The Ohio Hempery Inc.
14 North Court St., #300
Athens, Ohio 45701
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Anne Sexton Lives

As with Sylvia Plath, this other Massachusetts poet's after-death fame has multiplied through biographies and through our almost-pestilential fascination with the shadow cast backward by her suicide on the poetry itself. Anne Sexton gave a packed-to-the-rafters reading soon before she died in 1974, and for people who were there that night, the sound of her voice is haunting still. This recording of Sexton reading her poetry restores the fascinating resonance — a rich, ominous, brandied timbre — and the undeniable classiness of that voice to the experience of getting to know her work, again or for the first time. These poems about love, sex, incest, God, children and madness are full of her extraordinary, shocking, sometimes-comic imagery. Spoken here in her intense voice, her work has a triumphant and, somehow, threatening aspect added to her tenderness and her pervasive preoccupation with death. "The business of words keeps me awake/I am drinking cocoa, that warm brown mama./I would like a simple life,/Yet all night I am laying/Poems away in a long box./It is my immortality box, my lay away plan/My coffin."



Anne Sexton Reads
Published by Harper Audio/division of HarperCollins
at the Grolier Bookstore
547-4648



Bossy Boots and Hussy Hardware

Leapfrogging over the red-satin and black-lace corsets found at Victoria's Secret, Hubba Hubba — with a slightly antic whip in hand — caters to people on the wilder shores of sexy attire. And whereas the shopping needs of the rough-tough bondage crowd are met here with face masks and chain vests (the window itself offers a good representative cruise and the fainthearted may stop there); in fact, Hubba Hubba, a rebellious-teen-of-a-store that's been on Mass. Ave for 15 years, has outlived staider stores. A very entertaining place to visit, Hubba Hubba doesn't make non-whippers feel too square. The store carries items by companies with names such as Lust, Lip Service, Stormy Leather and Big Sex, which produce leather lingerie and latex tops and pants (latex is "huge" among fetishists, as is stretch viny), mostly in black, otherwise usually in red. You should not be surprised to find absent parts of the clothing or blatantly naughty pictures and words printed on them. A big thing to see is *through*. Madonna has left her mark in corsets whose bras are stitched in a bull's-eye pattern. A certain Very Big Local Rocker shops here and is apparently a fan of the black-vinyl-bondage Barbies. The Hubba market stretches — like vinyl — from practitioners of the bondage arts to people with a religious kink to those just fliply flirting with the dress-up nightclub version of the look. The store is closed on Sundays, because as Hubba Hubba's Martin put it, "Even bossy people have to recuperate." Shop hours are 12:30-7 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Hubba Hubba
932 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge
492-9082

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146

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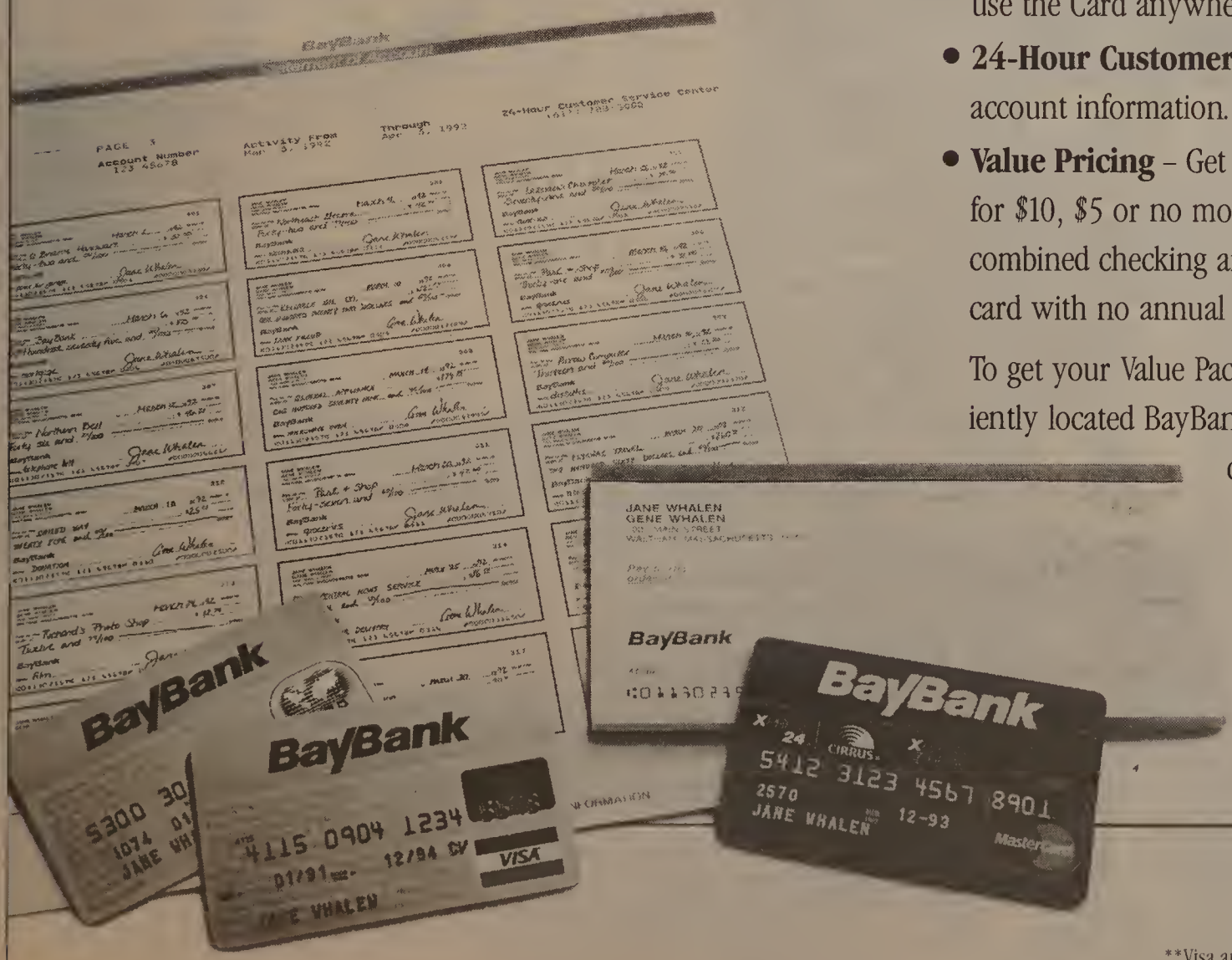
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Square Routes



Harvard, Central, Inman, Porter and Kendall Squares are nestled in a lot more than the People's Republic of Cambridge. Sure, it's the mecca of multiculturalism and vegetarians, but the six-mile city also harbors Republicans, computer geeks and the extinct great auk. Read all about it in this square guide to Cambridge and follow our Improper pointers to living on the other side (of the Charles).

By Gerald Peary

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Farewell, Fellini

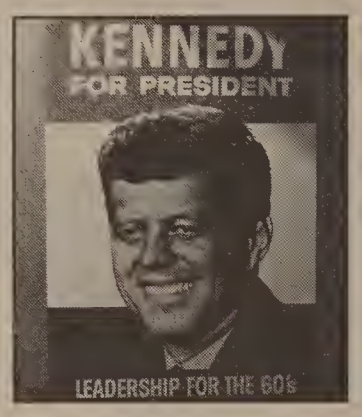


The Master of the Imagination, Federico Fellini, is dead, and — horribly — so is River Phoenix, at 73 and 23 respectively, mourns critic Gerald Peary. In this issue, his column pays homage to the Italian maestro and his masterpieces, especially *La Strada*.

By Gerald Peary

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Kennedy Museum



Twenty-five years ago, John F. Kennedy signed the Social Security Act and changed the way Americans lived. On the occasion's anniversary, a quarter of a century later, the Kennedy and Clinton families gathered at the new Kennedy Library and Museum to honor the legacy of JFK's political and personal life. Here are the historic moment's sights and sounds.

By Gina Benedict/ Photography By Paul Pilcher

On the Cover

Photographer: Jim Sullivan

Model: Pelham Humphrey

Corrections/ Notes:

We neglected to credit John S. Hall's film reviews in our 10/27 horror-at-home issue.

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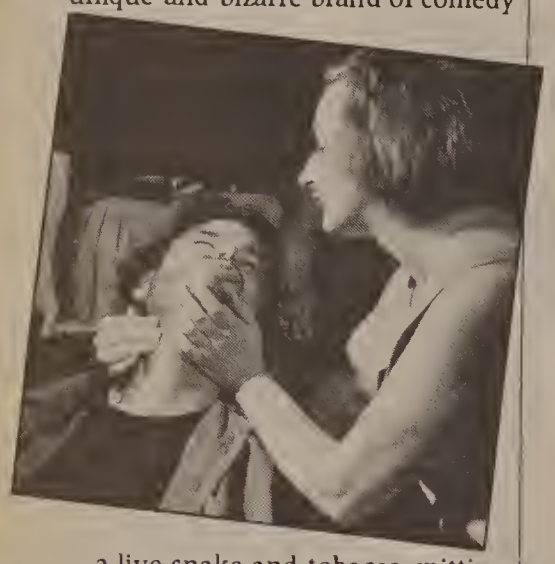
CITY RAVE

BY JENNIFER KORNREICH

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

COMEDY/THEATER

The Cantab Lounge in Central Square (738 Mass. Ave; 354-2685) is no longer just a dive for serious drinking and serious jamming. **Catbox Cabaret**, a small troupe that mixes its unique-and-bizarre brand of comedy



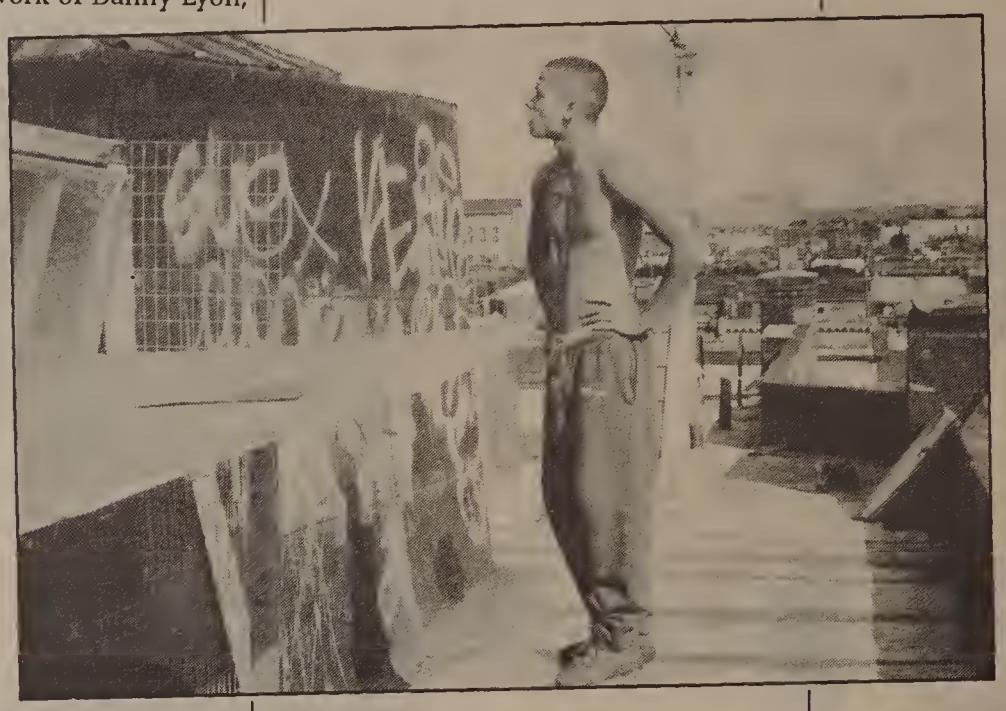
— a live snake and tobacco-spitting are incorporated into the show — with (mostly) original songs, shacks up in the basement of the Cantab every Saturday night. Starting at 8 p.m., the Catbox presents its own sketches and those of other underground troupes it produces. At 10:30 p.m., you get a chance to slip out of the carcinogenic room and breathe smoke-free air until 11:30, when the second, wilder part of the night, **The Claw**, begins. The Claw is an open forum for all sorts of artists to showcase their work until the wee hours. The only time slot that's prepared is the half-hour devoted to Catbox's ongoing serial, *Once Upon a Time in the Decline of the West*, an experimental work reminiscent of both Dickens and David Lynch. The entire evening, which is FREE, can be sorta *Twilight Zone*-ish and seedy; but it's always interesting, usually fun, and a nice break from posing like a fashion model at Newbury Street clubs.

BENEFIT

Los Angeles food-guru Michel Richard will be at Marais (116 Boylston St.; 482-7799) on Dec. 5 to benefit the **American Institute of Wine and Food**. At two seatings, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m., guests will have the opportunity to meet Richard, feast on a sumptuous four-course meal prepared by Chef Jackson Kenworth, with specially selected wines, and receive a complimentary signed copy of *Michel Richard's Home Cooking With a French Accent*. Limited seating, $125 per person. Call 482-7799 for details and reservations.

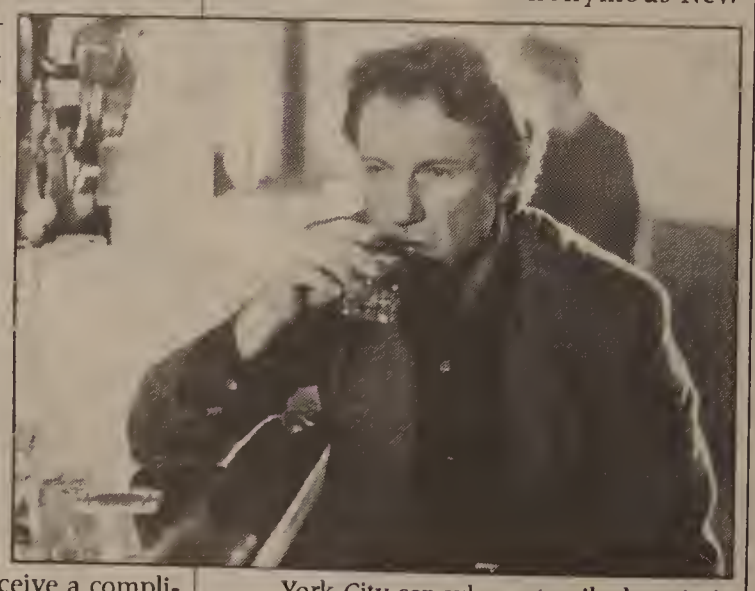
PHOTOGRAPHY

If you're a rebel without a cause, find your raison d'être at the Robert Klein Gallery, (38 Newbury St., 267-7997) now through Nov. 27. ***Rebel in America*** features the work of Danny Lyon, enfant terrible of the '60s and contemporary wanderer on a quest to capture the quintessential American spirit. Aside from his subjects, Lyon himself is the epitome of rebellion; he enjoys the distinction of having shared time in jail with Martin Luther King in Georgia. The *Bikeriders* series, documenting his affiliation with the Chicago Outlaw Motorcycle Club, is rumored to have been the visual guide for the film *Easy Rider*. *Conversations With the Dead* captures Texas prison inmates on death row; the series contributed to revamping that state's penal system. The debris of demolitions, the 1986 Haitian uprising, and heroin dealers in the Bushwick section of Brooklyn in 1993 round out this stark-but-dynamic exhibit. Oh, and if that's not enough to convince you, President Clinton digs this photog, too. Check it out. Pictured above right: *Boobie* from Lyon's Bushwick series.



VIDEO

Bad Lieutenant: A movie that makes the LAPD look saintly. Harvey Keitel gives an unabashed, electrifying performance as the anonymous New



York City cop who out-evils the criminals he's supposed to catch. The Seven Deadly Sins would be child's play for Keitel's anti-protagonist, who indulges his diabolical cravings in creative ways. Especially riveting are Keitel's mental rape of two girls he pulls over for driving without a license and the real, very carnal rape of a nun by two boys in Spanish Harlem, a case that Keitel investigates at the cost of his last shred of sanity. Rated NC-17, *Bad LT* is not for the squeamish. Ideas, as well as imagery, are designed literally to shock you into using your noggin. To be sure, the adjective in this movie's title is an understatements.

SPORTS

Ahoy, mateys! Can't bear to give up your summer sailing? You don't have to, now that Community Boating Inc. (21 Embankment Road) devotes every Saturday and Sunday to its **Frostbiters on the Charles River** membership. Between Nov. 1 and Nov. 29, 9 a.m. to sunset, for $45, experienced nautical types (no beginners, please) can forge the waters of the Charles River Basin from the Longfellow Bridge to the Mass. Ave. bridge. Participate in competitive racing, or just do your own mellow thing. For info and reservations, call 523-1038.

FOOTBALL WIDOWS

The North End's G'Vanni's (2 Prince St.) is leading the way for restaurants that seek to add a dimension to the merely gastronomic: organizing weekly social events that incorporate food and friend-making.

If you find, all too often, that your lump-of-a-male companion leaves his butt-prints on the couch, just for a glimpse of the Patriots' tight pants, don't love him — leave him! Every Sunday and Monday from noon to midnight is **Football Widow's Special Night**, a much-needed version of Girls' Night Out. For only $19.95, you and your buds each get a four-course meal: any appetizer, salad, entree and dessert on the menu. G'Vanni's reports that Monday is the more popular night of the two, when lonely ladies left for linebackers take over at least a third of the room.

For **coed noshing**, G'Vanni's invites single diners to leave a message on its answering machine. The restaurant will then organize a party of four single men and four single women to dine at one table for $24.95 each, on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday night.

Did we mention that for both events, parties of six or more receive free limo service? Call 523-0107 or 720-3663 for details and reservations.

PETS

If your dog is Cujo, you need not apply to the third-annual **Pedigree® Bay Colony Dog Spectacular**, held at the Bayside Expo Center (Exit 15 off the Southeast Expressway) Nov.



11-14 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 1,200 pedigreed canines will vie daily for "Top Dog" honors. More than 130 breeds will be featured and insiders expect human attendance to reach into the several thousands. Concession stands and public-service booths will provide pooch trinkets, dog food, grooming accessories and pet toys for sale. Tickets are available at the door: $5, adults; $2, children/seniors; free for kiddies accompanied by an adult with a Pedigree® dog-food label. For more information, call 783-5530.

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HOT TICKET

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

10 Happiness is ... going to see the **Peanuts** gang's *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* running at the Charles Playhouse, at 74 Warrenton St., Boston, Nov. 10-Jan. 2, 1994. It's a family musical, but fun for hipsters, as well. Call 426-6912.

THURSDAY

11 The one-man drama *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* was heralded an undisputed winner in the *New Yorker*'s survey of gay- and lesbian-oriented plays. It runs at the Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston, through Nov. 28; call 437-7172.

FRIDAY

12 The third annual **Voices Louder Than Words Benefit Reading for the Homeless**, 6 p.m. at Sanders Theatre in Harvard Square, features **Douglas Adams**, of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* trilogy, and many others. A reception follows; tickets are $12.50 for the reading, $50 for the reading and reception. Call 496-2222.

SATURDAY

13 Fasten your seat belts and put your seat backs in their full, upright and locked positions, because the **Museum of Transportation's Lifestyles and Wheels Benefit Auction** is tonight! With the right bid, you could walk off with plane tickets to Germany, a Range Rover off-road-training course, or many other travel-oriented items. Tickets are $15, $20 at the door; call 522-6547.

SUNDAY

14 Scrooge you! OK, so it's not even Thanksgiving yet - but that doesn't mean you can't do a little early shopping at the Sixth annual **Christmas Festival**, today and tomorrow at the World Trade Center. It's a celebration of crafts, antiques and gourmet foods!

THE GANG'S ALL HERE: You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown *plays at the Charles through Jan. 2.*

MONDAY

15 **Garrison Keillor**, the popular radio host, humorist and author of *Lake Wobegon Days*, performs his new show, *The Story of Guys* tonight at 8 p.m. at Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston. The performance includes songs, poems and stories about men, "one of the world's greatest genders." Call 266-1200 for ticket information.

TUESDAY

16 The Harvard Film Archive (24 Quincy St., Cambridge) honors one of America's prominent independent filmmakers, local documentarian **Frederick Wiseman**, with a retrospective of his work. Tonight at 7 see part one of *Near Death*, a look at how people — inside and outside the institution — face death at the Medical Intensive Care Unit at Beth Israel Hospital. The remaining two segments continue Nov. 17-18. Call 495-4700 for information about the film series and other offerings.

WEDNESDAY

17 Hey, if Bill and Hillary can take a day off to see this, so can you. **The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum**, at Columbia Point in Dorchester, has been newly remodeled. It focuses on the political career and family heritage of President Kennedy, and the era in which he led our nation. Call 929-4523.



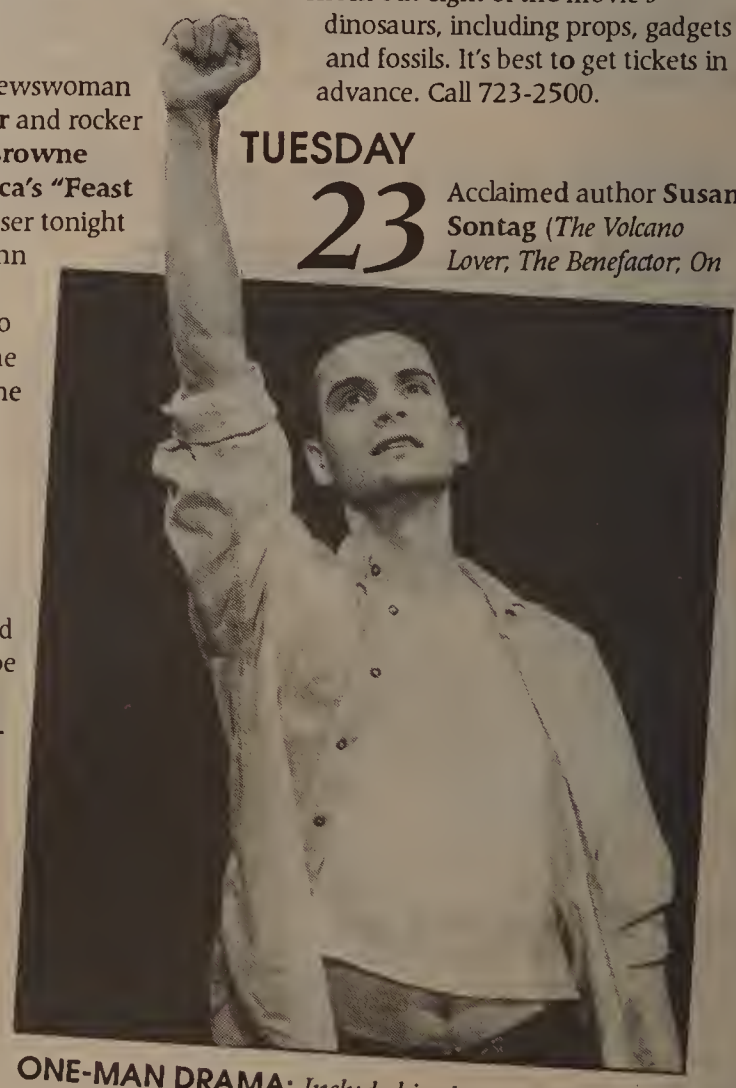
EXTINCT EXHIBITION: *The Museum of Science has fossils, props and models on display in its* Dinosaurs of Jurassic Park *exhibition.*

THURSDAY

18 WBZ-TV newswoman **Liz Walker** and rocker **Jackson Browne** attend **Oxfam America's "Feast or Famine?"** fund-raiser tonight at 8 p.m. in the Old John Hancock Building, 180 Berkeley St., Boston. To reveal fully how bad the hunger problem is in the world, 15 percent of those who attend this event get a gourmet meal; 25 percent share rice and beans; and the remaining 60 percent stand in line for rice and water (even Liz could be in this category!). Tickets are $25; $10 for students, seniors and low-income. Call 482-1211.

FRIDAY

19 As our community becomes even more culturally diverse, **Boston International Fest** returns Nov. 18-21 at the Bayside Expo Center. More than 75 regional ethnic communities will be on hand to present an exciting exhibition of art, music, dance, crafts, food and fashion. Tickets are $8; proceeds benefit the March of Dimes. Call 861-9729.



ONE-MAN DRAMA: *Included in the* New Yorker*'s survey of best gay-and-lesbian-oriented plays,* The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me *is onstage at the Lyric Stage through Nov. 28.*

SATURDAY

20 Care to dance? Boogie over to Boston's biggest dance party, the Fifth annual **AIDS Dance-a-thon** at the Hynes Convention Center on Boylston Street. It's a four-hour entertainment extravaganza, with dance tracks, live music, two-stepping, ballroom and world-beat tunes. Find out where to get a pledge sheet by calling 424-9255.

SUNDAY

21 Boston University celebrates the cooks and recipes of New England with **"Festival of Fare,"** featuring tastings, book-signings and cooking demonstrations by **Julia Child**, **Jacques Pepin** and **Jasper White**, of Jasper's Restaurant. The food fest (12-5 p.m.) is free to the public; food-and-wine tasting costs $5; cooking demos are $10 each. Call 353-9852.

MONDAY

22 Don't worry, the museum staff feeds them well. Learn the real story behind the Jurassic Park critters at the Museum of Science's ***Dinosaurs of Jurassic Park*** exhibition. Check out eight of the movie's dinosaurs, including props, gadgets and fossils. It's best to get tickets in advance. Call 723-2500.

TUESDAY

23 Acclaimed author **Susan Sontag** (*The Volcano Lover, The Benefactor, On Photography*) reads tonight at 8 p.m. in room 26-100 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. Best of all, it's free. Call 253-7894.

PROFILES

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER

Duncan Kennedy
Power, Politics and High Heels

BY JULIE FLAHERTY

Three years ago, Duncan Kennedy refused to have his picture taken for the *New York Times Magazine* "as a gesture of resistance." Now, amid the perpetually still-unpacking state of his office (in one of the more modern buildings at Harvard Law School, of course), he leans back and smiles for the camera.

The man with the quirky, free-flowing rhetoric, who has written "millions" of essays and speeches, is learning how to plug his first book.

"This is what it's like to be Alan Dershowitz — all the time," he says.

Not that this law scholar has been completely overshadowed by his colleague. In the late '70s, in his most famous burst of jurisimprudence, Kennedy and a handful of other professors founded the radical Critical Legal Studies movement. The school of thought, which gave a stiff sentence to the legal teaching system, would shake the legal education world and cause a schism in the university, which he said was "one of the most hide-bound institutions in the country 25 years ago."

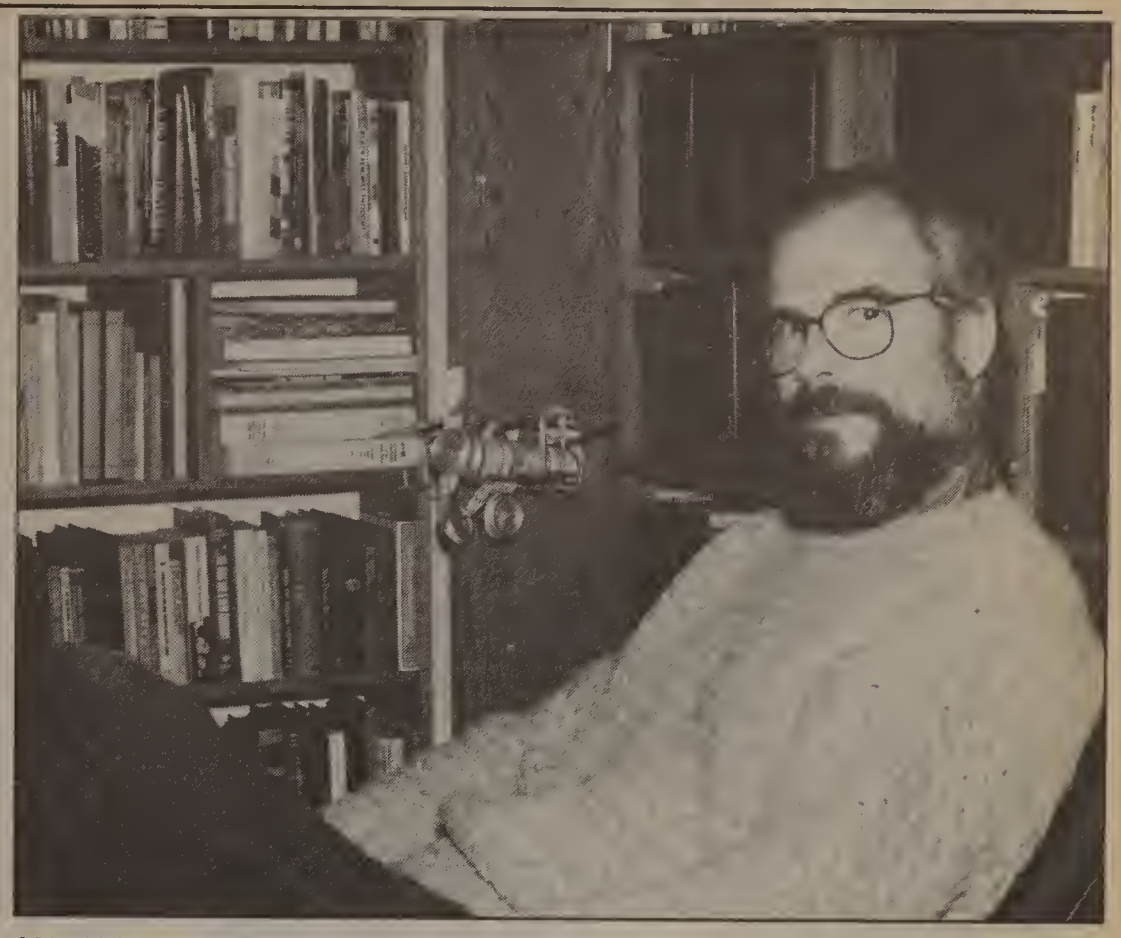
Kennedy, who not only admits to being "disruptive" but revels in it, may be trying to get a new goat with his recent book, *Sexy Dressing Etc.* Its titillating title — busty-corseted romance?, true crime? — is as misleading as the subject of one of its four very serious essays: women's erotic clothing and its cultural role in sexual assault and society.

"I don't think I would have dreamed of writing about this before the late '80s," he says, when what he describes as "postmodern, pro-sex feminism" came into existence. Specifically, he felt a straight, middle-class guy who had been radicalized by the war in Vietnam, the Civil Rights movement and the rise of women's rights in the '60s could finally participate in the dialogue of feminism.

"I wouldn't describe myself as a black nationalist and I wouldn't describe myself as a feminist, but I'd describe myself as a white-male radical looking for allies," he says.

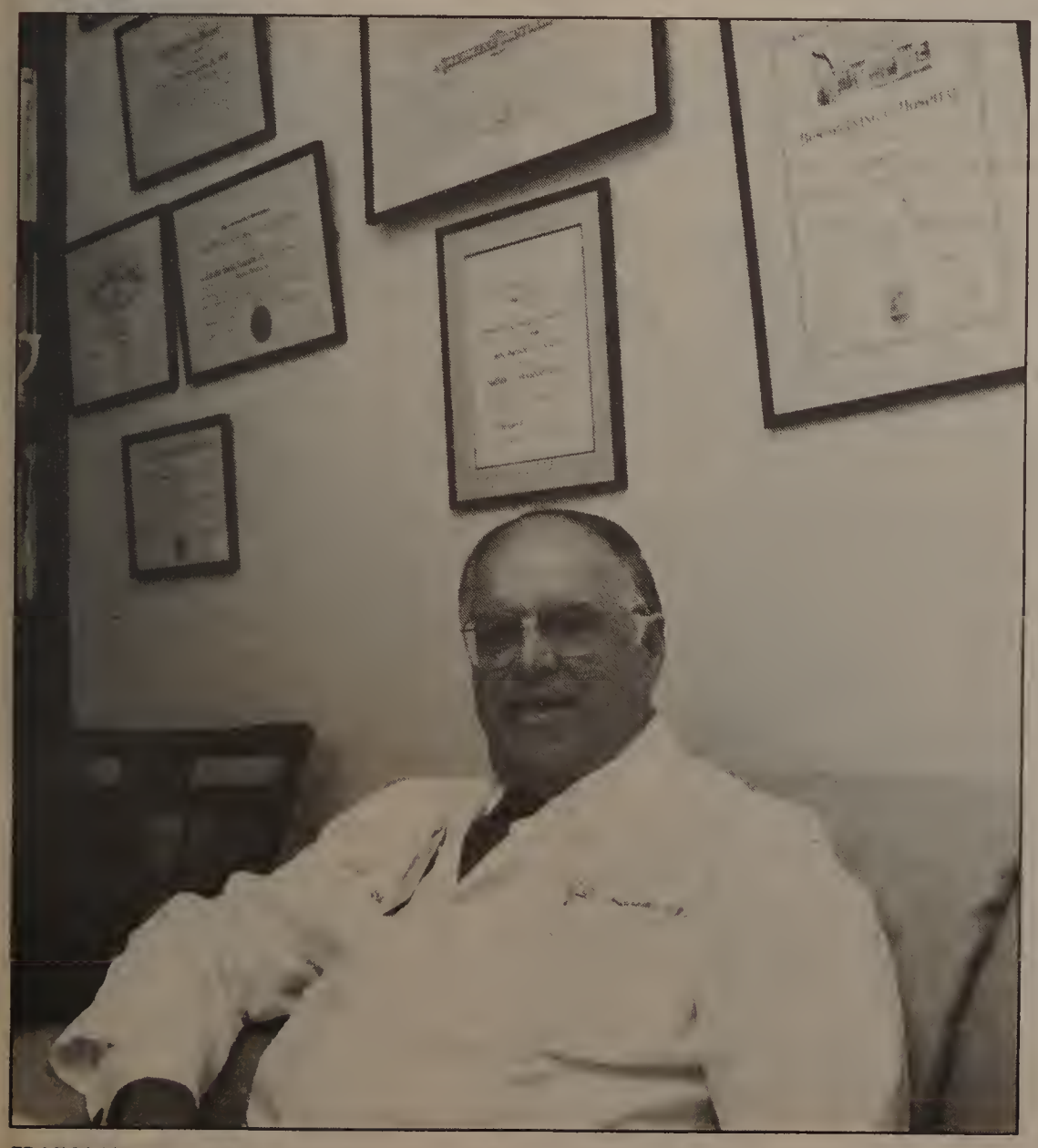
In the book, subtitled *Essays on the Power and Politics of Cultural Identity*, Kennedy sees himself as "a combination of academic, political activist, voyeur, magazine-reader, cable-watcher and intellectual."

Above all that he puts the title of family man, with a wife (of 28 years), two daughters (grown), one cat, two parakeets, and a house in Cambridge (old, run-down Victorian).



MASCULINE-FEMININE: *Harvard Law Professor Duncan Kennedy's new book,* Sexy Dressing Etc., *examines gender and power.*

"I love Boston," says Kennedy, who has lived here his entire life. "It is a place where there is an awful lot of class-and-race antagonism and anger. But in a way, I think it's good to live in a city like that. It keeps you aware of the fact that there are people who really think they are being screwed, and that a lot of people are very aware that there are privileged people who are in some ways ripping everybody else off."



TRAILBLAZER: *Dr. Frederic Frigoletto, new chief of ob/gyn at Massachusetts General Hospital.*

Dr. Fredric Frigoletto
Labor of Love

By Jonathan Kooker

When Frederic Frigoletto first set his sights on medicine, the specialty that would always beckon was the hope and wonder of babies taking their first steps. Ever since he found his calling, Dr. Frigoletto, until recently the chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Brigham and Women's Hospital, has dedicated himself to understanding and improving the health of his field of practice.

As the latest addition to a long list of research endeavors, Frigoletto and his colleagues are testing a hypothesis that involves new labor techniques. The team is evaluating whether a model of care known as Active Labor Management (ALM) can reduce the amount of time a woman spends in labor and lower the C-section rate of first-time mothers. Although the official results won't be published until the spring of 1994, current data suggests that the ALM technique can reduce the rate of C-sections performed each year by up to 60 percent.

Also near completion is his department's research on the effectiveness of ultrasound exams. Dr. Frigoletto points out that even if congenital defects are detected, there is little physicians can do to correct the problems during pregnancy. With the average cost of an exam around $200, some have questioned the value of having two or three exams over the nine-month period.

It comes as no surprise that Dr. Frigoletto has already solidified immediate plans for the future. He recently packed his stethoscope and waved good-bye to staff and friends with the same hand that has guided so many newborns into the world. He's not leaving medicine, or even the city; he merely traveled across town to begin his tenure as chief of ob/gyn at Massachusetts General.

Seated behind his desk, Frigoletto heads into this new phase of his career with his usual trailblazing spirit. "At Mass. General, we'll have the chance to build a facility, literally from the ground up. There are two new floors waiting for staff, students and new research programs."

Such responsibility might prove formidable for another, but Frigoletto intends to approach the challenge just like "a baby." His philosophy reflects his years of dedication to ushering new life into the world.

"You have to learn to crawl," he says, smiling, "before you can walk. We'll take things one step at a time."

The Squares of Cambridge

Life on the other side (of the Charles)

by Gerald Peary
photos by Jay and Carmi Paris



FREEWHEELING: *On foot or on bike, Harvard Square offers the adventuresome a Continental flavor, with its bookstores, coffee houses, film houses, and, not least important, more than 700 species of glass flowers.*

T. S. Eliot and Patrick Ewing and Helen Keller and Eugene O'Neill all have lived there, and Robert B. Parker and David Mamet and Julia Child reside there now. JFK was among six U.S. presidents who went to college there. Tommy Lee Jones and Al Gore were roomies there; and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Amy Lowell are buried there.

Harvard and MIT, and the Fogg, Peabody, and Sackler Museums are located there. Comfortably.

Still, Cambridge isn't for everybody.

Called the "The People's Republic of Cambridge" by suspicious outsiders, those who refuse to venture across the Charles River and who regard the Somerville-Cambridge border as a kind of invisible Berlin Wall. They can't accept that, in 1972, this maverick town voted for George McGovern while the real America went for Richard Nixon. Or that, through the 1980s, Cambridge seemed to have sister cities — in Russia, Nicaragua, etc. — wherever the Honorable Ronald Reagan declared global enemies.

Or that Cantabridgians back a mayor, Ken Reeves, who is (a) African-American, (b) openly gay and (c) the worst sin, a staunch booster of the notoriously pro-tenant rent-control law.

Is Cambridge's stereotype as a radical haven an exaggeration? Certainly, there are pockets of Republican preppy yuppies about (Bill Weld, for instance), and, far more prevalent, three-decker-and-church, blue-collar families who back the police and fire departments and have voted for decades to keep conservatives such as Walter Sullivan (and now his son, Michael Sullivan) doing their stuff on the City Council.



MULTICULTURAL MECCA: *What makes Cambridge exciting, enthralling, is undeniably its willful Otherness. There's no getting around that the city's six-square miles are positively overrun by backpacking college students, street musicians and magicians, vegetarians, lesbians, Haitians, anti-nuke activists, and multiculturalism, as people from all over the globe take to its streets and shops and bookstores.*

And, yet, what makes Cambridge exciting, enthralling, is undeniably its willful Otherness. There's no getting around that the city's six-square miles are positively overrun by backpacking college students, street musicians and magicians, storytellers, vegetarians, lesbians, Haitians, anti-nuke activists, and various-and-sundry '60s liberals.

And there's no end to brainy, educated people. Peek into a Cambridge window and you will see ... bookshelves.

Finally, in recent days especially, multiculturalism reigns. All sorts of people — from about everywhere on the globe — are walking the streets, attending school, starting up businesses, and transforming Cambridge into an even more vibrant, dynamic, adventurous place.

Come on down!

Where to start? It's not exactly arid desert between them — still, there's a minioasis to be found at each of Cambridge's five squares.

Harvard Square

Begin with the mandatory stroll through Harvard Yard, the heart of ivy-covered Harvard University. That's where you'll find **Cambridge's Best Library**, the Widener, a rival to New York's 42nd Street Library for the size of its collection. Just outside the Yard is **Cambridge's Best Art Collection**, in Harvard's Fogg Museum, renowned for its Rembrandt drawings, important French Impressionist and Postimpressionist paintings, and its first-rate American Abstract Expressionists.

Nearby is the Busch-Reisinger Museum, a major depository for the works of artists who fled the Third Reich, including the largest collection of Bauhaus work outside of Germany. Also, visit the recently built Arthur Sackler Museum, specializing in Eastern and Oriental Art.

Cambridge's Best Museum is the Agassiz Museum of Comparative Zoology (1859), also on Harvard's campus. The public sees only a small portion of the museum's 10-million mollusks, 6-million insects and 250,000 bird specimens. And yet, what is there is enough: Extinct flying creatures such as the great auk, passenger pigeons, remains of the largest turtle to crawl the earth, a 750,000,000-year-old dinosaur egg, etc.

Visitors get four Harvard Museums for a single admission. Besides the Agassiz, there's the Museum of Mineralogy and Geology, the Peabody Museum of Archeology and Ethnology (wonderful figurines from Mayan excavations, Hopi musical instruments, etc.), and the Botanical Museum containing perhaps **Cambridge's Most Spectacularly Kitschy Sight**. There's no content; it's all dazzling style: the world-famous Ware collection of glass flowers: 700 species recreated with uncanny realism by two German artists in Dresden between 1877 and 1936. But why?

Do you want more culture in Harvard Square? The Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., is the **Best Repertoire Film House** in all of America, with splendid, idiosyncratic double features seven days a week. The Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St., **Cambridge's Best Art House**, specializes in serious movies from around the world, usually in 35 m.m. (A selection of recent Greek films shows until Dec. 14.)

Cambridge's Most Skilled Theater Company is the American Repertory Theater (ART), founded by critic Robert Brustein and housed at the Loeb Drama Center on Brattle Street. The ART is most famous for its collaborations with such avant-garde figures as director Peter Sellars, playwright Robert Wilson, and composer Philip Glass.

Folk music? Cambridge is where it all began, more than 30 years ago, for Radcliffe student Joan Baez at Club 47, now Passim's, **Cambridge's Best Folk Venue**, as friendly and informal as ever, at 47 Palmer St. Jazz? The big names pass through the slightly too-upscale Regattabar in the Charles Hotel. Blues? That's what the House of Blues is named for, at 96 Winthrop St. Bookstores? Wordsworth Books, 30 Brattle St., is unbelievably well stocked with new hardbound works and paperbacks. It's **Cambridge's Best New Bookstore**. Also, try Barillari Books around the corner, at 1 Mifflin Place, for deep discounts. **Cambridge's Best Remaindered-Bookstore** may be the best of its kind in America: the Harvard Bookstore, 1256 Mass. Ave. That's where you go to pick up an intellectual. **Cambridge's Best Used Bookstore**? McIntyre and Moore at 8 Mount Auburn St. is the most comprehensive, although unusual items crop up on the shelves of the Pangloss Bookshop at 65 Mount Auburn.

Now, let's stop and eat.

Cambridge's Best Lunch is the $5.95 all-you-can-eat at the Bombay Club, 57 JFK St., superb Indian fare including devil-red Tandoori chicken, and with a fine view of the Square. Also highly recommended: veggie lunches at Grendel's, 89 Winthrop; the great beef-brisket sandwich at Rosita's in the Atrium on Church Street; fried-oyster sandwiches with lettuce and tomato at Skipjack's, 5 Bennet St.; Bartley's, 1246 Mass. Ave., for basic burgers, of course, and trusty meat loaf.

For dinner: the Shilla Restaurant , 95 Winthrop, for sublime hot-peppery Korean meats and soups; The Dolphin Seafood, 1150 Mass. Ave., very cheap, fresh from the ocean, plenty of food, no frills, the perfect place to take unpretentious out-of-towners and hungry relatives;. The Harvest Restaurant, 44 Brattle St., for demanding, elite out-of-towners who don't mind paying for fancy wines and classy food. **Cambridge's Best Service:**. Skipjack's again, 5 Bennet St., for a broiled-fish dinner, beginning with **Cambridge's Most Glorious Hors d'Oeuvres**: the $8.95, pink-centered tuna sashimi, Skipjack's *signature* dish.



SOUTHERN STARS: *The hot shots at Jake and Earl's barbecue joint in Inman Square are Elvis and the burnt-ends pork sandwich, with baked beans and watermelon.*

Kendall Square

The home of MIT doesn't look that promising when you exit the T. The streets are austere and functional, surrounded by high brick buildings. However, a quick exploration brings dividends. **Cambridge's Best Public Art** is surely the metallic galaxy and park benches at the gateway to Kendall Square. Within the Cambridge Center at One Kendall Sq. is **Cambridge's Best Fast Food Emporium**, including Sbarro, with luscious deep-dish pizzas, and Yummy, with a soulful, $5, real-fried-chicken plate. At 20 Ames St. on the MIT campus is **Cambridge's Most Adventurous Art Gallery**, the postmodern List Gallery, brilliantly curated by Ron Platt and Helaine Posner. The current show, *The Anxious Salon*, is a sexually challenging redoing of monumental European painting.

The MIT Press Book Sale Annex at 55 Hayward St. boasts a most-unusual selection of remaindered works on robotics, artificial intelligence, art, and architecture. Quantum Books, 4 Cambridge Center, 4 Cambridge Center, specializes in hardware and software. It's **Cambridge's Best Computer-Bookstore.**

Cambridge's Best SecondHand Clothes Store is the Garment District at 200 Broadway, a warehouse of punk, hardcore and rock 'n' roll fashion. And where else to get **Cambridge's Best Fish Chowder** than at Legal Seafood's, 5 Cambridge Center? Also much recommended at Legal: the draft beer, the Bloody Marys, the clam chili, the halibut dinner, and bananas Foster for dessert.

Recently, the MIT-food action has moved to 1 Kendall Sq., several blocks away on Hampshire Street. There's lots to like: the soups with soba-and-udon noodles at the Goemon Japanese Noodle Restaurant; the



DOG DAYS: *During rush hour, Central Square springs to life, and its denizens, such as the Dog Lady, take to the sidewalks of Massachusetts Avenue.*



ESPRESSO LANE: *Cantabridgians, more Continental than their neighbors south of the Charles, know the art of lingering in cafes.*

drunken pork chops in Amber Ale at **Cambridge's Most Amiable Drinking Hole**, the Cambridge Brewing Co.; **Cambridge's Fanciest Brunch**, $15 on Sundays, at the Blue Room, also renowned for its Caribbean-style seafood.

Central Square

Ethnicity, rock clubs, doughnut shops, neighborhood characters. Drop in on Paul, smoking his pipe, at Paul's Shoe Repairs, 698 Mass. Ave. Talk about the Sox and her beloved Roger Clemens with Judy at the desk of the Cambridge Family YMCA, 820 Mass. Ave., on the way into **Cambridge's Best Pickup Basketball.** Chat with Sharif about black nationalism and Islam at Sharif and Isa's Oils and Book Center, a colorful cart of goods by the Harvest Cooperative Supermarket.

Cambridge's Best Used-Record Store is Cheapo Records at 645 Mass. Ave. where the employees, music savants, know EVERYTHING about every record ever released. Test them. **Cambridge's Best Night Out for Music** is a tie: Little Joe Cook holds forth with rhythm & blues at the Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., or Monday nights at the Greene Street Grill, 280 Greene St., when top local rockers such as Morphine play several sets to accompany the $8.95 Caribbean dinners from genius-St. Thomas cook, John Levins, **Cambridge's Best Ethnic Chef.**

Talking about great chefs: try the amazing home-cooked lunches by Iranian-born Yassamin Healy at the Plough and Stars, 912 Mass. Ave., along with **Cambridge's Best Beer on Tap.** Oh, the heavenly Black and Tan! But what if you prefer a Bud? **Cambridge's Best Cheap Beer Joint** is surely the Bradford Cafe, 452 Mass. Ave., which looks like the kind of place that the T-shirted Jackson Pollock crowd hung about in the 1950s.

These days, the Bradford's comfy booths attract the overflow crowd from both of **Cambridge's Best Rock Clubs**, the Middle East, 482 Mass. Ave., and around the corner, 10 Brookline St., at T.T. the Bear's.

The Central Square story would not be complete without mention of: the nurturing lentil soup at the Ethiopian-cuisine Asmara Restaurant, 739 Mass. Ave.; the South Indian specials at the Ghandi, 704 Mass. Ave.; the Syrian salad and beef-kabob sandwich at Moody's Felafel Palace, 25 Central Square; the cashew-chicken-salad sandwich at the Brookline Lunch, 9 Brookline St.; and **Cambridge's Best Homemade Soup**, at Cezanne's, 424 Mass. Ave.

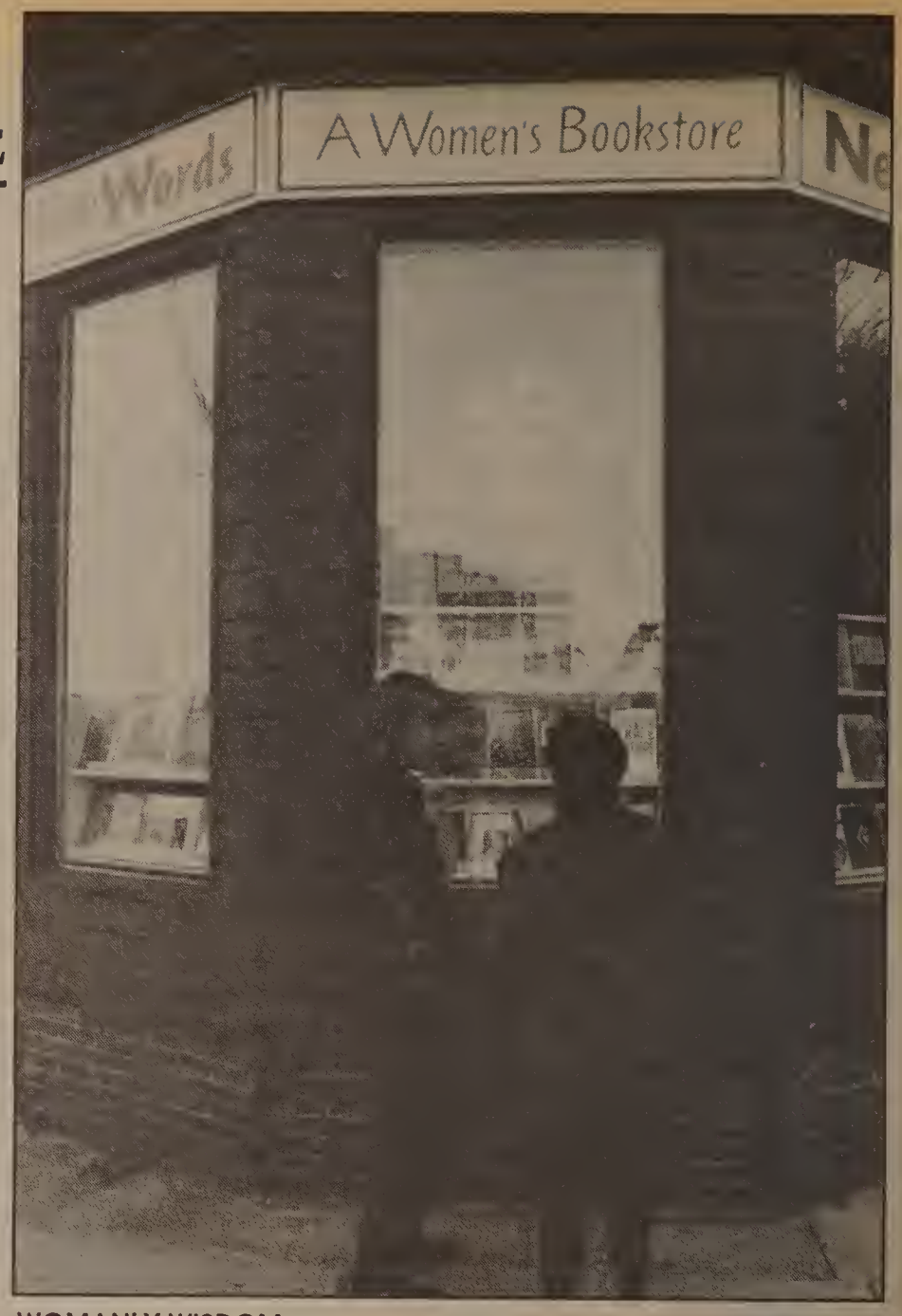
Inman Square

The only Cambridge square away from the subway, but worth the walk for: Rosie's Bakery, 243 Hampshire St., **Cambridge's Best Bakery** for a decade of dream bars, shortbreads, cakes and its truly world-famous chocolate orgasms. House of Sarah Books, 225 Hampshire St., **Cambridge's Most Underrated Used Bookstore**, a fine collection of literature, women's books, and — most unusual — books about women and religion. New Words, 186 Hampshire St., is **Cambridge's Best Women's Bookstore.** Casa Portugal, 1200 Cambridge St., so cozy and unpretentiously Continental, is **Cambridge's Most European-Feeling Restaurant.** Try the Iberian seafood dishes, with whiting and clams.

Dragonfly, at 1297 Cambridge St., **Cambridge's Most Hip Collectibles Store**, featuring old ashtrays, salt shakers, 1940s dresses, and a $1-box of wide ties. Also: the Back Alley Theatre, 1253 Cambridge St., for Improv Boston on weekends; Ryles, 212 Hampshire, for Berklee-influenced jazz, especially Friday's occasional Brazilian nights.

Frankly, the East Coast Grill has become haughty, smug and overpriced. Instead, the recommendation is to go next door (it's the same kitchen) to 1273 Cambridge St. for **Cambridge's Best Southern Barbecue** at the five-stooled Jake and Earl's. The burnt-ends pork sandwich, with baked beans and watermelon, is irresistible.

Or cross the street and join the crowds for the abundant food and real-Jewish-chicken soup, at the very reliable S&S restaurant, 1334 Cambridge St., certainly **Cambridge's Best Family Restaurant.**



WOMANLY WISDOM: *New Words, a landmark in Inman Square, holds a treasure of books by, for and about women. Especially strong is the feminine-spirituality section.*

Porter Square

With the T's extending toward North Cambridge in the last few years, Porter Square is coming into its own. The Porterhouse Cafe at 2046 Mass. Ave. has **Cambridge's Best Texas Barbecue**, and Christopher's at 1920 Mass. Ave., a great place for college students to gather, also makes **Cambridge's Best Hamburgers.** Marcella's at 1808 Mass. Ave. produces several of **Cambridge's Best Sandwiches.** Try the extraordinary roast beef with Italian sweet peppers or the chicken-salad pesto. The Bookcellar Cafe at 1971 Mass. Ave. has, nightly, has **Cambridge's Best Live Readings.** And Frameworks, 2067 Mass. Ave., has patient, knowledgeable artists advising you how to mount and hang photos and paintings, making it **Cambridge's Best Frame Store.**

The Porter Exchange in the old Sears Building at 1815 Mass. Ave. is a private universe, mostly Japanese. A best-of food tour inside would include: the spicy-chicken dinner at Cafe Mami; soups and boiled greens at the organic Masao's Kitchen; carrot juice or protein shakes at Juicy Jack's; the fantastic baked Sonoran chimichanga at Snakebites Canteen; **Cambridge's Best Margarita** at the Cottonwood Cafe; and shrimp-and-vegetable tempura with udon noodles, **Cambridge's Best Soup Dish**, at Ittyo's.

It's hard to be more hip and conclusive than **Cambridge's Best Video Store**, Hollywood Express, 1740 Mass. Ave., which has piles of foreign films, documentaries and even a special Alfred Hitchcock section. But if it's porno you want, there's no need to journey to the Combat Zone. Porter Square has it all at our last Cambridge stop: **Cambridge's Best X-Rated Videos** at City Video in the Porter Square Shopping Mall.

That's all! ❑



THE HOLE TRUTH: *Made fresh hourly, Bruegger's Bagels is no longer one of Porter Square's secrets. In the background are samples of the T station's public-art program.*

The Game

Harvard & Yale tackle 110th match

by Jay Fraser

On Nov. 20 Harvard and Yale will meet on the gridiron for the 110th time. "Gentlemen," Yale football-coach Tad Jones told his team in 1923, "You are about to play Harvard. You will never do anything so important for the rest of your lives."

The annual Harvard-Yale football match will always be "The Game," as Charles Loftus, Yale's director of sports publicity, dubbed it in 1948. To some, it's the premier athletic event of the fall. More-casual fans simply think of it as the renewal of one of the great traditions in college sports. Few realize, however, that this long rivalry has had a profound effect on the development of football in the United States.



EDWARD KENNEDY: *The right end scored Harvard's only touchdown in 1955. The team still lost.*

The first Harvard-Yale game was played on Nov. 13, 1875, in Hamilton Park in New Haven. It wasn't the first intercollegiate football match — that had taken place six years earlier between Princeton and Rutgers — but it predated the first World Series game by 30 years, and basketball wasn't invented until 1891.

Harvard won that first contest, four goals to none, in front of a small-but-enthusiastic crowd. Accounts of the game noted the accuracy of the Crimson passing attack as well as its running and "bodying." The captains of the teams agreed to meet again the following year and a tradition was born.

Another, more questionable, tradition also began after the game. As the *New Haven Register* reported: "Seven Harvard students were arrested in this city Saturday night for creating disturbances by hooting and singing in the public streets. They all gave fictitious names and deposited their watches and other articles of jewelry as security for a fine of $5.29 in each case."

In its early days, American football was based on English rugby. The playing field was 140 by 70 yards, the game lasted 90 minutes, and a team consisted of 15 men. The rest of the rules — and there weren't many — were subject to change and often ignored.

In order to systematize the rules, representatives form Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia came together in November 1876. They decided to call themselves the Intercollegiate Football Association and to meet every year. The head of the Yale delegation was a man named Walter Camp, who would later become captain of the Yale team and then its coach. Over the years Camp devised a number of innovations that would change the game of football forever. Up to that time, the play began with a rugby-style scrum, two loose groups of players pushing against each other. Camp suggested that teams should run individual plays starting from a line of scrimmage, and that a neutral space of one yard should be kept between the teams before the snap of the ball.

In the early game, a team could hold onto the ball until it scored, whether they were making any progress or not. In one particularly dreary contest, Princeton kept the ball for the entire first half and Yale kept it for the entire second. Camp suggested that a team should be given three chances to move the ball five yards, and if it failed they had to hand it over to their opponents. He called the chances "downs." He also suggested that to measure the advance of the ball, the field should be marked off with a chalk line every five yards. Camp's suggestions were all eventually adopted as rules, and still form the basis of the American game of football.

Throughout the decades, many men who went on to fame have worn the crimson or the blue on the gridiron. John Hersey, author, and Archibald MacLeish, essayist, playwright and poet laureate of the United States, both played for Yale. Gerald Ford, the 38th president, was an assistant football coach for the Elis in the 1930s.

Endicott "Chub" Peabody, who would later become governor of Massachusetts, was a guard on the Harvard teams of 1939 through 1941. He gained notoriety as the last lineman to play without a helmet. Two other prominent politicians also played for the Cantabridgians: Robert and Edward M. Kennedy.

Bobby Kennedy was a right end on the Harvard teams of 1945 and 1946. Although relatively small (5-foot-10; about 150 pounds) he played with great determination. He approached The Game in 1946 with a fractured right leg. Nevertheless, with his leg heavily braced and taped, he went onto the field with the kickoff team and even made a tackle.

Teddy Kennedy, also a right end, played on the Crimson teams of 1954 and 1955; he had a moment of glory during The Game in 1955. The match was played during a swirling snowstorm in New Haven; the Harvard offense was frozen, unable to move the ball. Late in the third quarter, Kennedy caught a pass deep in Eli territory and ran it in for a touchdown.

Unfortunately for Harvard, it was its only score of the day. Harvard lost, 21 to 7. ❑

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Holiday Gift Guide

YOU MUST EXPERIENCE "HUBBA-HUBBA" Stop by and see for yourself the jewelry, fetish, leather, body piercing, bondage stuff, sex toys, latex, boots and shoes. My personal favorites are the S+M Barbie dolls, and of course Ken dolls licking barbies' boots, for this gift-giving season! So c'mon down and spice up your choice in gifts this season. Besides, don't you think ties and wallets get a little old year after year? 'tis the season to be jolly and a little wild.
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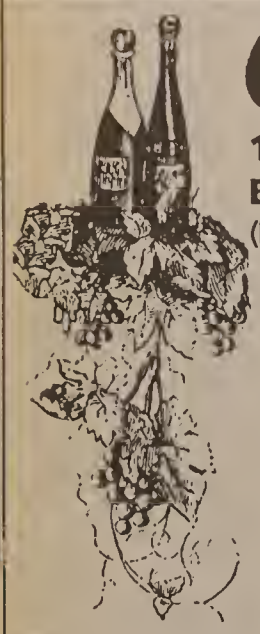
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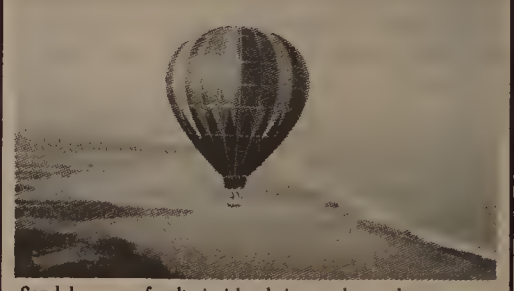
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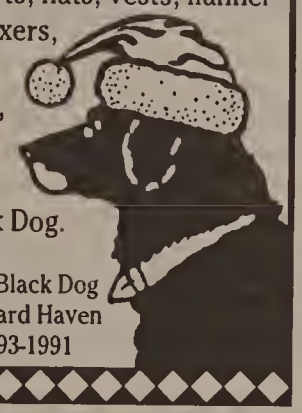
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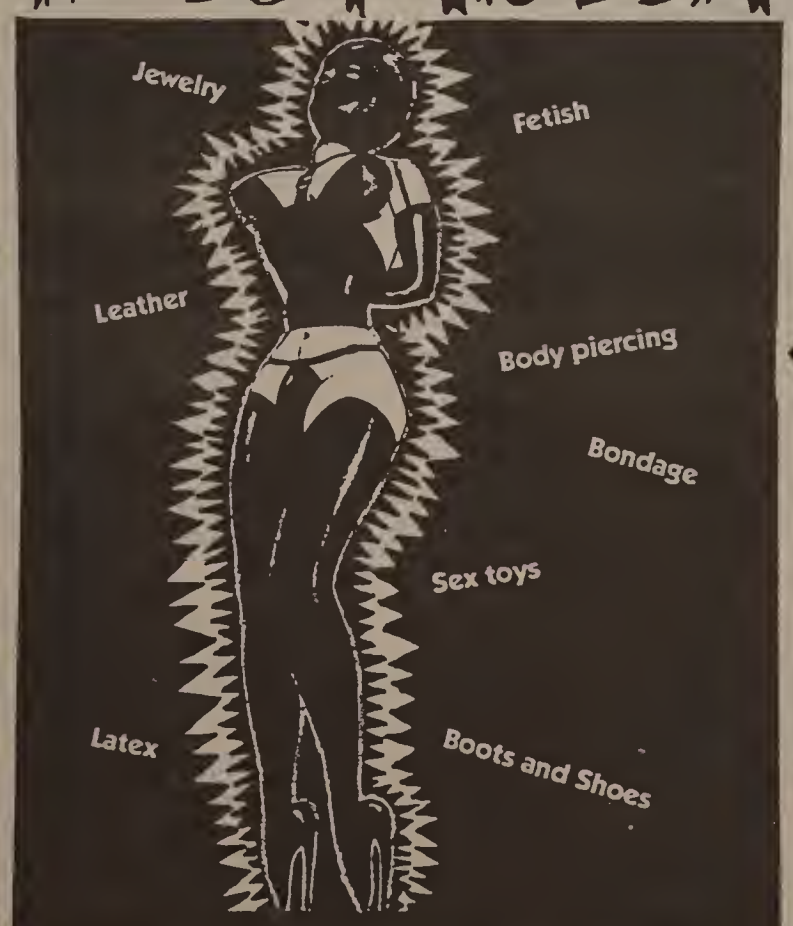
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THE BEVERLY HILLBILLIES
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Although some adjustment is needed for those of y'all who've grown attached to the original cast, the new Clampett family will quickly win you over with its backwoods ways and down-home hospitality. Elly May is a little tougher (she wrestles bears for honey) and Uncle Jed, a little less wise (he gets arrested for breaking into his own house), but Granny's still mixin' her elixir, and there's still a raccoon in the pot. The film is star-packed and very funny. The casting is right on the money — all except for Jim Varney (Uncle Jed) who can't seem to shed his Ernest image.

M.R. D'Entremont

A BRONX TALE
★★★

A solid, engaging work by first-time director Robert De Niro and playwright/screenwriter Chazz Palminteri about a boy who is torn between his love for two men: his decent working-class father (De Niro) and flashy, neighborhood goodfella Sonny (Palminteri). What keeps *A Bronx Tale* from being a straightforward morality tale is the fact that the "fathers" aren't so dissimilar: both are honorable men in their own fashion. Francis Capra as the young son is smart, impressionable and a wise guy — there's no question why he finds Sonny so appealing. Lilio Brancato as the teen-age son is not as convincing as a potential mobster. He's sweet, too sweet — there's no question he'd rather be loved than feared.

K. Wilson

FATAL INSTINCT
★★

If you've seen *Fatal Attraction*, *Basic Instinct*, and *Sleeping With the Enemy*, then *Fatal Instinct* will be worth a few laughs. This multiplotted spoof does contain some hilarious and clever twists (this time the family pet gets taken on a roller-coaster ride). But the film also carries many good jokes too far (the toilet-paper-stuck-to-the high-heels bit), and it has many just-plain-idiotic scenes (Bob Uecker's courtroom play-by-play in which evidence is tossed around). Armand Assante as the obsessor and Sean Young as the obsessee are OK, but the film as a whole is quite forgettable.

M.R. D'Entremont

FEARLESS
★★★

Why is this admirable film ultimately disappointing? The answer may lie in the uneven tone and disjointed story; maintaining a grip on the characters amid the confusion is difficult. Still, the surrealistic horror of the opening images — surveying the aftermath of a terrible plane crash — knocks the wind out of you. The film's mystical approach to the reluctant hero's (Jeff Bridges) new sense of invulnerability and ghostly detachment from his family is a welcome twist on the straight comedy of *Hero*. A good point for debate is the scene in which Bridges attempts to release fellow-survivor Rosie Perez's guilt about her dead baby by smashing his car into a brick wall. Is the scene merely absurd or is it justified as an oddly rational act that appears completely irrational?

J.W. Hall

THE GOOD SON
★★★

Macaulay Culkin shocks us as the precocious but sadistic Henry, who seems angellike to everyone except his visiting-cousin Mark (Elijah Wood). The tension builds as Mark continually uncovers and tries to expose Henry's dark side to deaf adult ears. Shot in Cape Ann, Mass., and Minnesota, the film is packed with effective, ominous "height" imagery: cliffs, bridges, wells and tree houses. Henry's lack of conscience and antisocial behavior are given no psychological explanation, but Culkin is quite convincing as the bad son and we readily accept him as just plain evil. Not recommended for children or acrophobics.

M.R. D'Entremont

HOUSE OF ANGELS
★★★

This warm, moving Swedish film about a young woman, Fanny (Helena Bergstrom), who moves from Berlin to a tiny Swedish village after inheriting her grandfather's estate takes on universal themes: city vs. country, change vs. tradition, and the individual vs. society. Fanny and her male companion, both flamboyant cabaret performers, shock the stuffy townspeople with their drinking, parties and black leather. We become convinced that Fanny and her friend are genuinely nice people, and at first the film succeeds in condemning prejudice. But when their behavior becomes increasingly outrageous in response to some of the townspeople's vicious attacks, the line between right and wrong blurs and the film loses its point.

M.R. D'Entremont

MALICE
★★

Good campy fun, although it's apparently meant to be a serious thriller. Taken at face value, the film is utterly ridiculous in all dimensions: plot, direction, acting, and most of all, writing. Yuppie college-town couple, played by Bill Pullman and Nicole Kidman, find their marriage is becoming strained after the new hot-shot doctor in town (Alec Baldwin) rents a room in their house. When Baldwin botches an operation on Kidman, she takes the huge settlement and leaves the dazed Pullman, who decides to track her down and discovers things aren't quite what they seem. Adding to the mess is a tossed-off subplot of a serial killer on campus. The best line belongs to the ultra-confident Baldwin: "I am God." Lots of shots of Smith College and Boston.

J.W. Hall

MR. WONDERFUL
★★★

Just try to resist the charm and chemistry of Matt Dillon and Annabella Sciorra (is she not the most lovable of today's girl-next-door actresses? What a smile!). It's quite impossible, even if they're placed in a romantic comedy that's as predictable as the alimony payments that irk Dillon. He can't stand forking over his electrical-worker wages to his ex-wife, Sciorra, who ditched him when she decided to go to college. He decides to resolve his anger by finding her a new husband, "Mr. Wonderful." You haven't seen enough Hollywood movies if you don't know the ending (the film pleads for the date-movie tag-line). Still, director Anthony Minghella gets terrific performances out of his leads and Dillon's frustrated girlfriend, touchingly played by Mary Louise Parker.

J.W. Hall

SHORT CUTS
★★★★★

Arguably the best film of the '90s, so good that it even survives an inadequate, less-than-earthshaking ending. The Robert Altman of *Nashville* still lives, thank God, re-energized by the collapsed moral center of middle-class Los Angeles. Altman weaves together several Raymond Carver short stories about couples fighting, falling apart and screwing around. It's a scathing, pornographic tragicomedy on the level of *Last Tango in Paris*, a film that takes chances and asks hard questions about what it means to be human. Breathtaking acting from Tim Robbins, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Jack Lemmon and Chris Penn, among a huge, great cast. Discussion groups ought to be mandatory afterward; so many emotions are stirred up, a release is needed.

J.W. Hall

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

Day of the Dead

"...The team who brought us *Howard's End* applies its literary sensibility to a story of a butler who realizes too late that he may have wasted his life..."

Everything about *The Remains of the Day*, even the title, is solemn, dignified and restrained. Producer Ismail Merchant, director James Ivory and screenwriter Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, the team who brought us *Howard's End*, are incapable of making a slapdash film that panders to its audience. Here they apply their literary sensibility to Kazuo Ishiguro's award-winning novel about a proper, perfect English butler who dedicates his life to serving his employer and realizes too late that he may have wasted it.



FATHER AND SON: *Mr. Stevens (Anthony Hopkins, right) and his father, played by Peter Vaughan, in* The Remains of the Day.

A wealthy American (Christopher Reeve) acquires Darlington Hall and its butler, Stevens, who served the former owner, Lord Darlington, for more than 20 years. The house's heyday during the '30s has long since passed; Lord Darlington is dead and the great rooms in which he hosted international conferences and secret meetings with heads of state are empty. The enormous serving staff is now a skeleton crew. When Stevens receives a letter from a former housekeeper (Emma Thompson) hinting that she may want her old job back now that her marriage is breaking up, he sets off on a motor trip to visit her.

Steven's journey is a trip down memory lane. The film moves back and forth between the present (the '50s) and the '30s to explore Stevens's key relationships and the turning points in his life. His aged father, a former butler whom Stevens hires as an underbutler, falls gravely ill in the middle of an important conference; Stevens carries on. Stevens becomes increasingly close to the housekeeper Miss Kenton (Emma Thompson) but is unable to admit that their relationship is anything but professional.

In spite of a marvelous performance by Anthony Hopkins, two hours is a long time to spend with a man such as Stevens. While it's true that Stevens is motivated and guided by the highest professional ideals, it's also true that he's a man who makes a virtue out of a necessity. Stevens is terrified of genuine human contact because he's terrified of losing control. Whenever Miss Kenton touches him, literally and figuratively, he lashes at her with his so-called professionalism.

The film has a watery, depressed feel. The director uses circles of light — a porthole in the pantry door or a car headlight — to suggest alternatively a telescope lens and a spotlight, both of which limit the world (as Stevens's world is limited), and, at the same time, highlight, illuminate and even distort it. Blue- and green-grays are used extensively, and the weather is often cloudy and damp. The music is monotonous and insistent. Stevens's father is so tall and pale in his black suit that he looks like a zombie and even Stevens, when illuminated by white light, looks dead at times.

The novel is bleak but less oppressive than the movie, and it feels more relevant. Told in the first person in Stevens's precise, utilitarian prose (he's keeping a trip diary), he soon launches into an exposition of what it means to be a great butler. Right away the reader learns about the star that guides this man, and the section puts subsequent events and relationships in a context that the movie can't fully provide. The book makes it quite clear — the film doesn't — that Stevens views his most-extreme, controlled behavior as triumphs of great butlering. When, in the novel, Stevens gives clear voice to his awareness and pain at having put all of his eggs in the wrong basket, It's a heartbreaking moment, but one that makes him a fully realized, meaningful character. There's no comparable moment in the movie, which takes away Stevens's voice.

Without it, he's just a cold fish. ❑

IF YOU GO

The Remains of the Day

★★

Directed by: James Ivory
Written by: Ruth Prawer Jhabvala
Based on the Novel by: Kazuo Ishiguro

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

FAREWELL, FELLINI

"...The immortal *La Strada* (1954) not only established Fellini as an important Italian director, but, when shown internationally, almost single-handedly created a new category of movie: the Art Film..."

I'm writing this the day after — following the weird, macabre Halloween that took away both actor River Phoenix, 23, and Federico Fellini, 73, the great Italian film director.

Phoenix's tragic death I can't fathom, nor talk about. As the years pass, it will become clear that he was this generation's James Dean. So, to Fellini ....

His death was not quite so unexpected. TV viewers around the world saw him, in obvious faltering health, accept a special Academy Award for Life Achievement last spring. Who can forget his looking into the Academy audience and addressing his sobbing wife, actress Giulietta Masina? "Please, please, stop crying, Giulietta," he gently admonished her, she whose tears confirmed Fellini's precarious hold on life.

Masina, of course, shares more than a long, long marriage with her director-husband. She was the fragile, Chaplinesque waif in Fellini's immortal *La Strada* (1954). The film not only established Fellini as an important Italian director, but, when shown internationally, almost single-handedly created a new category of movie: the Art Film. With *La Strada*, moviegoers decided that films could be as sensitive, symbolic and philosophical as literature. Fellini's success made it easier in America for, among others, Ingmar Bergman and Alain Resnais, Michelangelo Antonioni: foreign-tongued directors whose subtitled dialogue exuded Meaning.

These filmmakers deserve their intellectual reputation, and Fellini above all. Still, it's a bit off-putting to realize that many of Fellini's ardent fans don't like movies very much. He has been championed most fervently by those who disdain popular culture and sneer at everything ever produced by Hollywood.

Fellini may have been off-put as well by these snooty sycophants. As a youth, he ran away with the circus, and, whenever possible, he squandered his days at the popular movie house. After that, he made a living by drawing crude cartoons and was later employed as a tabloid journalist.

Given a chance to make his own films, he happily populated them with live-action comic-book heroes: (*The White Sheik*), broken-down actors (*I Vitteloni*), circus performers (*The Clowns*) and tacky stars (*La Dolce Vita*). What can his elitist adulators make, for example, of his affectionate casting in *La Dolce Vita* of the bosomy, Swedish sex-queen Anita Ekberg and ex-Tarzan-of-the-apes Lex Barker? Is Fellini that far from the trashy cult films of Baltimore's John Waters, which show off such third-rate luminaries as Joey Heatherton and Sonny Bono?

"Well, there's *8 1/2*," declare Fellini believers, bringing up his most revered, honored work. High modernism. The Cinema as Art.

"The most overpraised film ever made," I say.

Has there ever been a more bloated, conceited, self-indulgent, self-important work? A more sexist, retrograde paean to the Male Creator? God, all those grotesque faces pushed into the camera, all those ugly people ridiculed by the extreme wide-angle lenses. All those busy, busy scenes, as if profundity is measured by how many frantic images pop into the frame.



LA STRADA: *Federico Fellini's masterpiece stars his wife, Giulietta Masina, left, and Anthony Quinn, right.*

I have trouble, too, with some other highly regarded Fellinis. *Fellini Satyricon* (1969) and *Casanova* (1976) are cold, heartless works. *Juliet of the Spirits* (1965) is too dreamy and oversymbolic. *Ginger and Fred* (1986), Fellini's last film, is slight and maudlin.

But after that, I spring aboard the Fellini bandwagon. *The White Sheik* (1952) is a warm, cute comedy about a chaste, young, married woman who races off for the day with her most beloved melodrama actor. *I Vitelloni* (1953) is a splendid poetic tale of male friends longing for art and adventure in a stifling provincial town. *The Nights of Cabiria* (1956), also starring Masina, is a harrowing tragicomedy about a whore with a heart of gold. *La Dolce Vita* (1959) is an autobiographical masterpiece about a journalist caught in the decadence of modern Rome. *The Clowns* (1970), Fellini's most underrated film, is a fabulous homage to those big-footed, white-faced, red-nosed, squeaky-shoed performers. See how many of them you can squeeze into a pint-sized car.

Fortunately, all of these films — the great, the good, the grotesque — are available at better video stores. Try any Videosmith or, in Cambridge, Hollywood Express. While Fellini sleeps, honor him by watching his sublime movies. ❑

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY
★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	The New Yorker	Time
The Age of Innocence	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
The Beverly Hillbillies	★★★	★★	★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
The Joy Luck Club	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★		★★★
Jurassic Park	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Man Without a Face	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★
Secret Garden	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★		★★★
Sleepless in Seattle	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★	★
Striking Distance	★★	★	★	★★	★★		
True Romance	★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★
Un Couer en Hiver	★★	★★★		★★★	★★★		★★★

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Theater Review / Nancy Leonard

LOST AT *SEA*

"... While it's good to see an unfamiliar Ibsen, the Huntington's production is not likely to redeem *The Lady From the Sea*'s reputation ..."

The Huntington Theatre Co. has been consistently outstanding for so long that the preachy melodrama and slack performances in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady From the Sea* are a striking disappointment. The work is seldom performed in the United States. (This is the first professional Boston production since 1926.) While it's good to see an unfamiliar Ibsen, this production is not likely to redeem the work's reputation.

The production originated last March at California's Berkeley Repertory Theatre; one is tempted to ask if the long layover might be the problem. Or is it the clunky new translation? The caliber of West Coast actors? The answers are as uncertain as the evening.

Norwegian actress Juni Dahr, in the principal role of Ellida Wangel, is by far the most interesting character on stage, although her internal obsession and icy posturing are at a distance from galvanizing emotion. Ellida grew up by the sea (her father was a lighthouse keeper; her mother went mad) and feels a special link with it. Her longing has deepened during the years Ellida, trapped in a marriage of convenience, has been living in a remote mountainside town on a fjord. Her husband, Dr. Wangel, is kind and generous but has no idea how to deal with her nervous gloom or his grown daughters' resentment of his new wife.



HAUNTING PERFORMANCE: *Leading Norwegian actress Juni Dahr delivers a powerful lead role in the Huntington Theater's* The Lady From the Sea.

Ellida is haunted by a promise she once made to her young sailor lover. Throwing their linked rings into the ocean, they had bound themselves to each other and the sea. She later tried to break it off, but his letters insisted he would return for her. Three years ago, the terrifying power of her lover resurfaced: her child's eyes reminded her of the sea. Her son died in infancy. Since then, she has not "been a wife" to her husband.

Although Ibsen's plotting suggests a 19th-century version of the satanic *Rosemary's Baby*, or at least a drama about the tormenting pull of obsessive love, his concerns were actually about social conformity and a woman's free will and personal responsibility. Ellida had "no will of her own" with the sailor, and married the doctor simply because she had no other means of support. She feels she can only choose between the two when she is freed from her marital bond. But with freedom comes responsibility, and that changes everything. The obsessions vanish in the unexpectedly clear light.

Director Sharon Ott, repeating her Berkeley chores, keeps all the talk — bald exposition, melodramatic imagery, thematically twined subplots — moving along, but does not restrain the melodrama nor unify the plot. The early talk about the sea doesn't resonate with metaphor, and the climactic pivot of free will comes out of nowhere.

We seem to be watching one play, but the final curtain rings down on another.

The supporting players surrounding Ms. Dahr are blank, bland and not strong enough to match her classical style nor counterweigh her brooding force. The strapping, straight-shouldered actress is not without melodramatic flourish, but it suits Ellida's torment and is highly communicative.

Kate Edmunds's set, with its craggy stone mountains plunging steeply into the fjord, leaves little playing space for the actors. But the opening images of a waterfall and a goddess emerging from the water are stunning. The lighting, by Peter Maradudin and John Martin, colors the space between the mountains accordingly. Deborah M. Dryden's costumes are generally of the era, although Ellida's flowing attire suggests ancient Greece. The translation, by Gerry Bamman and Irene B. Berman, is pedestrian and largely devoid of poetry. ❑

Arts Review / Charles Giuliano

GET REAL

"...*The Anxious Salon* presents artists who emulate the academic realism that was soundly rejected by the French Impressionists..."

Visitors to *The Anxious Salon*, at the Massachusetts Institute of Art's List Center for the Visual Arts, are likely to do a double take and for a moment think that they are viewing *The Age of Rubens*, at the Museum of Fine Arts. This is not a coincidence, confessed curator Helaine Posner during a recent discussion about the exhibition's artists: two Norwegians, Odd Nerdrum and Hanneline Rogeberg; Attila Richard Lukacs, a Canadian; and two Americans, Vincent Desiderio and Thomas Woodruff.

As the word "salon" implies, this is a presentation of artists who emulate the academic realism that was soundly rejected by the French Impressionists but is justified in this exhibition by an infusion of mordant and confrontational "anxious" values and issues.

The Anxious Salon: Narrative Content in Recent Contemporary Painting is certainly a quirky and unpredictable show, with its espousal of an Old Master approach to subject and technique. For MIT, known for its controversial and cutting-edge programming, it's quite a leap from last year's *Corporal Politics*. That show was supported by Aerosmith after the List was denied an NEA grant because of an executive veto. Compared to the museum's widely respected, contemporary programming, *The Anxious Salon* seems out of sync and off the wall. At first.

But the big news in the art world has been a pervasive return of interest in all forms of painting. Hence, MIT offers this timely survey of epic-scaled, figurative, narrative painting. Given the traditional nature of the paintings, Posner and her collaborator, Ron Platt, realized that the usual stark-white walls just wouldn't work in this case. Posner confided that they copied the show's dark wall colors from the MFA's Old Master galleries and even borrowed a couple of round benches. You need to sit and stay a while to unravel the rich-and-complex layers of meaning and irony in this stunning and often disturbing exhibition.

IF YOU GO

THE ANXIOUS SALON

MIT's List Center for the Visual Arts
20 Ames St., E15-109
Cambridge
253-4400

A brooding Nordic feeling hovers over this show, due to its range of psychologically charged subjects. Nerdrum's dark, Rembrandt-like palette depicts isolated, nude figures, set against a stark-and-bleak landscape that seems to be culled from the scenes of peasant life by the Flemish-master Brueghel. This medieval quality is enhanced by models who wear leather peasant caps while mysteriously wrestling with large fish or cavorting in a pas-de-trois dance macabre, seemingly set to the music of *Carmina Burana*.



ODD NERDRUM: The Wanderer Imitates a Cloud, *1990, oil on canvas*

The corpulent nudes of another Nordic artist, Rogeberg, offer an amusing and uncanny resemblance to the fleshy models of Rubens. The full-figured look is back with a vengeance. The artist paints with the bravura brushwork and the boffo, in-the-buff gusto of the Dutch masters. And, the theme of the sad clown is revived in a series of color-coded, self-portraits by Woodruff.

For different reasons, the epic-scaled works by both Lukacs and Desiderio are challenging and seductive to the eye but also unsettling. The superb technical skill and dramatic composition and lighting of Lukacs's huge-and-troubling painting, *Where the Finest Young Men....*, presents a revolting celebration of violent, degenerate, nude skinheads with S&M-fetish gear, swastika tattoos and other neo-Nazi symbols. It is a glaring example of visually compelling art espousing despicable social-and-political values.

Desiderio's enormous triptych is provocative and disturbing on a more subtle level. With deadpan academic realism, the center panel depicts a spooky, candle-lit seance evoking Picasso's ghost, staged in his last studio. In the left panel a boy in a bunk bed, who is supposed to be asleep, presses his ear to the wall to hear his parents, who are making love in the right panel. The mood evoked is creepy and intriguing, but voyeuristic.

While the content of this show may, indeed, make some viewers *anxious*, at least you can see what you are getting into. ❑

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Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

THE TEST OF TASTE

"... It had become increasingly difficult just to appreciate the characteristics of flavor because the primary question had changed from *Do* I like it? to *Should* I like it?..."

When I first started exploring wine, I judged each new bottle in the same naive way that I would assess food: by how good it tasted. Eventually, of course, I wanted to go beyond saying, "I liked it; it tasted good." Then it dawned on me how profound and complicated the whole subject is. I fell quickly in line with so many other budding wine enthusiasts: awed, easily impressed, and eager to accept the proclamations of anyone who sounded knowledgeable.



FALL HARVEST: *Judith and Terry Maloney of West County Winery have issued a varietally blended, engaging cider.*

As my casual interest deepened into a passion, as wine unexpectedly began to *matter* to me, I found the pursuit less and less pleasurable. It had become increasingly difficult just to appreciate the characteristics of flavor because the primary question had changed from *Do* I like it? to *Should* I like it?

This, as I later learned, is not an entirely unusual progression. Just as it is common to "graduate" from sweet to dry and white to red, there are many beginning wine drinkers who pursue what others tell them is good, to the exclusion of drinking what they actually enjoy. In my case, it may have cost a good deal of time and money, but after a while, I did rediscover how to stop thinking so much and taste the wine again, albeit from a broader perspective. Many others, however, at all levels of experience and industry involvement, remain spellbound by what might be referred to as the tyranny of fashion.

The way in which too many people think about and discuss wine reflects an unfortunate reluctance to advance past the boundaries of accepted opinion. Few choose to challenge authority. In some cases though, trendy ideas about which wines are worthy and which are not loom so large that tasters who might disagree actually grow convinced that their own experience is deceiving them. Every time we taste and like a wine, and then ask nervously, "What did they rate it?" or "What did the Big Guy think?," the tyranny of fashion asserts itself. Minds are often changed and perceptions altered as a result of the answer. I have witnessed people's actually denying that they enjoyed a wine that they felt was not acceptable to like after they discovered its identity.

Alert, skilled tasters may benefit greatly, however, from the tyranny of fashion. In the short run, any wine that has not been officially sanctioned carries a lower, and in some cases, a farcically reduced price tag. This is where the savvy professionals may distinguish themselves: by promoting the worth of a wine scorned by influential opinion-makers. Wine categories without any current cachet or sizzle, such as California Chenin Blanc, may encompass certain examples that are so wonderful that they represent outstanding value to the consumer. Adventurous wine lovers are free to discover them and reap the advantage. In the long run, however, water seeks its level; if a wine consistently is undervalued, this means that the producers are putting more into it than they are getting in return. If they cannot make it fashionable, and hence profitable, they will probably cut corners and stop making the wine taste so good.

These thoughts all came to me after a thoroughly pleasurable recent encounter with the premium alcoholic ciders of Massachusetts's own West County Winery at Daddy-O's Bohemian Cafe in Cambridge. Ellis Seidman and Paul Sussman, the creative chef/owners of this visually exciting bistro, had the foresight and courage to feature the apple wines as natural partners to their locally based fall-harvest menu. The best of the many ciders tasted boasted a backbone of fresh acidity that nicely balanced the hearty-and-eclectic fare.

Apple wine? The range of styles, reflecting different varietals, sweetness and alcohol levels offered by West County is enormous. Quite enjoyable was the varietally blended West County Cider, a perky, engaging wine that showed light-medium body, sweet fruit and tart acids. Its flavors echoed Riesling. The West County Dry showed even better with its ripe aromas and pure, delicate fruitiness. At $5 retail, it is well worth the gamble. But buyer beware: you are now decidedly outside the fashion mainstream. ❑

Dining Review /Sandy Block

EXHILARATING ITALIAN

"...Folks who appreciate imaginative food served in bountiful portions but at a moderate price will think Porcini's is great..."

Porcini's in Watertown offers as exhilarating and joyful an adventure in Italian cuisine as you are likely to find anywhere in metro Boston. It is just the type of restaurant that folks who appreciate imaginative food served in bountiful portions but at a moderate price will think is great. On the other hand, those offended sitting nearby anyone not dressed entirely in black may register some spiteful qualms and quibbles.

The restaurant exudes real Continental charm and sophistication, yet none of the pretentious trappings that so often interfere with dining comfort. Energy is expended selecting fresh, pure ingredients and devising inventive preparations rather than laboring over sparse, picture-perfect plates. The menu does not offer a single predictably safe or cliched dish. Service is likewise informed and professional, with real care evident rather than stiff formality.

IF YOU GO

PORCINI'S

68 SCHOOL ST.,
WATERTOWN
LUNCH: Tues.-Fri. 11:30 a.m. -3 p.m.
DINNER: Every Night, 5-10 p.m.
924-2221

The room itself is inviting, set in soft Mediterranean pastels and full of visual whimsy. Porcini's is a vibrant, fun place to eat. Adding to the liveliness, the kitchen is partially open so that pleasant cooking aromas on occasion waft into the dining space.

One is greeted with a basket of deliciously warm and crusty homemade focaccio that immediately scores points. This is the proverbial meal-in-itself incarnate. I have generally found that restaurants that respect bread to this extent prove very satisfying as dinner progresses.

Wood-grilled shrimp with tomatoes, fennel and oyster mushrooms serves as a wonderful introduction to the kitchen's talent for flavor extraction. The seafood is done to perfection, fresh and juicy, and expertly grilled, and the seasonings are judicious and well integrated. Pungent, sweet, earthy and acidic flavors commingle in a low-key but most effective harmony.

The beef tenderloin tart with risotto and porcini sauce shows great inventiveness, while it also qualifies, above all, as real food lovingly prepared. This appetizer, more than any other dish, epitomizes how far the chef has gone beyond the overrefined culinary-school preciousness that often prevails elsewhere. Although the presentation is not a work of art, the flavors are vivid and gutsy, the texture broad and robust without being heavy. The crust is flaky, the meat tender, the risotto just crunchy enough and the earthy mushrooms otherworldly. Dare we say it, but the dish exudes subtlety.

The main courses are equally impressive. Each has a real lustiness about it and the dishes are heroic in proportion. Traditional Italian flavors predominate in a tuna steak with pimentos, roasted garlic and tomatoes. The thick steak may be dense, but not dry in the least, marked by wood-firing and a melange of aromatic herbs that help release its considerable flavor. The preparation shows an unerring sense of harmony: the vaguely sweet-and-soft garlic balanced by tart tomato juices; the rich meatiness of the fish set off and enlivened by liberal seasoning.

Pan-fried ravioli filled with butternut squash and pureed prosciutto with a peach-thyme butter provides unique and unforgettable culinary fireworks. The combination of flavors is inspired, touching all the bases on the taste horizon: sweet (squash, peach), sour (fruit acidity), salty (prosciutto) and bitter (fried ravioli, thyme, lightly burnt butter). Textures, too, are a glorious harmony of viscous, chewy, crunchy and more delicate sensations. The chef's enthusiasm for broad, penetrating flavors is clearly showcased in this thrilling creation; the browned, nutty-tasting peach butter itself is a sheer delight.

Desserts are equally irresistible. The warm apple, raisin and berry crostada served over *creme anglais* features impeccable flavor balance, while the tiramisu is spectacular. It is creamy rich, with authentic mascarpone that is delightfully set off with coffee liqueur, espresso and raspberry.

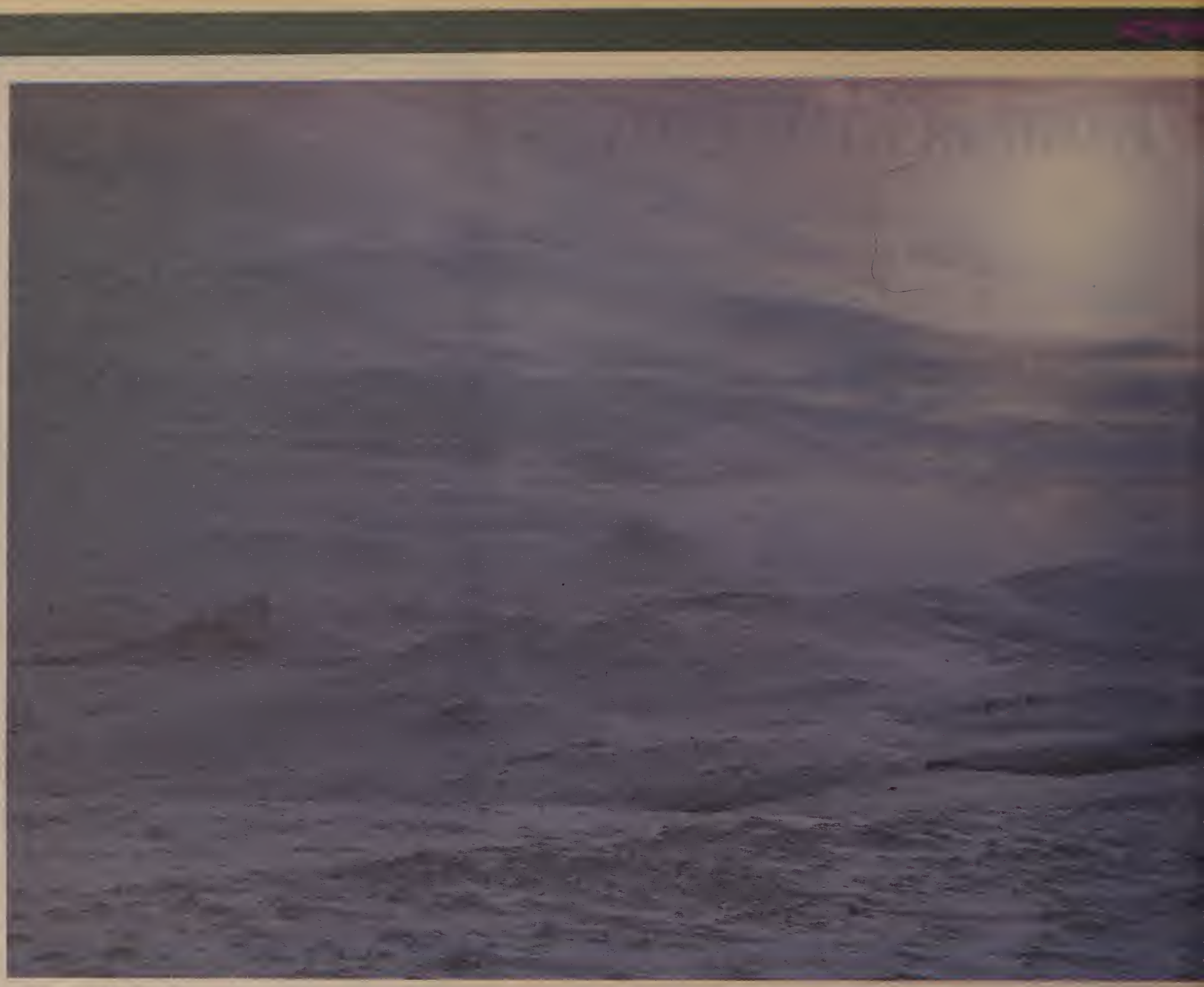
Few restaurants can encompass as wide a spectrum of clientele as Porcini's: the family, the young couple, the businessman, the casual and the serious diner all can feel comfortable and satisfied here. Tell your friends: Something exciting is going on in Watertown. ❑

THE FISH PIER
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The Freshest Seafood,
Prime Rib, Roast Beef,
BBQ Ribs
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in Boston
New Customers: Mention this ad for a **FREE APPETIZER** *with entrée.*
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667 East Broadway
South Boston
269-2111

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If you're looking for a truly memorable dining experience in a beautiful setting overlooking Historic Boston Harbor, try the world-renowned Anthony's Pier 4.
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LEGAL SEA FOODS
OYSTER BAR • RESTAURANT





If it were a planet, it would be Pluto. An island in the stream. A speck of rock in some parallel universe. Remote. Isolated. As far from reality as we know it or could ever begin to imagine or comprehend it.

We realize another bottled water is the farthest thing from your mind. May we suggest one that's even farther?

until you reached the shores of Antarctica. It is precisely this location, so completely and utterly cut off from the influences of civilization, that accounts for one of the most breathtakingly pristine environments in the world.

Iceland is like no other place on earth. Within a whisper of the Arctic Circle, it is enveloped by the sea. So apart is it from the rest of the world, you could journey south and not see land again until you reached the shores of Antarctica. It is precisely this location, so completely and utterly cut off from the influences of civilization, that accounts for one of the most breathtakingly pristine environments in the world.

As you can well imagine, the air here is remarkably clear, the land virtually indistinguishable from that which it has been for millennia. And the water. Let us tell you about the water.



We call it Akva. A spring water that flows up from a place far below the ice and rock. Untainted. Untouched. Unspoiled. And of such a purity that it is difficult, if' not impossible to conceive of another quite like it.

We think you will agree once you've tried Akva for yourself. What you will discover is a surprisingly soft taste. Crisp. Clear. Free of sodium. Free of impurities of every sort. The end result of a natural, geophysical purifying process unique to Iceland.

We can understand, of course, your lack of excitement upon hearing the news of yet another spring water. There are, we know, so many. All of which would have you belicve they are the purest thing since the angels.

We do think, however, you will find Akva refreshingly different and worth the modcst price of sampling. To do so, we suggcst your favorite corner market or deli.

Thcre now, you see? It's just like we've already told you. There rcally does exist a chance to find a genuinely pure water in this world. Evcn if it is a bit remote.

Akva spring water. The pure soul of Iceland.™

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A STEAK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

39 Dalton St., Boston, in the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, 262-1822.
Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve in a relaxed style, add music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'til 1a.m. daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer or a 12-oz.New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT

1248 Cambridge St.,Cambridge, 497-6548.
Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting.Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on an all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music Thursday through Saturday nights.(no cover). Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're not in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available. Open daily 12 to 11 p.m.

ANTHONY'S PIER 4

140 Northern Ave., Boston, 482-6262.
Boston's world-renowned seafood restaurant, Anthony's Pier 4 is bustling with international, national and local clientele. Besides offering on of the finest views of Boston Harbor and the skyline, the restaurant has received numerous awards such as first place in Sales and Marketing magazine's Business Executives Dining Award for 14 years. Specialties are the freshest harvest from the sea, including New England lobster, Boston scrod, as well as a variety of fine meats.

BENNETT ST. CAFE

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.
Chef Peter Davis, formerly of the Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA, has created a totally new menu, induding new rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made to order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are! Open 6:30 a.m.-11 a.m. for breakfast, lunch 11 a.m. -3 p.m., and dinner 3-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 11 p.m.

BENNINO'S RESTAURANT

1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Day's Inn. Adjacent to the Charles River, Brighton, 254-4336.
Major credit cards accepted.
A moderately priced authentic Italian restaurant featuring home style specialties including Seafood Verdicchio, chicken, broccoli & ziti, and pasta fiesta with up to 70 combinations of different pastas, sauces, and toppings. You'll always find the food to be freshly prepared and everything homemade. There is live entertainment in the lounge Tuesday through Saturday starting at 8:00 p.m. Lunch served from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Thursday from 4:30 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4:30-10 p.m.

BLUE WAVE

142 Berkeley St., Boston, 424-6711.
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative West Coast style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés. All items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch is served from 11 a.m.to 5 p.m., and is one of Boston's best. Open daily 11:30 a.m.- 11 p.m.

BOB THE CHEF'S

604 Columbus Ave., Boston, 536-6204.
Located in the heart of the South End, Bob the Chef's is a real neighborhood joint with the authentic feel of a soul kitchen. Enjoy fall-off-the-bone bar-b-qued spareribs, chicken and dumplings, or soul chitterlings for a real Southern meal. Dinners range from $7 to $9 and indude a choice of two side dishes. Choose from collard greens, sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas, fresh-cut corn, rice and gravy, mashed turnips, and other Southern delicacies. Open Sunday through Thursday,8 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday,8 a.m. -11 p.m

BOSTON CHICKEN CATERING

241 Massachusetts Ave and 745 Boylston St., Boston, 247-7444.
The next time you need your office party, superbowl bash or holiday get-together catered, call Boston Chicken. Professional waitstaff will serve up the food that Boston Chicken is famous for. The presentation is impeccable and the ingredients, as always, are all natural and fresh. Whatever your budget, Boston Chicken will accomodate.

CAFE RUBINO

226 Newbury Street, Boston, 247-2080.
No credit cards accepted.
At Cafe Rubino, Newbury Street's only pasta bar, there is something for everyone. A favorite is the New Orleans Italian sandwich, the muffelatta, as well as authentic pasta dishes. Stop in for morning coffee or afternoon espresso, and try the delicious cakes and tortes. Take out available. Hours are Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

CANESTARO PIZZERIA

16 Peterborough St., Boston, 266-8997.
Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so drop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer 30 different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. Free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

CAPTAIN'S WHARF

356 Harvard St., Brookline, 566-5590.
The best seafood restaurant in town, Captain's Wharf has the freshest seafood you'll find anywhere outside the ocean itself! Captain's Wharf always offers large portions at great prices-delicious dinner specials like one pound lobsters for $9.95, shrimp and garlic fettucine for $9.95, and Cajun catfish for $7.25. There's an extensive seafood menu sure to thrill the taste buds. Terrific lunch specials are served from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., for the low price of $4.75-$5.95. Beer and wine are always available, as is a raw bar. You can't beat the food, the prices, or the service, so stop by today! Conveniently located on Harvard St. next to the Coolidge Corner T-stop. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Free parking available.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE

1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining, weather permitting. Serving Sunday-Wednesday until 10 p.m., Thursday-Saturday until 10:30 p.m.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF

100 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-0300.
New American-New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are spectacular-Cornucopia won the Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for "Tastiest Dessert. Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar" in Boston. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised. Open for lunch Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner Monday-Thursday 5:30-10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 10:30p.m.

DAILY CATCH RESTAURANTS

323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093.
441 Harvard St., Brookline 734-5696.
This original 20-year-old Sicilian-style seafood & pasta restaurant is best known for its specialty-dassic calamari. The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes—synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years," Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989.

DAVIO'S

269 Newbury St., 262-4810.
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810
202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
Davio's in Boston captures the flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, and the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

DICK'S LAST RESORT

55 Huntington Ave., Boston, 267-8080.
Major credit cards accepted – Dick loves cash.
A restaurant (of sorts), Dick's has the kind of food that is not particularly fashionable and definitely not spa cuisine–buckets of messy ribs, chicken, catfish, shrimp, lobster and crab legs, served on butcher paper. There are also 74 kinds of beer for the novice or serious sudsman. Dick's has obnoxious live classic rock, rhythm & blues and Dixieland jazz seven nights a week, no cover charge, no dress code and certainly no class. On Sunday, Dick got religion and hired some gospel singers for a surprisingly good brunch from 10am to 3pm. A buffet full of goodies such as salads, hot entrées, omelet station, waffles, desserts and make-your-own sundae station. Dick's Last Resort is billed as "The shame of Boston's Back Bay" and an embarrassment to any neighborhood. Dick says, "Although the food is good and there's plenty of it, places with great food are a dime a dozen." It's the restaurant's style (or lack of it), loud music, wisecracking service people, bullyish doormen, and insulting promotional attitudes that raise eyebrows. Open Monday-Saturday from 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 10 a.m.-2 a.m. Sunday. Free parking after 5 p.m.

THE FISHERY

718 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 868-8800.
Major credit cards accepted.
Dock yourself at The Fishery's hand-crafted, boat-shaped raw bar or enjoy dinner in its casual, nautical dining room. The Fishery's own pan-fried crab cakes rival Maryland's best. "Delicious pan-fried crab cakes." The Boston Herald.. The Boston Phoenix calls The Fishery "a local gem," and The Fishery Calamari "irresistibly addictive." The Fishery is proud to serve only the freshest, quality seafood. Specialties include: sour cream and mustard catfish, lemongrass mussels, southwestern shrimp, and a variety of grilled seafood. Open Monday-Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and 12 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

THE FISH PIER

667 East Broadway, South Boston, 269-2111.
The largest selection of fresh, fried, baked, and broiled seafood and the friendliest service in South Boston characterize the Fish Pier restaurant. The menu also includes a multitude of chicken dishes, prime and BBQ ribs, sandwiches, salads, appetizers, chowders, and other hearty American fare. The ample portions of succulent sea scallops, fresh-from-the-sea fish, juicy prime rib, and other house specialties come at a price that will please your accountant. The Boston Globe's Cheap Eats reviewers rave about the Fish Pier). Mention the Improper Bostonian and enjoy a free appetizer with your dinner! Come down to South Boston's neighborhood mecca for fresh seafood or call up for delivery anywhere in Boston. Open for lunch and dinner: Monday and Tuesday 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday 10: 30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 12-9 p.m.

GANDHI RESTAURANT

704 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 491-1104.
Major credit cards accepted
Enjoy a fresh and healthy, light and spicy menu that offers a plenitude of vegetable, seafood, chicken and lamb entrees. For vegi lovers baingen bartha, eggplant cooked with peas and tomatoes, and bhindi bhuna, fresh okra roasted with onion, ginger and garlic are exotic treats. Gandhi offers tender chicken and lamb dishes cooked in curry sauces or with vegetables. Shrimp Nargassi, shrimp cooked with spinach, and fish vindaloo, spicy fresh curry mix with potato, are other light and healthy alternatives. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week, lunch 12-3 p.m., dinner 3-11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

GEOFFREY'S CAFÉ - BAR

651 Boylston St., Boston, 437-6400.
578 Tremont St., Boston, 266-1122.
With two convenient locations, in the heart of the Back Bay and in the South End Geoffrey's Cafe - Bar has become a favorite for many of the locals. Geoffrey's serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner and decadent desserts 7 days a week. Geoffrey's prides itself with serving the healthiest portions of the freshest food at extremely reasonable prices and was the Improper Bostonian's winner for "Best Waitress" and "Best Brunch." Stop by one of their two locations today. Open Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m. to midnight, Saturday 8 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Green Briar Restaurant
304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.
Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads and burgers at this Brighton Irish restaurant. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Brunch every Sunday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Open from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week.

Grendel's Restaurant and Bar
89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160.
Major credit cards accepted.
Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

Harvard Street Grill
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.
Major credit cards accepted.
Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek is a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: grilled salmon with shiitake, spinach, bean sprouts, ginger, and tamari; smoked chicken and tart cherry pate, or the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce and desserts such as chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce, lemon buttermilk tart with blueberry coulis, or homemade fruit ice. 1993 Wine Spectator award of excellence, 1993 Ivy award. Open Tuesday-Thursday 5:30-9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free monday-Saturday,12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

Icarus
3 Appleton Street, Boston, 426-1790.
Major credit cards accepted.
Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including "Best Reastaurant" from the Improper Bostonian. Chef-owner Chris Dougalss' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeno sorbet, juniper and pepper-crusted venison, and a wellfleet littleneck clam roast with tomatoes, basil, and zucchini. A sumptuous list of homemade desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level dining room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly from 6-10 p.m., until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Monday-Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

India PaviliON
17 Central Square(on Western Ave), Cambridge, 547-7463.
Major Credit cards accepted.
Savor royal recipes, preserved from the time of the mughals! India Pavilion offers delicious Indian cuisine, cooked in traditional Indian style. From a host of entrees select lamb entrees such as lamb pasanda, or chicken entrees such as chicken kandhari; chicken cooked in a cream sauce with cashews, and chicken masala; chicken cooked in a thick curry sauce. The menu offers other meat dishes such as beef shahjhani and shahjahni biryani, as well as popular vegetable enrees like malai kofta, vegetable balls fried and cooked in a delicious sauce. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime, and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week. Lunch12-3 p.m., dinner 3- 11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, 776-2004.
Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and now it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around, and it's healthy to boot. Natural free-range, antibiotic-free beef, chicken, eggs, and more. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna with Jamaican relish, and homemade pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. The atmosphere is unpretentious and casual, and prices are reasonable. In October, enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., brunch is served Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Located on the red line.

Jose's Mexican Food
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, 354-0335.
For the real feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. For 10 years, Jose's has been serving up some of the finest and most authentic Mexican food anywhere. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into the super burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Handicapped accessible, lunch specials Monday-Friday 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., Saturday 12-4 p.m. Dinner Monday-Thursday 4-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 -11 p.m., Sunday 4 -9 p.m.

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
Looking for a great place to take yourself or the family for delicious food that won't hurt your wallet? The Kells of Boston is the place for you. With an authentic Irish atmosphere and menu sure to please all. After starting the meal with appetizers like potato skins or shrimp cocktail, the posibilities are endless. Meat lovers are sure to be thrilled with the large New York sirloin steak or teriyaki steak tips, while dishes from the sea include baked stuffed shrimp, New England broiled scrod, scallops, and more. Childrens portions are also available. This is more than just another Irish pub and restaurant; The Kells prides itself on great food, prices, and service. Food specials all day. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. for cocktails. Parties and functions welcome.

The Last Hurrah! Bar and Grill
Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street, Boston, 227-8600.
This popular turn-of-the-century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston creme pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Saturday, noon -5 p.m. Serving dinner Monday-Saturday 5-11 p.m., and 2-11 p.m. Sunday. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

Legal Seafood
Park Plaza Hotel: Restaurant & Café 35 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-4444. Statler Office Building: 27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566. Kendall Square: 5 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, 864-3400. Chestnut Hill: 43 Boylston St., Rt 9, 277-7300. Copley Place: 100 Huntington Ave. Boston, 266-7775. Prudential Center: 800 Boylston St., Boston, 266-6800.
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Sea Foods has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp, and scrod.

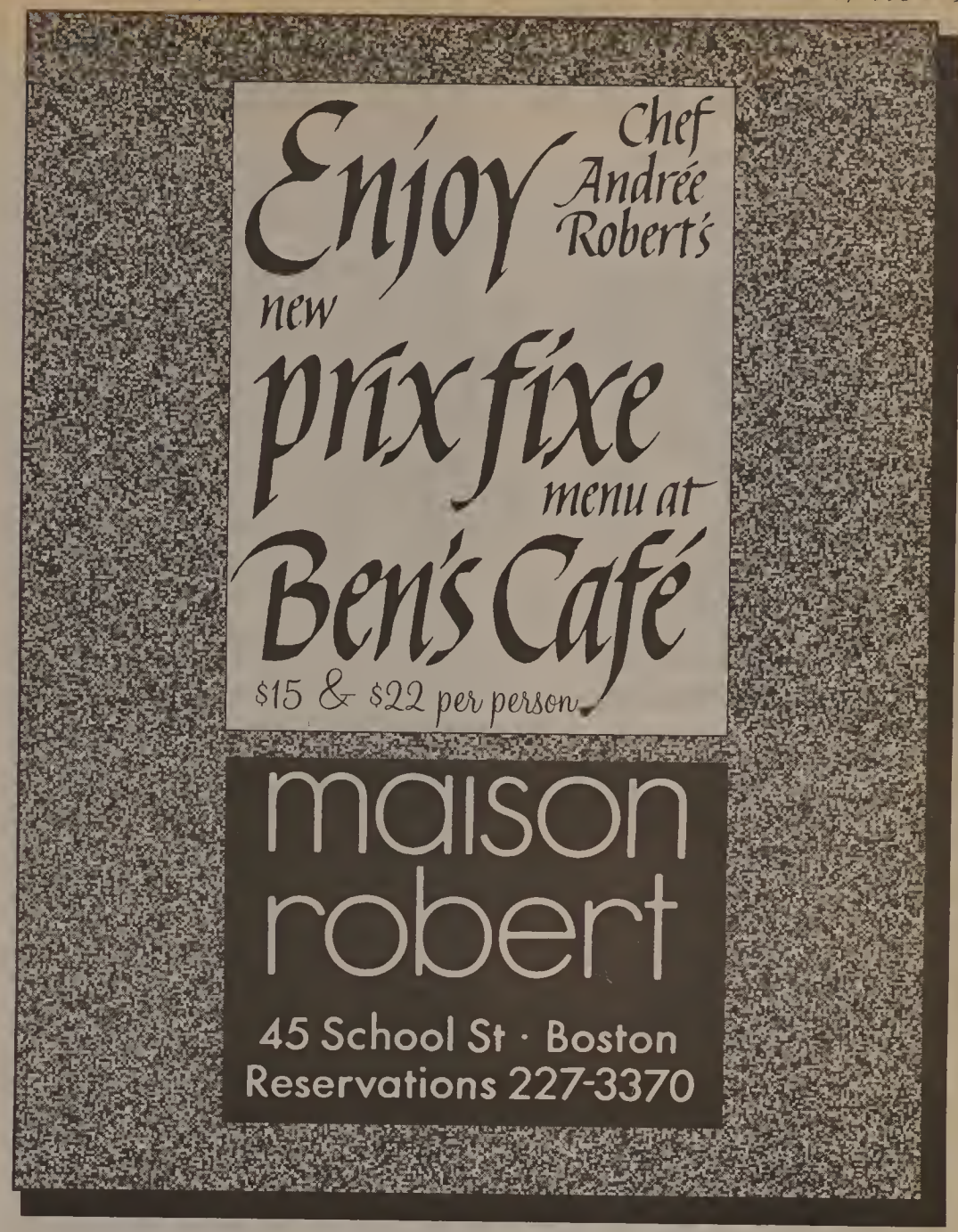
Lucia Ristorante
415 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 367-2353.
Since 1877 Lucia Ristorante has followed a basic philosophy: to present authentic cucina Italiana as well as innovative dishes with a pledge toward freshness and quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Monday-Thursday 4 to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Sunday 1 to 11 p.m.

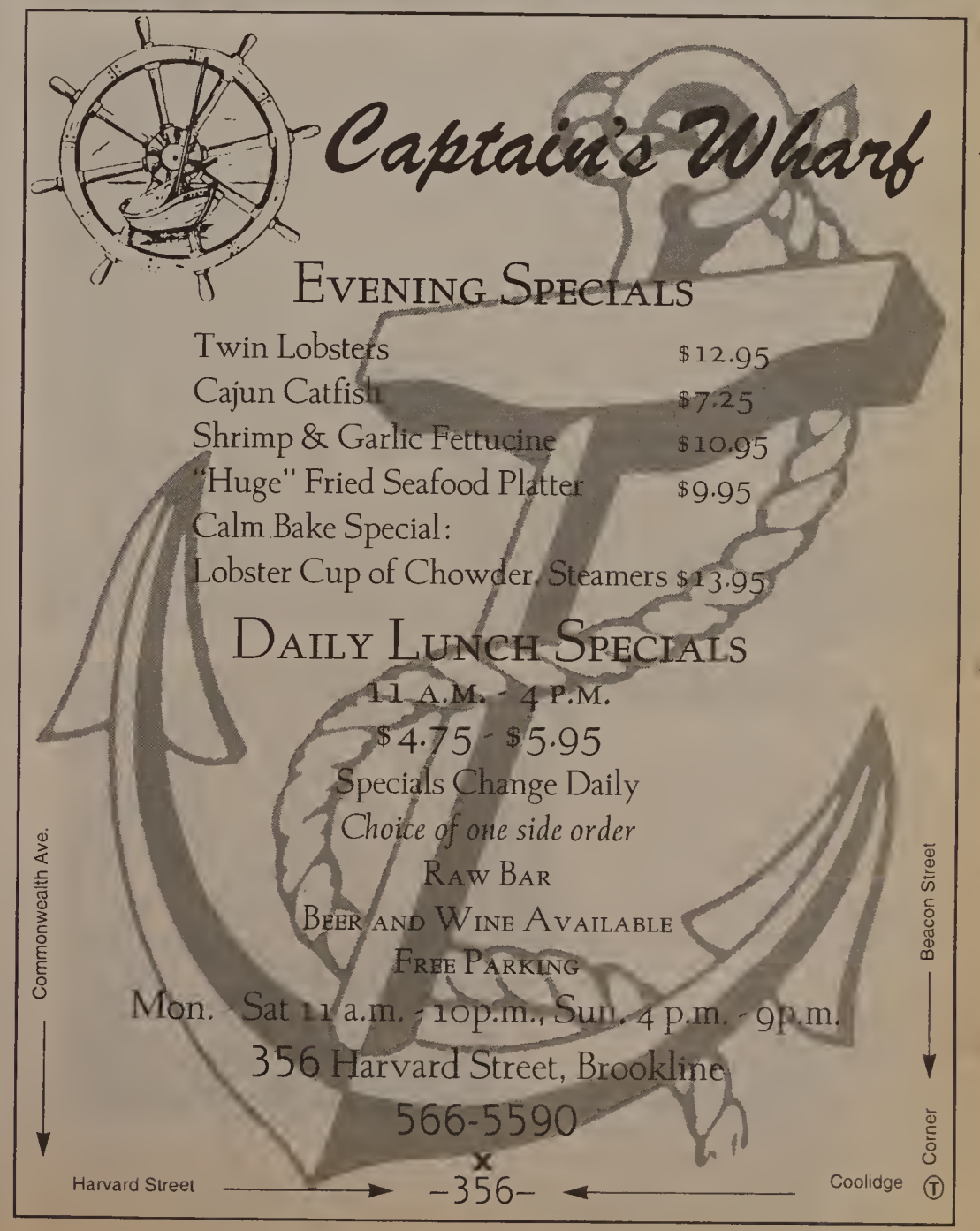
Maison Robert
45 School St., Boston, 227-3370.
Two restaurants and café bar. Elegant formal dining rooms and unique private party rooms for meetings and parties. Cosy intimate café with private party rooms like the "vault". A nice place to gather with friends is the newly renovated café bar entered through the terrace. This sunny space makes you feel like the warm waters of the Mediterranean are just outside. The new bar menu offers tastes of the Mediterranean with your favorite drink. Prix fixe complete dinner in the café at $15 and $22. Serving lunch, cocktails and dinner.

Magnolias Southern Cuisine
1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971.
Major credit cards accepted.
Formerly The Cajun Yankee. Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings the best the south has to offer. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep fried cheese, home smoked salmon and goat cheese, and blackened scallops. Entrees include Maryland soft shell crabs, grilled pork loin with corn relish and hot pepper jelly, blackened prime rib, and sautéed shrimp with pineapple and cherry tomatoes with southern cilantro pesto, and pan-seared tuna Belle Watlings' style. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday-Saturday 6-10 p.m.

Mamma Maria
3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code.
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma

Continued on Following Page





"A True Classic..."
Sandy Block, The Improper Bostonian

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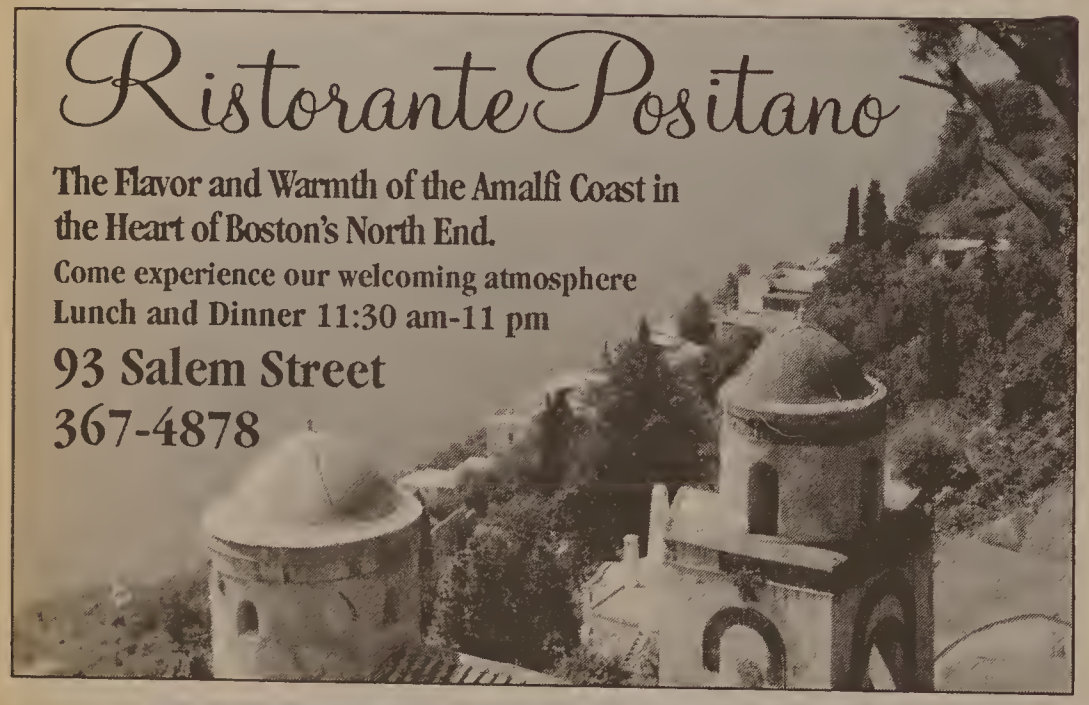
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Restaurant Listings, cont.

Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Choice Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's "Best of the Best", offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu, and daily baked bread. Be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Open 7 nights a week Monday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959.
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth-watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Very close to North Station T stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront
85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.
Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom raviolis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in the Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sunday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes such as Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave, Boston, 536-1904
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here; they do it differently than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 7 days a week from 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

La Piccola Venezia
63 Salem Street, Boston, 523-9802.
No credit cards accepted.
Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, polenta, tripe, scungilli, baked caratelli, veal scallopini, and traditional pasta favorites. Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Poppa & Goose
69 First St., Cambridge, 497-6772.
Created by several Harvard, MIT, and Tufts alumni, Poppa & Goose's main mission is to serve as the link between the local community and Cambridge's greatest resource: the country's largest and most diverse international student population. The theme of the restaurant and market is to promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition. The menu attests to this theme, with its ever-growing variety of authentic international dishes contributed by students. The "Poppa & Goose Community Kitchen" is dedicated to cooking classes conducted by volunteering international students. Come and be chef for an evening; relax in the cheerful dining room and enjoy scrumptious food at reasonable prices; or take a Poppa & Goose kit home and effortlessly prepare an exotic dish in your own kitchen. Whether you are in the mood to eat, cook, or participate in cultural exchange, Poppa & Goose's door is open. Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dinner 5:30-10 p.m. daily.

Positano
93 Salem St., North End, 367-4878.
Major credit cards accepted.
At Positano, you will experience the flavor and warmth of the Mediterranean Amalfi Coast right in Boston's North End. Within Positano's friendly, casual decor, ample portions of authentic, carefully crafted recipes are served up at everyday prices. Start your meal with their fresh antipasto, a medley of grilled eggplant, shiitake mushrooms, zucchini, and roasted Belgian peppers; or a salad of homemade mozzarella, plum tomatoes, and fresh basil. Enjoy linguini tossed with swordfish in a fresh basil sauce for a mere $9.95, or chicken saltimbocca layered with fontina cheese, and Parma prosciutto in a cream sauce for $10.95. All of the prices are this reasonable! Come in any time of day for Positano's truly home-style Italian cooking. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Red Terrier Grille
1096 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 566-4144.
One of the few restaurants in Boston where breakfast is served all day everyday. Owners Carol Tringali and Robert DeFilippo serve home-cooked meals. They boast huge portions and exceptional value. Dinner prices range from $5 to $6. Try hot home-cooked dinners with real mash potatoes, or the roast beef dinner, stuffed roast pork, or corned beef & cabbage, just to name a few. Open Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday - Friday 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Ristorante Schifano
21 Broad St. in the Courtyard, Boston, 523-0590.
Located in the heart of Boston's Financial District, Ristorante Schifano provides a sophisticated but affordable venue for lovers of fine Italian cuisine. Offering lunch, dinner and cafe menus, Ristorante Schifano will surely satisfy even the most refined tastes, with authentic nouveau and traditional Italian dishes—all prepared to perfection. Menu highlights include unusual pastas with unique sauces, grilled specialties, fresh meat and seafood entrees, and wonderful desserts made fresh daily. Ristorante Schifano also offers Boston's best affordable wine list to enhance each dish. Take out and corporate catering available. Large parties welcome. For delicious Italian cuisine and romance in the heart of the Financial District its Ristorante Schifano.Open Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 5-9 p.m. Closed Sunday.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7 days a week from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Tuesday 5-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday until 11:00 p.m.

Taj Mahal at Kenmore
484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Third & Charles Bar & Grill
202 Third St.,Cambridge; Kendall Square, 547-9310.
Major credit cards accepted.
Don't let the name fool you; the T&C is a bit of Mexico moved to Cambridge. Featuring food "mild, hot, or insane," the menu includes everything from traditional tacos to the house specialty T&C pollo—a chicken breast with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a light sour cream sauce. To rinse it all down, try a brew from the extensive beer list, or a margarita in an exotic flavor like melon or black raspberry. Moderately priced with an extensive bar. For an atmosphere that is as lively and colorful as the food, stop by the T&C. Take out available. Serving food Monday-Wednesday from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; until 11 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Bar closes at 12:30 a.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring fresh seafood, poultry, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to order, and great hamburgers. The Sunday brunch offers made to order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest, and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities available, free parking. Just one-fourth of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

R.E. Brunson

APPETEASERS

93 bottles of beer on the Bennett Street wall

The Bennett Street Cafe at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square has something new — a beer bar. The bar features 93 beers from around the world, from Thailand to Maine, and the selection includes lagers, pilsners, stouts, ales and even non-alcoholic beers. Guests are invited to record their travels with the bartender, who will track their adventures around the globe. The hotel also offers a beer brewed exclusively for the cafe by the Massachusetts Bay Brewing Co. A light lager nicknamed "#93," it is currently the No. 1-selling beer at Bennett Street Cafe. Lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch are available. For more information, call 661-5005.



CUTTING EDGE: *Michelle Hess is the first female butcher to wield the knife at Savenor's, the Beacon Hill butcher-and-gourmet shop.*

Juicy Details

After changing several times, the name of Pat Lyons's re-entry into the restaurant scene is now Sonsie. Located on upper Newbury Street, the restaurant is scheduled to open in December. Coffee Cantata has opened on the corner of Centre and Pond streets in Jamaica Plain. This neighborhood coffee bar offers a selection of pastries, sandwiches and home-made muffins, plus an expanded menu with wonderful omelets on the weekends. The new Jae's Cafe is opening at 1281 Cambridge St. in Inman Square. This is the second location for the popular South End restaurant. The menu is a mixture of Asian cuisines and sushi, but unlike the first Jae's, this one offers full-liquor service. Paul O'Connell's new restaurant, Providence, will be opening soon in Brookline at 1223 Beacon St. The restaurant will have a cafe and a main dining room with a menu drawn from traditional European cuisines, but with a lighter touch and an American slant. Look for influences from Paul's previous employers: Olive's, Jasper's and East Coast Grill. Poppa & Goose has reopened after a week of renovations and has introduced a new menu, featuring a number of new noodle dishes and an interesting plate of Vietnamese treats called Miss Saigon Dim Sum. The prices are still incredibly low.

In the Kitchen

Congratulations to Barbara Lynch, new chef at Rocco's. Mark Orfaly is now a chef at Olive's and Andy Husbands steps into the position of executive chef at East Coast Grill. Andrew Wilkinson, executive chef at New York's Rainbow Room, will leave the Big Apple in January to become a partner in Skipjack's and Caffe Lampara. Rarities at the Charles Hotel has a new head chef, Richard Romaine.

Local Heroes

There was a little excitement recently at the Captain's Wharf restaurant in Brookline. A man came into the restaurant, snatched a woman's purse from the counter and ran out the door. John Rogaris, owner/manager, and two employees, Ken Taverna and Jaimy Sasso, pursued the man to his car. The alleged thief was so unnerved by the pursuit that he couldn't start his car and was forced to return the stolen purse. Regaining his nerve, he said he was armed and forced his pursuers to back off. The police had been called, and a high-speed chase the wrong way down Beacon Street resulted in the capture of the armed man, who is one of America's Most Wanted.

A Taste of New England

Boston University and the American Institute of Food and Wine are holding "Taste of New England" on Sunday, Nov. 21, at 808 Commonwealth Ave. from noon-5 p.m. Samples of regional specialty foods, confections, wines and beers will be offered and most products will be available for purchase. The entrance fee is $5. Cooking demonstrations are also scheduled from11 a.m. to 4 p.m.for an admission charge of $10. Reservations are recommended for the hour-long demonstrations conducted by such culinary stars as Julia Child, Jacques Pepin, Nina Simonds and Jasper White. Also, throughout the day, dozens of cookbook authors will be stopping in to autograph their books, which will be on sale at discounted prices from Jessica's Biscuit. Call 353-9852 for more information.

Homegrown Thanksgiving

And while we're on the subject of a taste of New England, plenty of local products are available for Thanksgiving. Massachusetts's parsnips, turnips and squash are abundant; cranberries are plentiful in spite of the shortage of rain this summer,; and the state boasts more than 23 turkey farms. If you would like information on where to find these products, contact the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture's office. ❑

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TAJ MAHAL

2 Shows – 8 pm & 10:30 pm
Tickets available at the door.

Thurs. 11/11

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston-Boston, 232-4242.
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include chile poblano relleno, roast chicken enchiladas, fajitas, Brunch Chili, Louisiana Lost Bread and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sunday 12-3 p.m.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600.
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. You can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an a la carte menu from traditional Eggs Benedict to sizzling fajitas. Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Arrive early and enjoy brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225.
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-7440.
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine indigenous to our American southwest brings to you wonderful brunch items such as huevos rancheros, griddle-cakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays, too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Boston, 426-1790.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual, low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. "One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- Boston Globe. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30 p.m.Cajun dancing every Monday 8 p.m. with Krewe de Roux, and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30 p.m. Great food- Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

THE KELLS
161 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub and restaurant features one of the best brunch offerings in the area. Sundays at The Kells means all you can eat brunch for just $6.95! Some of the many delectable items from which you can select include steamship roast beef, honey baked ham, chicken curry, rice pilaf, scrambled eggs, a variety of salads and much more. Great lunch and dinner menus also available, with special children's portions—all at Kells' low prices. Food specials available all day, every day. Brunch hours are Sunday 11:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Open 7 nights until 2 a.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049.
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995.
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates, hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

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LONG DIVISION

"... When I look at what I'm doing with my life, I can't figure what it all adds up to. But I can still do Division 16..."

All right. It is time for me to get off the couch. There's only so much Home Shopping channel to which you can submit yourself and still be labeled a sane human being. But I need to ease myself back into the ebb and flow of nightlife. I need to start someplace kind of fun but casual, where I can be entertained, but not really feel the need to do anything more energetic than lift my mongo-sized grape crush to my parched lips. Now where would that place be? Let me just whip out my pocket calculator, throw in some figures and... hmm, let's see. This is difficult because I've forgotten just about all the math I ever learned in school. I sure as hell can't balance my checkbook; I have to use all my fingers and toes to figure out how many drinks I've had (and let me tell you, that's not always such a sure-fire system, either), and when I look at what I'm doing with my life, I can't figure what it all adds up to. But I can still do Division.

IF YOU GO

DIVISION 16

955 BOYLSTON ST.
353-0870
LAST CALL: 2 a.m.

In a town of ever-changing restaurants and clubs, Division 16 has been around long enough to qualify as a Boston landmark. For those of you who don't get out much, Division is located in the old Division 16 police station (Hence the name – get it?), next to the Institute of Contemporary Art. The funky art-deco decor and the black-clad, extremely hip staff make this place a couple of notches cooler than your average Boston bar. The fact that it serves food from its huge menu (including the **best** buffalo wings in Boston) until 1:30 a.m. doesn't hurt, either.

As with several other spots around town, Division has been somewhat appropriated by the Euro crowd. This has its good points and its drawbacks. On the plus side, the Euro kids have decided that Division is the place to go on the nights when all their other hangouts are closed, namely Sunday and Monday. So, if you're looking for a crowded place to go on a Monday night when every other bar in town has tumbleweeds blowing through it, head to Division's Cafe Olé night. The whole bar turns into a kind of cabaret/club with a live merengue band and a DJ. The music is good and the crowd is enthusiastic, buying continual rounds of shots for each other and kiss-kissing away.

On the down side, you have to be prepared to mingle with a lot of extremely rich kids from Third World countries who think that they've been given the key to the city and always seem genuinely shocked to discover that there are actually people in Boston, *at this moment*, who have to work for a living! But if you can handle doing colossal California Hot Tubs from the oversized martini glasses while wallowing in the smoky international atmosphere punctuated by cries of "Achmed! José! We must do shots! Shots everyone!" while the light glints off the platinum cards, then you shouldn't have a problem.

If you think that the Euro crowd might be a bit overwhelming, take heart: Wednesday nights are Blues nights at Division, and you can chill over nachos while you listen to the live house band and mingle with a more Bostonian crowd. Whatever night you choose to go, the crowd is always good, the wings are hot, and the grape crushes are big enough to do the backstroke in. When you add up your nightlife options, you just might have to do Division. ❑



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Nov. 11 Standing Hamptons
Nov. 12 Jim Bogus Crew
Nov. 13 Gregg Buckley Band
Nov. 14 Accoustic Jam w/Jim Majorowski & D.J. at night
Nov. 15 Blues Jam
Nov. 16 Eoin Woods
Nov. 17 World Cup Soccer Ireland vs. No. Ireland, Spain vs. Denmark
Nov. 18 Standing Hamptons
Nov. 19 Standing Hamptons
Nov. 20 Gregg Buckley Band
Nov. 21 Accoustic Jam w/Jim Majorowski & D.J. at night
Nov. 22 Concert—Andy Irvine
Nov. 23 Eoin Woods


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Across from Boston Garden

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Nov. 12 5-0/Tim Crandall
Nov. 13 The Fools
Nov. 17 Tim Crandall
Nov. 18 The Marcels
Nov. 19 Mark Morris & Catunes Tim Crandall
Nov. 20 Tim Crandall/Toadhouse
Nov. 24 Heavy Metal Horns Tim Crandall
Nov. 26 Mark Morris & Catunes Tim Crandall
Nov. 27 The Sense

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Allston's Best Irish Pub
Kinvara Pub
On the Allston/Brighton Line

Nov. 10 Grinning Lizards
Nov. 11 Bruce Jacques & Invisible Band
Nov. 12 Swinging Johnsons
Nov. 13 Swinging Johnsons
Nov. 14 Donegal Corduroys/DJ Tom
Nov. 15 Walk-on Comedians Luck of the Draw (darts)
Nov. 16 Free Jukebox
Nov. 18 The Pour Boys
Nov. 19 Lulus In Crisis
Nov. 20 Shoot the Moon
Nov. 21 Cupla
Nov. 22 Walk-on Comedians Luck of the Draw (darts)
Nov. 23 Free Jukebox
Nov. 24 Da Mud Hens Thanksgiving Party

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
617-783-9400

Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Briar

Nov. 10 Standing Hamptons Karaoke
Nov. 11 The Pour Boys
Nov. 12 Rhythm-a-Cats
Nov. 13 Rhythm-a-Cats
Nov. 14 DJ Ed
Nov. 15 Irish Sessiun
Nov. 17 Karaoke
Nov. 18 Shoot The Moon
Nov. 19 Da Mud Hens
Nov. 21 DJ Ed
Nov. 22 Irish Sessiun
Nov. 24 Classic Trax/Karaoke

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Press * to return to main menu at any time. Have paper and pencil ready!

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Jazz	12	Paradise	1140	Blau Zur	1183	Magic	22
Blues	13	The Tam	1141	Chloe	1184	Dinner Theatre	23
Raggae	14	Johnny D's	1144	Maelstrom	1185	Plays	24
Classical	15	The Causeway	1145	Sam Black Church	1187	Museums	31
Dance	16	Copperfields	1155	Swinging Johnsons	1191	Galleries	32
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		Avalon	1632				
		Venus De Milo	1634				
		Man Ray	1644				
		Comedy Connection	2133				

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BAR & CLUB LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

BREWERIES

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383. "Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 cover, and if you have dinner here, cover is waived

DANCING

AVENUE C
5 Boylston Place, Boston, 423-3832. A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Friday and Saturday nights. Piano rooms.

EUROPA INTERNATIONAL BAR & CLUB
51 Stuart St. in Boston's theatre district, 482-6440. If you're looking for a friday night party, come dance for free at Europa, but don't forget your blue Improper Bostonian Europa/Roxy coupon on page 7. Fridays are Club Classics Nights with DJ Tony Z, a buffet by Jacob Wirth from 8:30-10 p.m.,and live performances in the lounge and piano bar, 8p.m.-2 a,m. Saturdays and Wednesdays are International Night, 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Sundays: Brazilian Night, 9:30 p.m.-2a.m. Mondays: Ebony Night Out, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Thursdays: Asian Night, 11 p.m.-2 a.m. Call for live music info. Proper attire required.

ROXY
279 Tremont St. in the Tremont House, 227-7699. Come dance and mingle in Boston's most elegant nightclub. From November 12 through the 25th, the Roxy offers a variety of shows and dance parties: Friday November 12th and 19th is International Night, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 13th and 20th is Roxy Club Classics night, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 14th is the Hair Cares Show, a hair and fashion showcase, from 7 p.m.-2 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17th,and Sunday, Nov. 21st is Latin Night. Monday Nov. 22nd, Cuffs and Collars. Thursday, Nov. 25th: Greek Thanksgiving Party from 9 p.m-2 a.m. FREE ADMISSION to the Roxy on Saturday nights with the blue Improper Bostonian Roxy/Europa coupon on page 7.

GENERAL

ATRIUM LOUNGE
The Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston, 523-3600.
Every Wednesday from 7-11p.m. relax in the comfortable setting of the Atrium Lounge at The Bostonian Hotel with some of the best jazz artists from the Boston area. Enjoy the talents of artists like Mike Jones (piano) Gray Sargent, (guitar), Dave Whitney, (trumpet) and more! Complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

BEACON HILL PUB
49 Charles St., Boston. A "scene straight out of Star Wars" reads the Worst of Boston award hanging on the wall. Anything goes at this popular Beacon Hill dive bar. Inside you'll find upscale Beacon Hill professionals mixing freely with members of skid row (not the band, mind you). The crowd is friendly and unpretentious. Thursday thru Saturday, college students abound. No cover. Free wings and dogs 4-7 p.m. weekdays.

CAFE GRAPPA
1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Day's Inn, Brighton,254-4336.
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A jammin' place featuring live music Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. feature Splash, a tropical band that combines the best influences of reggae, Latin, and Afro-Carribean. Wednesdays from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. heat up fast as Alvin Terry, Boston's premiere jazz drummer is joined by a variety of the area's best musicians for a mighty jazz jam. Thursdays from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. feature Jose Ramos and his bad for what's fast becoming the best blues jam in Boston. Free parking. Great Italian food available at Bennino's Restaurant next door.

CANTAB LOUNGE
738 Massachusetts Ave., Central Sq., Cambridge, 354-2685.
Live music every night. Upstairs Monday- Geoff Bartley's New Open Stage (folk and more), Tuesday: Geoff Bartley presents Irish, Blue Grass Country Woman & Acoustic Rock. Call for details, Wednesday: The Naked Mole Rats. Thursday and Sunday: The Roadhouse Sheiks. Friday and Saturday Little Joe Cook & The Thrillers- world famous blues!! Downstairs Friday: Poetry Slam! with Patti Smith & Michael Brown 6:30-midnight. Saturday: The Catbox Cabaret. Must be over 21 years, positive ID required.

THE ELIOT LOUNGE
370 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 262-1078
"The Elliot is Boston's Best Sports Bar, only because it never tried to be one." Charles Pierce, Boston Magazine. At the corner of Mass. and Comm. Avenues
sits this neighborhood pub. There are lots of intriguing photos on the walls. Early BAA Marathons, golf, horse racing and a balcony section devoted to recent Celtics' greats. An ever-expanding selection of draught and bottled beers make this a great stop before, during or after a game. On Saturdays dance to Nard's Rock and Roll Revue in a casual atmosphere. Also available for holiday parties for groups of up to 140. Call now to reserve your date. Open daily from noon til 2 a.m.

THE GREEN DRAGON TAVERN
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The Green Dragon was called "Headquarters Of The Revolution." Originally founded in 1657, this was the original site for the planning of the Boston Tea Party and the meeting place for important patriot groups. The Sons of Liberty and the Boston Society of Mechanics met here regularly. The Green Dragon Tavern is open daily 11a.m. to 2 a.m. with entertainment nightly. The Tavern serves lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch with daily lobster specials and 13 beers on draft.

HARPERS FERRY
158 Brighton Ave.,Allston, 254-9743.
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HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch-time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
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THE LITTLEST BAR
47 Province St., Boston, 523-9766. Located near Downtown Crossing, and a quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. weekdays and Saturdays.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

MANN AT WORK

"...Aimee Mann has endured her share of heartache, including a legal battle to win release from 'Til Tuesday's Epic label. But in *Whatever*, Mann has made the album she wanted..."

Aimee Mann's *Whatever* is filled with bittersweet lyrics on the subject of relationships. Yet the record — a candidate for pop album of the year — brims with a sense of charm and optimism.

The singer/songwriter, formerly of 'Til Tuesday, says, "A lot of that is [thinking] `Listen, things may be awful, and we don't know what's going to happen. We don't know what's going to happen with this record. But we have a couple of mellotrons and life is beautiful.'"

Mann has endured her share of heartache, including a legal battle to win release from 'Til Tuesday's Epic label. But with financing from her manager before she signed with Imago, Mann made the album she wanted, with multi-instrumentalist Jon Brion handling production.

She still doesn't know what will ultimately happen with *Whatever*, which has sold about 100,000 copies in the United States — a tally far short of what the record deserves. But after spending much of the summer in Europe (the album went Top 40 in England), Mann is finally touring here. Her Nov. 12 concert at Avalon is her first local date since she played last spring on the roof of Strawberries in Kenmore Square.

"You have to support your own record," says Mann, citing conflicting strategies with her manager and label over the timing for a tour. "You can't just wait for things to happen on their own."

She'll be coming back to town with a band that features Bostonians Clayton Scoble on guitar, Brian Stevens (ex-Cavedogs) on bass and Milt Sutton on drums, as well as XTC guitarist Dave Gregory.

Gregory attended one of Mann's shows in England and joined her band onstage. After the concert, over dinner, she "asked him if he was the one [in XTC] who didn't like touring, and he said, `Oh no, I like touring.' And I said, `How would you like to do some of it with me?'"

Certainly Mann shares XTC's stylistic debt to the Beatles. "A lot of it is more directly influenced by people who are influenced by the Beatles, so there's a lot of Badfinger and Kinks and that sort of sound," Mann says, on the phone from a tour stop in England.

On *Whatever*, "Way Back When" summons "Penny Lane"-like trumpet sounds, while "Mr. Harris" mimics the Beatles in its string section. However, an even bigger twist is an appearance by guitarist Roger McGuinn, quoting his own Byrds licks in "Couldn't Been Anyone."

Mann says she and producer Brion are both "very fond of quoting other things that don't necessarily apply to a particular song. It's just sort of fun to have reference points from other songs."



AIMEE MANN: *The Former 'Til Tuesday singer heads home from her European tour to play at Avalon Nov. 12.*

Brion also laced *Whatever* with the sounds of several antique keyboards, but none of the icing distracts from Mann's winsome songs. "Jon and I have this concept of arranging, which is perpetual melody," she says. "When the melody or the vocal stops, something else should come up and continue the melodic idea. But that's always in the service of the song. It's never in the service of showing off what a great player you are. And we have a lot of odd instruments that we use, but the sounds are always chosen as a support."

On the road, Mann will be supported mainly by guitars, the primary instrument heard on *Whatever*. She will be singing songs from that album — and from 'Til Tuesday. "We'll ruin `Voices Carry' as much as we can," she wryly promises of her former band's signature hit.

ELSEWHERE — What is it about these Friday nights? Aimee Mann arrives on the same night as the Bulgarian Women's Choir at Sanders Theater; Tuck & Patti and Mary Black in separate shows at Berklee; Col. Bruce Hampton & the Aquarium Rescue Unit at the Paradise; and, of course, Nirvana at the Wallace Civic Center in Fitchburg. Whew! For a more clear-cut concert decision, check out enchanting, eclectic Canadian songstress Jane Siberry at the Charles Playhouse Nov. 15. ❑

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B &C's continued from Page 30

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70 Rowes Wharf, Boston, 439-3995.
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Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166.
Located next to the Boston Tea Party Ship, 1/2 block from South Station. Monday Night Football Party 9 p.m.-12 a.m.. Thursday: Three Cheers Karaoke Contest 8 p.m.-12 a.m.. Weekly 1st prize of roundtrip airfare to Hawaii. Friday: Friday Night Dance Party. DJ Dave Stewart spins your favorite music. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday thru Sunday Boston's dinner theater to die for. Free parking 7 nights a week.

Irish

Black Rose
160 State St., Boston, 742-2286. Live, traditional Irish music 7 days and an atmosphere that thrives on patron participation characterize this Faneuil Hall bar whose name is a symbol of Irish Catholic repression by the British. The food is home spun and the beer, well... Irish. The upbeat crowd is composed of students, professionals, locals, etc. and they all get involved in the show. Beware, people will know your status by stealing a glance at your claddaugh ring! Moderate cover weekends. Casual dress.

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.
Entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun. Wednesday nights; Karaoke prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1 a.m. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010.
Party and dance at Boston's newest hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wednesday thru Sunday. After-work parties on Thursday and Friday with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's biggest and best bands! Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

The Irish Embassy Pub
234 Friend Street,Boston, at the Boston Garden, 742-6618.
Do you remember The Irish Embassy Pub in Falmouth? Of course you do! Now we are also at The Boston Garden. Come down and enjoy a great crowd in a fun, casual atmosphere. Sundays there are acoustic jams in the afternoon and a D.J. at night. Monday nights come down and beat the winter blues with our blues jam.Tuesdays: Eoin Woods. Wednesdays: Best original music. Thursdays: College cover bands. Fridays: Alternative music. Saturdays: Classic hits.

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub The Kells prides itself on featuring "the best in live bands." Everything from the cutting edge of rock to original Irish folk music. Live entertainment is featured 7 nights a week, and Irish/American folk music can be heard on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. For those important sports events, check out the TV at The Kells, the biggest screen in Boston! Students are welcomed to visit. Open 7 nights until 2:00 a.m.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400.
If you are looking for a lively pub with an Irish flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wednesday thru Sunday. Sunday night: DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guinness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2 a.m. and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

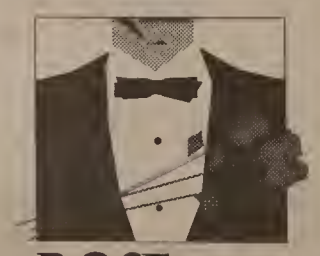
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1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time.



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Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Uncommonly Good

"...Perfect programs for adventurous casual listeners sick of the bombast of the romantic symphony..."

Symphony orchestras make a lot of noise. It's hard to overlook a symphony orchestra, even in a pretty big room with the lights out. However, a lot of Boston's musical life goes unseen; even though there are exciting and unusual programs out there beckoning - very quietly - the casual classical listener.

Chamber music, for example, often reveals a far more intimate and intense side of composers known for big orchestral works. A perfect example is Dmitri Shostakovich — who spent much of his life in a grueling tug of war with Stalin, forced to produce bright-eyed propaganda for the Russian public — secretly expressed his rawer, more tender feelings in an exquisite string of chamber works. Members of the Boston Chamber Music Society will perform his last chamber work, "The Sonata for Violin and Piano, Op. 147," at Jordan Hall on Nov. 19 and at Sanders Theater on Nov. 21. The other pieces on



ANNER BYLSMA: *Plays MFA on Nov. 14.*

the program include Dvorak's "Viola Quintet, Op. 97," one of Dvorak's delightful postcards from America, and Erno Dohnanyi's "Sextet" of 1935, a slightly denser and more challenging work. This nicely varied concert is sure to be played with the BCMS's characteristic flair - for tickets, call (617) 422-0086.

If modern music offends your ear or exacerbates your corns, several upcoming events promise topnotch performances of earlier chamber works. World-famous violinist Monica Huggett and guitarist Richard Savino will be giving a recital of fiery little works by Italian virtuosi such as Corelli and Paganini. Composers such as these were always larger than life, expected to scribble music that would showcase their instruments' abilities to blare, sing, hop and leap in somersaults of almost inhuman agility. Paganini's playing was always likened to fireworks and religious experience. The concert will be held at the Old West Church in Boston on Dec. 3. For tickets and information, call (617) 661-1812. On the afternoon of Nov. 14, world-class cellist Anner Bylsma will be giving a performance of three of Bach's fine cello suites (Nos. 1, 3, and 6) at the Museum of Fine Arts. These Bach works have always been known for their incredible compression: One driven line paints whole worlds. Visit the museum first, glut yourself on the fleshy Rubens and ecstatic cherubs, then enjoy these austere and noble works as a cool post-prandial sherbet. For information, call (617) 267-9300, x300 during business hours.

Our local conservatories and colleges often sponsor very impressive concerts. A random upcoming example: The Longy School of Music will present soprano Jayne West and pianist Robert Merfield in a program of art-songs, featuring Schumann's lovely *Liederkreis*, a series of haunting images recounted by a wanderer in a mythical wood. This strange, neo-symbolist song cycle — sort of what if Franz Schubert went hiking with Franz Kafka — will be paired with various intelligently chosen art-songs by Debussy, Faure, Mendelssohn and Wolf on Nov. 19 in the Edward Pickman Concert Hall. For information, call (617) 876-0956, x130.

For those in the mood for an unusual (even bizarre) choral evening, I have two suggestions in the upcoming month: On Nov. 12 the fantastic Bularian women's choir *Le Mystere Des Voix Bulgares* will appear at Sanders Theater. You may laugh; you may say that if you've hear one a cappella Bulgarian women's choir, you've heard them all; but, in fact, the exotic, piercing quality of these voices, the strikingly alien harmonies they produce, will fascinate people interested in world music, classical music and jazz. They may be mysterious, but not so mysterious they don't have a telephone number: (617) 496-2222.

And, second on our list of unusual choral evenings, a performance of Handel's oratorio *Saul* with time for a fine dinner at a local restaurant between "Parts I" and "II." *Saul* is a political potboiler of love, war and torrid palace intrigue. The young shepherd David returns to the capital, having just triumphantly slain Goliath (the giant, not the animated Lutheran dog). Amid parades and ceremonies, the Israelites sing David's praises. In fact, they sing them at such length that King Saul gets jealous and irritable. His mood doesn't improve when David and Saul's son, Jonathan, declare that they feel a love passing the love of women. That's when pointed weapons become involved. Handel's psychological masterpiece will be performed by the Boston Cecilia on Nov. 21 at Jordan Hall. Reserve seats for dinner at a local restaurant; it promises to be an evening to remember. For tickets and information, call (617) 232-4540.

These are perfect programs for adventurous casual listeners sick of the bombast of the romantic symphony, that staple of America's musical diet. Try something a little unusual. You'll be pleasantly surprised. ❑

PROPER BOSTONIANS

TRUE PRU

The Shops at the Prudential Center opened with a huge bash celebrating more than 70 stores and restaurants. Below are some of the Bostonians who played a part in this $100-million re-development extravaganza.

PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON



TABLE TALK: *Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, talks to the Prudential Realty Group's Bob Walsh and Brian Strum during the opening party.*



TUNED IN: *Richie McMaster, manager of DAPY, shows off a sleek ride of a radio/ tape player.*



LEGAL SMILE: *Maggie Morrissey, manager of Legal Seafoods, steps into the Prudential Center gallery.*



SWEET LIFE: *Manager Samantha Frank stands guard at the doorway to delicacies and sugary delights of the Sweet Factory.*



HEAR ALL ABOUT IT: *Manager Jim Banfield demonstrates the listening-station feature of his Prudential shop, Hear Music.*



COMMUNITY LEADERS: *Elma Lewis, left, founder and artistic director of Afro-American Artists, shares a laugh with retired Boston Globe editor-in-chief Thomas Winship at the kick-off festivities.*

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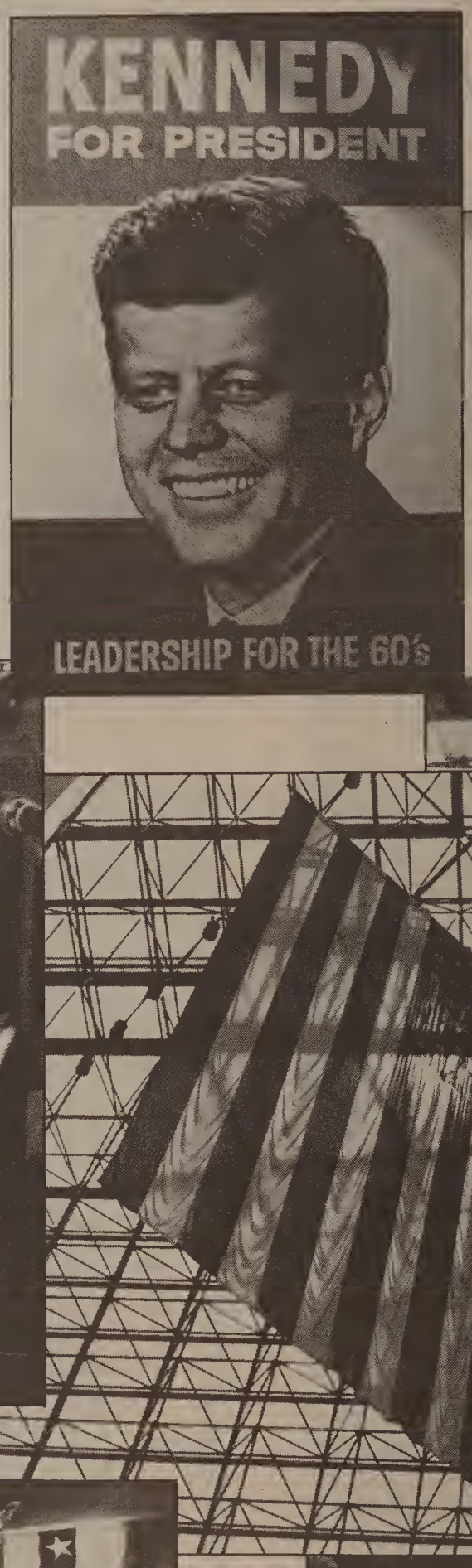
"Rememberance of a Legacy"

By Gina Benedict

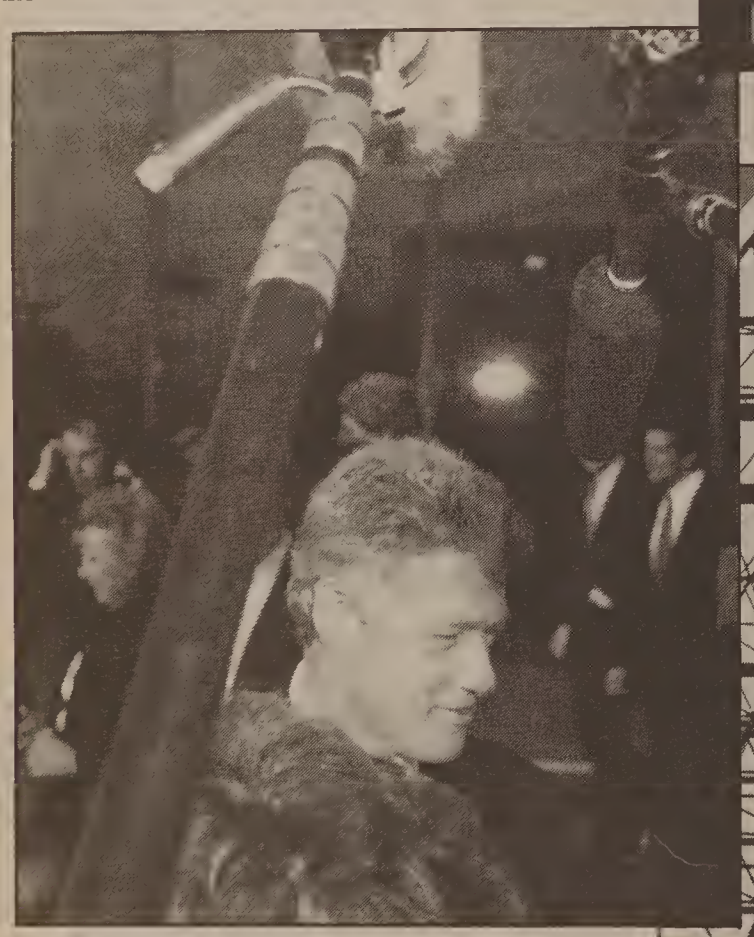
"We celebrate the past to awaken the future," John F. Kennedy's words on the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Social Security Act came alive once again during the opening of the new museum at the Kennedy Library. On Oct. 29, President Clinton and members of the Kennedy family joined to dedicate the museum, which helps visitors experience the political and personal life of President Kennedy. The exhibits re-create the excitement surrounding Kennedy's campaign, the influence of his commitment to volunteer service, and the legacy that surrounds his thousand-day reign as president.

"Most visitors to the library hadn't been born during my father's presidency," said Caroline B. Kennedy, "and we decided that the best way for younger people to learn about this important time in history was to experience it through his own words. This is not a shrine, it is a remembrance of a legacy."

President Clinton touched on the legacy of the Kennedy administration in his dedication speech: "We must invest in our future and shape the events to come instead of allowing to be shaped by them. This museum proves that one person can make a difference."

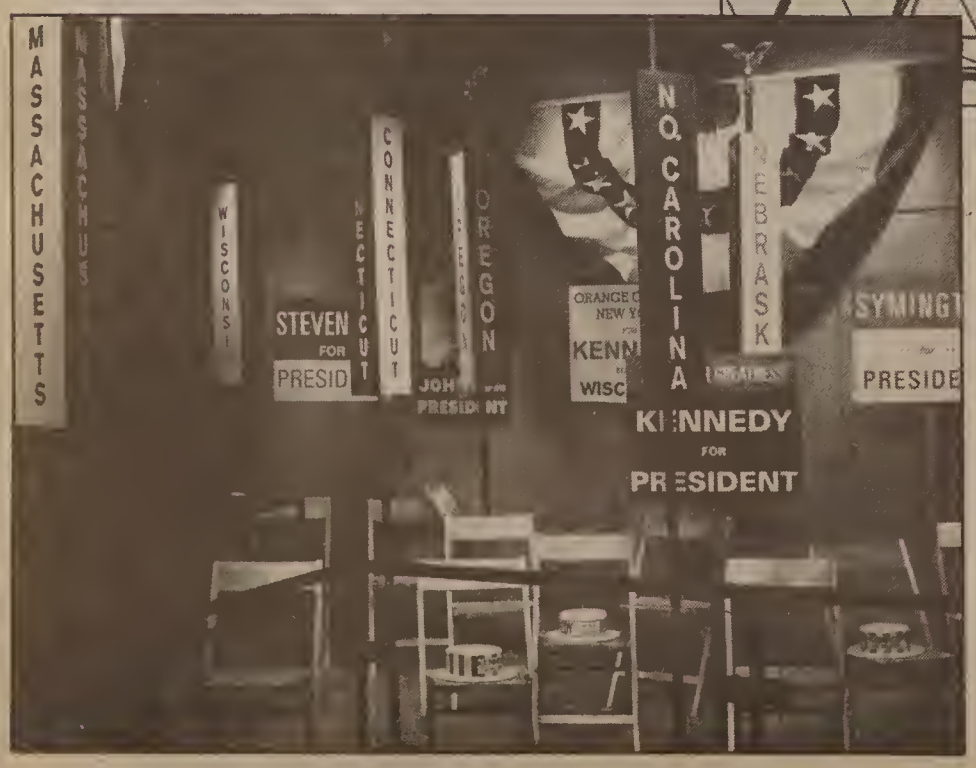






The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum: *Morrissey Avenue, next to UMass-Boston, Dorchester, overlooking the Boston Harbor. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, and admission is $6 for adults, $4 for seniors and students. Call 929-4523 for more information.*

Photos By Paul Pilcher





THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY KATHY MATHESON

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23				

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
Tickets are now on sale for *The Nutcracker*, which runs Nov. 26-Jan. 2. Call 931-ARTS.

DANCE COMPLEX
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Dance Complex presents its third-annual faculty concert/fund-raising performance Nov. 12-13 at 8 p.m. Call 547-9363.

MASS. COLLEGE OF ART
621 Huntington Ave., Boston
Beyond autumn, a dance-and-movement group, gives a free performance Nov. 12 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov. 13 at 9 p.m. Call 232-1555.

MOBIUS
354 Congress St., Boston
Back again by popular demand, it's *Two Sound Performances and a Few More Raccoons*, a visceral piece that brings together sound, movement and performance artists through poetry, taped and processed sound and original instrumentation. Nov. 11 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 12-13 at 9 p.m. Call 542-7416.

PHOTOGRAPHY

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
Caribbean Faces and Places is a cultural, historical and photographic exhibition by Rick Weinberg; it's on view throughout November.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Grad-student Ellen Shea traveled to Egypt to document the lifestyle of Egyptian peasants; the result is the 54-photo exhibit *The Faces of Egypt*. On view in the Compton Gallery, Nov. 18-Dec. 31.

NE SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY
537 Comm. Ave., Kenmore Square
Boston's top fashion photogs — shooting the creations of the town's top fashion designers — exhibit in *Fashion Plate*, through Nov. 12.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Comm. Ave., Boston
Other Africas, a joint show of three photographers, goes against the grain of both historical representations of colonial Africa and contemporary photojournalistic documents representing Africa as a continent defined by dependence and chaos. These photos show urban and rural Africans as citizens who share concerns and aspirations with their contemporaries everywhere; on exhibit until Dec. 19.

TOURS

ART AND ARCHITECTURE TOURS OF THE BPL
Boston Public Library, Copley S'quare
From the original, classically designed wing of the BPL to the modern one, these guided tours are fascinating — and free. Monday, 2:30 p.m.; Tuesday-Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday, 11 a.m.

BOSTON GARDEN
Causeway Street, Boston
Better get on this one fast, before you're reading about the Shawmut Center tours. See the championship banners, legendary parquet floor and a team locker room all up close, as guides recount tales of the Garden's history, and of all of the sports heroes who have contributed to its fame. Call 720-1002.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY OBSERVATORY
For you stargazers out there, the BU Astronomy Department hosts open-observatory nights at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday night that is clear. Call 353-2630 if the weather looks questionable. The entrance is at 705 Comm. Ave.; take the elevator to the fifth floor.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Send an electronic message to President Clinton in the new exhibit *Become an Electronic Citizen*. In the Person-to-Person booth, make a "virtual visit" with a friend using a videophone. See R2-D2 from *Star Wars* in the new exhibit, *Robots & Other Smart Machines*. Enjoy more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO
Franklin Park, Boston
Before the weather gets too cold, be sure to go see both outdoor and indoor exhibits at the FPZ: the brand-new African Tropical Forest (leopards and gorillas), the House of Birds, and the Hooves and Horns area, with zebras, llamas, horned sheep, deer and camels! Admission is only $5.



IMPROPER PICK

You may remember him as the scatterbrained governor on the once-popular TV show Benson, but James Noble has much more talent than that. On Nov. 12 and 13 at 8 p.m., he presents What the Thunder Said, re-enacting three of T.S. Eliot's most powerful poems, with musical accompaniment, at the Poets' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston. Call 695-8119.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Resinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400. To counter MFA's prestigious *The Age of Rubens* exhibit, the Fogg hosts *An Offbeat Collection of Dutch and Flemish Paintings* through Jan. 9, 1994.

HIGGINS ARMORY MUSEUM
100 Barber Ave., Worcester
The armory is the only institution in the Western Hemisphere solely dedicated to arms and armor. Call (508) 853-6015.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
Through Jan. 2, the ICA presents *Commodity Image*, a photography exhibit that demonstrates the impact of consumerism on art, and a *Day Without Art*, an exhibit of visual-and-media art by artists dealing with AIDS in some capacity. Call 266-5151; free admission Thursdays, 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Come see the permanent exhibit of mostly early-Italian and Renaissance pieces at the museum. Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. Call 566-1401.

JOHN F. KENNEDY LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
Columbia Point, Dorchester
This newly revamped museum focuses on the political career and family heritage of President John F. Kennedy. Call 929-4523.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Through Jan. 2, *The Age of Rubens* is the first major survey of Flemish Baroque painting ever mounted in the United States, and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe. Its companion exhibit is *Rubens, Bellange, Rembrandt: European Graphic Art, 1580-1660*, a collection of 90 prints, drawings and illustrated books; through Feb. 6. MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2. Contemporary artist Robert Cumming presents *Cone of Vision* through Nov. 28. Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific. The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27. MFA presents *Deities, Saints and Allegories*, full-length images and busts of classic mythological figures, through March 6. American homes, from squatters' encampments to fancy Manhattan penthouses, will be examined in *In and Out of Place: Contemporary Art and the American Social Landscape* through Jan. 23, 1994. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
The dinosaurs - including the ferocious velociraptor - from *Jurassic Park* have stormed into New England, but you better have advanced tickets if you want to see them. Also, there's *It's All in Your Head*, where you can walk through a giant (9-foot-long) brain replica and explore the wonders of the mind. Through May 15, 1994, see the *Mysteries of the Bog* exhibit, where you can scoop cranberries and learn about this misunderstood ecosystem - including the myth of the "Bog-ey Man." Lots of fun stuff to play with, no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Call 723-2500.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
The aquarium's newest exhibit is called *Catch Some Rays*, about the mysterious — and dangerous — stingray family of fish. Meet the denizens of the water world, including divers who hand-feed sharks, plus daily sea-lion performances. Also, see the new expanded tidepool! Call 973-5200.

NEW ENGLAND SPORTS MUSEUM
Cambridgeside Galleria, Cambridge
The Sox last won the World Series in 1918 — ancient history, huh? Well, it's actually not that long ago in the scope of the NESM. This place has *everything* that has *anything* to do with New England sports, including interactive exhibits, such as the one where you can catch a pitch thrown by Roger Clemens. The best thing is that it's open the same hours as the mall, so you can go on a weeknight and have the place all to yourself.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERATORY THEATER
Adams House, 3 Bow St., Cambridge
The ART Institute for Advanced Theater Training will present *The House of Bernada Alba*, by Federico Garcia Lorca, from November 18-21, at 7:30 p.m., November 20 at 10 a.m., and November 21 at 1:30 p.m. Call 547-8300 for tickets.

BACK ALLEY THEATER
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
The improv-theater troupe Renegade Duck performs every Sunday at 1 p.m. until the end of the year. Tickets are $10, $5 for students with ID. Call 628-8428.

BOSTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
541 Tremont St., Boston
The Other White Meat, Beantown's acclaimed sketch-comedy troupe, premieres its all-new stage show *Mystery Loaf*, Nov. 11-14. Show starts at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinee, 5 p.m.

CANTAB LOUNGE
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The Catbox Cabaret hosts a late-night potpourri of music and theater, featuring the work of Boston's best actors, playwrights, songwriters and directors in an open-mic format. Every Sat. at 8 p.m. through Nov. 21, with a special show on Friday the 13th. Call 354-2685.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve a murder mystery. Call 426-5225.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
Happiness is going to see the Peanuts' You're *a Good Man, Charlie Brown* gang perform its 26th anniversary production through Jan. 2, 1994. It's a family musical, but fun for hipsters as well. Call 426-6912.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
Until Nov. 14, see the highly acclaimed comedy *The Madness of George III*, the story of the British king who "lost the Colonies" and then his mind. Also, the Tony Award-winning musical adaptation of the beloved children's book *The Secret Garden* plays here from Nov. 23-28. Call the box office or 931-2787.

DELVENA THEATRE CO.
16 Lynde St., Salem
Don't be scared off by the location - it really is a funny, touching play. The DTC performs the highly acclaimed *Shirley Valentine* at the Witch Dungeon Museum Theater Nov. 11-13 at 8 p.m. It's about a Liverpool housewife who drops everything to go to Greece in search of her dreams. Call (508) 741-3570.

DOUBLE EDGE THEATRE
5 St. Luke's Road, Allston
DET presents "Song of Songs" Nov. 12-14, 19-21 and 26-28 at 8 p.m. It's a theatrical song cycle about love; call 254-4228 for ticket information.

Continued on Following Page



WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY KIM CAVINESS AND MEGAN GILMARTIN

What actor or actress would star in the movie of your life?



David Reed, 24, Boston
"River Phoenix ... and/or Susan ("Stop the Insanity") Powder in drag."



Natascha, 21, Cambridge
"Whoopi Goldberg. I can identify with her, and she's funny."



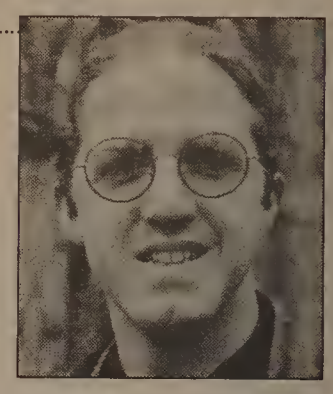
George, 22, Chelsea
"Tom Cruise. Because he's cool."



Tonya, 26, Brookline
"Michelle Pfeiffer. She grew up in the same town as me, surfing, playing volleyball."



Tina, 30, Boston
"Hayley Mills. I alway liked her as a child, and she's favorable to Hare Krishnas."



Robert, 20, Cambridge
"Me, of course."

HASTY PUDDING THEATER
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
The Cambridge Theatre Company puts on the classic drama *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* through Nov. 28, starring Sally Kellerman (*M*A*S*H*). Call 496-8400.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE CO.
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Sometimes the strongest ties are those that do not bind. The HTC presents Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady From the Sea* until Nov. 14. Call 266-0800.

ICA THEATRE
955 Boylston St., Boston
Coyote Theatre presents *Jack*, in which three women narrate a story about a gay man with AIDS. Nov. 12-14. Call 695-0659.

LITTLE FLAGS THEATRE
550 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The Theater of Relativity presents *Split*, about the lighter side of failed marriage and the trials and tribulations of being single, Nov. 11-20. Call 576-2800.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
David Drake's one-man-drama *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* was heralded an undisputed winner in the *New Yorker*'s survey of gay and lesbian-oriented plays. It runs through Nov. 28; call 437-7172.

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MERRIMACK REPERTORY THEATRE
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, Lowell
The MRT presents *God's Country*, a provocative look at racism, cults and what can, indeed, happen in America. Through Nov. 20. Call (508) 454-3926.

MIT
Opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Krup you! MIT presents Officer Krupke and his *West Side Story* Nov. 12-14, 18-20 in the Student Center at 8 p.m. Call 253-6294. Also, come see *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Nov. 18-20 at midnight. Yes, midnight - every show, which is in room 6-120. Enter at 77 Mass. Ave. Call 494-8300.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its fifth year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four-course dinner plus the show, are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone at 262-1826.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Bursting with music and nostalgia, *Holiday Memories* recalls Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations as seen through the eyes of a child in the Depression-era South. These two classic American short stories by Truman Capote are re-enacted on stage through Dec. 12; call 332-1646 for times and tickets.

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
360 Huntington Ave., Boston
NU presents *Back to the Blanket*, a contemporary play that speaks to the destruction of the buffalo and the genocide of the American Indian, Nov. 12-13, 17-20 at 8 p.m. In the Studio Theatre (150 Ell Student Center); tickets are $6. Call 373-2247.

PARAMOUNT PENTHOUSE THEATER
58 Berkeley St., Boston
Triangle Theater, New England's only professional theater company dedicated to productions exploring gay-and-lesbian issues, opens its 15th anniversary season with *Green Fingers*, a courtroom comedy-drama about two lovers accused of looting a British mansion. Until Nov. 13. Call 426-3550.

PARK PLAZA HOTEL
Arlington and Columbus sts., Boston
Forever Plaid, the musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, continues its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner-show packages are $52 and $49. Call 357-8384.

POETS' THEATRE
949 Comm. Ave., Boston
You may remember him as the scatterbrained governor on the once-popular TV show *Benson*, but James Noble has much more talent than that. On Nov. 12-13 at 8 p.m., he presents *What the Thunder Said*, re-enactments of three of T.S. Eliot's most powerful poems, with musical accompaniment. Call 695-8119.

SYMPHONY HALL
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
Garrison Keillor, along with Kate Mac Kenzie and Richard Dworsky, will present *The Story of Guys* on Monday, November 15, at 8 p.m. This show is about, well, guys, basically, and how they are one of the world's greatest genders. Call SymphonyCharge at 266-1200, or Ticketmaster, at 931-2000, for tickets.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant-theater packages are available with the European Restaurant. For more information on dinner packages, call 227-9872 or (800) 382-8080.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAY THEATER
41 Foster St., Arlington
A witty, wildly diverse collection of songs and stories about women growing older and coming into their own, *Washed-Up Middle-Aged Women* is performed each Fri. and Sat. through Dec. 4, 8 p.m. at the Arlington Center for the Arts. Call 643-6916.

WANG CENTER
270 Tremont St., Boston
Jesus Christ Superstar, running through Nov. 17, stars the two men who made the movie so popular 20 years ago. Originally a rock opera, *JCS* is based on the last seven days of Jesus's life. Also, the musical *Dreamgirls*, about three young girls from Chicago who make it big after starting out as backup rhythm & blues singers, plays Nov. 18-21. Call 931-2787 or the box office for times and ticket information.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS/READINGS

BOSTON CENTER FOR SOCIAL THERAPY
25 Huntington Ave., Suite 328
The "Stop Abusive Behavior" workshop, held Nov. 13 from 1-3:30 p.m., teaches practical skills for dealing with all kinds of abusive situations: verbal, physical, sexual or drug/alcohol abuse. Cost is $18; call 424-7937.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
George Sherman Union
775 Comm. Ave., Boston
Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, concludes his annual series of lectures Nov. 16 with a talk on "In Hassidism: Rebbe Mendel of Riminov & Rebbe Moshe of Ujhely." Call 353-2224. Also, Boston Police Commissioner William Bratton speaks Nov. 10 on "Neighborhood Policing: The Challenge of Managing Change" at 6:30 p.m. in room 224 of the School of Management, 685 Comm. Ave. Call 353-2312. Admission is free to the public for both lectures.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
808 Comm. Ave., Boston
The fourth annual benefit, *Festival of Fare*, celebrating the cooks and recipies of New England, happens on Sunday, November 21, from noon to 5 p.m. There will be food tastings, book signings and cooking demonstrations by some of New England's best chefs, including Julia Child. The festival is free; food and wine tasting is $5; admission to a series of six cooking demonstrations is $10 per demonstration. Also, Gloria Zimmerman presents a demonstration of preparing Vietnamese cuisine Nov. 22 from 6-9 p.m. in Room 117. Tuition is $40, and each participant receives a copy of Zimmerman's book, *Classic Cuisine of Vietnam*. Call 353-9852.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
As part of the Library's "Ultimate Dinner" series, the chef of Somerville's popular restaurant, "The Elephant Walk," will demonstrate the preparation of various hors d'oeuvres Nov. 17 at 6:15 p.m. Wine will accompany the tasting; tickets are $35. Also, the library hosts its monthly, informal all-French conversational group Nov. 18 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Recommended minimum level of French is intermediate. Admission is $6, $4 for students and seniors. Call 266-4351 for either event.

MIT
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge
Susan Sontag will present a reading on Tuesday, November 23, at 8 p.m., as part of MIT's annual Writers Series. The event is free and open to the public. Call 253-7894.

NOW
971 Comm. Ave., Boston
Work for women's safety and ensure that the media and government take this issue seriously when you help with the Violence Against Women Task Force, which meets Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. Help with the Clothesline Project and Court Watch Project.

SANDERS THEATER
Harvard Sq., Cambridge
The 3rd annual *Voices Louder Than Words* benefit reading for the homeless is coming up on Friday, November 12 at 6 p.m. This year's readers will include Douglas Adams, author of the Hitchhiker's Trilogy, and Peter Mayle, author of *A Year in Provence*. The reading will be signed for the hearing impaired. Tickets are $12.50 for the redaing only, and $50 if you would like to attend the reception as well. Get them at your local bookstore, or by calling 496-2222.

GALLERIES

ALIANZA
154 Newbury St., Boston
What time is it? Time to go see *Clockworks*. This exhibition (until Nov. 14) includes sculptural clocks that are made of ceramic, metal, wood and/or stained glass.

ARTISTS FOUNDATION
8 Park Plaza, Boston
The Artists Foundation presents *Sitting at the Same Table: Artists Collaborating With Their Children*, an exhibition in all media by nine artists. In the gallery on the first floor of the State Transportation Building, through Dec. 18. Reception Nov. 13, 3-5 p.m.

BRICKBOTTOM ARTISTS' BUILDING
1 Fitchburg Street, Somerville
More than 80 visual artists will be opening their studios to the public on Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, November 21, from Noon to 6 p.m. Admission is free, and the studios are wheelchair accessible. Call 776-3410.

FIRST EXPRESSIONS
81 Arlington St., Boston
This gallery, which is exclusively dedicated to student art from area colleges, displays work by the students of the DeCordova Museum School of Art through Nov. 27; work by MIT. students is next on the list. Call 738-8578.

GALLERY 2200
1 Kendall Square, Bldg. 200
Second Floor, Suite 2200, Cambridge
Amy Kaufman: Oil Paintings and Pastels runs through Nov. 30, with a reception in honor of the artist scheduled Nov. 14, from 2-4 p.m. Viewing hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m-5:30 p.m., and by appointment. Admission is free. Call 527-3930.

GREEN DRAGON TAVERN
11 Marshall Street, Boston
Although it's not exactly a gallery, the Green Dragon Tavern will be the place to see such luminaries as Mick Jagger and Albert Sweitzer, when George Connelly and Paul Cornacchini present *Two Artists-One Canvas* on November 16, from 5:30-10p.m. In addition to showing their portraits of famous people, the two will actually demonstrate their unusual style by painting live together on one canvas. Call 367-0055.

JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY
130 Newbury St., Boston
From November 13 through December 4, Marianna Pineda's *Search for the Queen* will be on exhibit. This show contains the bronzes, terra cottas and drawing that were done in preparation for her sculpture *The Spirit of Lili'uokalani*, which stands at the State Capitol in Honolulu, Hawaii. Call 437-1518.

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
Bottoms up! The Factory presents *Lost Weekend*, an exhibition of original advertising from the late 19th century through the early 1970s, featuring alcoholic beverages. Through November. Call 236-8754.

ROLLY-MICHAUX
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
Rolly-Michaux presents *Joan Miro: A Centennial Celebration* until Dec. 31. As its tribute to the Catalan surrealist (1893-1993), R-M presents the gallery's collection of important aquatint etchings and early lithographs. Call 536-9898 for gallery hours.

SOCIETY OF ARTS & CRAFTS
175 Newbury St., Boston
You probably wouldn't want to actually sit on any of this, but it's really cool to look at. The SAC presents furniture art through Nov. 13. Call 266-1810.

STEBBINS GALLERY
Zero Church St., Harvard Square
New paintings by Tony Sansevero, *Hyperion: Neo-Classical Visions*, incorporate the classical poetry that inspired the works. Through Nov. 28. Call 576-0131.

WEIU
356 Boylston St., Boston
The Women's Educational and Industrial Union sponsors a national needlework exhibition Nov. 13-21, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Tickets are $6; last year's show drew 4,000 visitors to marvel at the intricately made pillows, canvases, etc. Call 536-5651.

SPECIAL EVENTS

AIDS DANCE-A-THON
Hynes Convention Center, Boston
The 5th annual Dance-a-thon is expected ot raise over $400,000 in funds to help the fight against AIDS. Bring your dancing shoes, and at least $50 in pledges, because space is limited. This 4-hour entertainment extravaganza will be rocking the Hynes Convention Center on Saturday, November 20, from 6 to 11p.m. Call 424-9255 for pledge sheets.

ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR
Hynes Convention Center
The 17th-annual Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair features rare, collectible and antiquarian books, modern first editions, maps and autographs, and attracts exhibitors from all over the world. Held Nov. 19 (5-9 p.m.), 20th (12-7 p.m.) and 21st (12-5 p.m.). Appraisals of your own books will be available on the 20th from 1-4 p.m. Tickets are $5 a day or $10 for the whole weekend. Call 266-6540.

BOSTON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
Bayside Expo Center, Boston
Food, entertainment, arts, crafts... the list goes on and on. Over 80 ethnic groups are going to tempt and inspire you from November 18-21. Moreover, the festival is going to benefit the March of Dimes Foundation. Call 861-9729.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
World Trade Center, Boston
The 6th annual Cristmas Festival will run on November 13 and 14, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday.The festival will offer everything a holiday shopper could possibly desire, along with a Gingerbread House Competition and Sale to benefit the homeless. Now you don't have any excuses to put off your holiday shopping until Christmas Eve! Tickets are $6, $5 for senior citizens, and children under 14 are free. Call 742-3973.

CYCLORAMA FLEA MARKET
539 Tremont St., Boston
More than 100 dealers from all over New England will be selling antiques and collectibles in every price range Nov. 20 (11 a.m.-6 p.m.) and 21 (12 p.m.-6 p.m.) at the Boston Center for the Arts. Proceeds benefit the BCA and the South End Historical Society; call 536-4445.

FANEUIL HALL MARKETPLACE
Government Center, Boston
Silver bells, silver bells ... The Bells of Boston handbell choir performs at the ninth annual holiday lighting ceremony Nov. 20.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY
Dalton Street, Boston
The MSS hold its 18th-annual Dinner of Champions, with former Celtics player and coach Tom Heinsohn as the guest of honor, Nov. 18 at the Sheraton Boston hotel. Tickets are $150; call 890-4990.

OXFAM AMERICA
Old John Hancock Building
180 Berkeley St., Boston
On Thursday, November 18, From 7-9 p.m., Boston area residents will get the opportunity to participate in Oxfam's 4th annual Feast or Famine banquet. At the event, one of six taking place across the U.S. that same day, a privileged few will get a gourmet meal, while the majority will get rice and water. Jackson Browne will also be on hand to recieve the Oxfam Partners Award for his ongoing support of the organization. Call 482-1211 for tickets and information.

SUGARLOAF/USA
Carrabassett Valley, Maine
Start the ski season early this year by going up to Sugarloaf to participate in their annual canned food drive, benefiting needy families in Maine. If you contribute a can of food, your lift ticket will cost you only $10. The drive will go on Satuday, November 13 and Sunday November 14, with Peter Wolfe performing on Saturday evening at the Sugarloaf Base Lodge (tickets can be obtained by calling (207) 237-2000).

WHOLE HEALTH EXPO
Park Plaza Hotel, Boston
The Whole Health Expo features hundreds of exhibits from the Age of Aquarius: crystals, crystal jewelry, healthy foods, oil and incense, water purifiers, books, psychic readers, bodywork professionals, acupuncturists and more! Held Nov. 13 (9 a.m.-8 p.m.) and 14th (9:30 a.m.-7 p.m.); admission is $7 for one day, $12 for both. Located at the corner of Columbus and Arlington streets.

MUSIC

BOSTON GARDEN
Causeway Street, Boston
O sole mio! Luciano Pavarotti performs today at 4 p.m. Call 557-1323.

BU OPERA INSTITUTE
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Boston University Opera Institute presents Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro* at the BU Theatre Nov. 20 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. A special one-hour family version, with narration, will be held Nov. 21 at 2 p.m. Call 353-3345 for ticket information.

CANTATA SINGERS & ENSEMBLE
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
The Cantata Singers perform a program of Bach, Schutz and Britten Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 14 at 3 p.m. at Jordan Hall. Call 267-6502 for ticket information.

CORO ALLEGRO
Church of the Covenant
67 Newbury St., Boston
Boston's chorus for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and their friends will be performing music for chorus and orchestra by Haydn, Schubert, and Hindemith on Sunday, November 21, at 3 p.m. Call 499-4868 for information and tickets.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
27 Garden St., Cambridge
Soprano Jayne West and pianist Robert Merfeld give a benefit recital for Longy's scholarship fund Nov. 19 at 8 p.m. at Edward Pickman Concert Hall. The program includes Dvorak, Schumann and comparative settings of poetry texts. Call 876-0956.

MASS. COLLEGE OF ART
621 Huntington Ave., Boston
The Cecilian Singers, a group of 33 musicians from Barbados, return to Boston Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. for an evening of classical music, American spirituals and Barbadian folk music. At Tower Auditorium; call 247-7871 for ticket information.

MIT
Opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Frances Conover Fitch plays J.S. Bach's toccatas on the harpsichord Nov. 11. Also, Melissa Mielens on flute and Berit Strong on guitar performing music from around the world on November 18. Both concerts are at noon in the MIT chapel.Call 253-2906.

SOUTH STATION
Boston
The free lunchtime concerts at South Station continues with the WBOS Music Festival for the Earth featuring Al Stewart on November 18th at 12:15 p.m. All concerts are handicapped accessible and open to the public. Call 345-7460.

SYMPHONY HALL
301 Mass. Ave., Boston
Franz Welser-Most conducts the Boston Symphony Orchestra in a program of Schreker, Schumann and Beethoven Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. (open rehearsal), Nov. 11, 13 and 16 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 12 at 1:30 p.m.; call 266-1200 or CON-CERT. The renowned vocal ensemble The King's Singers perform Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. Herbert Blomstedt conducts the San Francisco Symphony Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.; the program includes Smetana, Janacek and Dvorak. Celebrated violin prodigy Midori performs a program that includes Bartok, Beethoven and Saint-Saens Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. Call 266-1492.

THEATER LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
A Sunday With the Classics is held each week in the North End from 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., with live music performed by the Cantabile Trio. This innovative concert/brunch series will offer food and music to delight the senses and relax the mind. Music and brunch, $20.. Students get in for half-price, and WGBH cardholders receive a 10-percent discount. Call 227-9872 for tickets and information.







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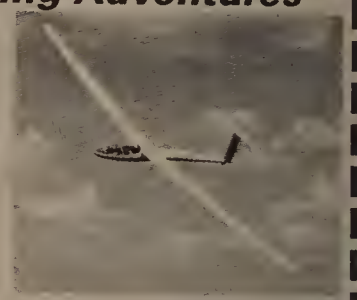
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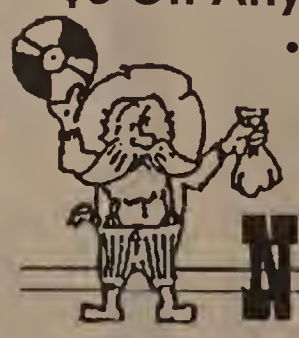
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- Include phone number and times to call.

INFORMATION AND PRICES

RATES: Line ads, six lines long: one issue - $29, four issues - $87, eight issues - $150, twelve issues - $200. Additional lines - $7 per. Bold heading - $5. Classified display -$20-per column inch. For frequency discounts, call for prices.

REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

AGENCY DISCOUNTS: 15%, Call for more information.

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APT. SHARES

ATTENTION: APARTMENT SHARE ADVERTISERS
Your ads in the Improper Bostonian are now FREE!

To place your ad, see classified ad form.

BELMONT Amateurs (2M/2F) seek 1 smokeless, petless soul w/ clarity of mind for placid apt. w/ plants. $295. + utils. 489-1250.

BROOKLINE Coolidge Corner. Seeking M roommate to share spacious, artistic, and clean apt. Hrdwd floors, furnished, ideal loc. $495. Call K. 731-9210.

BROOKLINE VILLAGE M/F roommate wanted. 1bdrm avail in 4bdrm apt. Large living room & dining room. Hardwood floors & fireplace. Great location-near D-line. Avail now. $250/mo heat & hot water incl. 277-4872

CAMBRIDGE-SOMERVILLE Seeking roommate to share clean & attractive four-bedroom apartment. Walk to Harvard $300. a month. Call Fred 661-0094.

LYNN M/F wanted to share large 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, living room, 2nd floor, hrdwd flrs, parking $267/mo. (includes heat, hot water & electric) call (617)231-2978 before 6pm.

SOUTH END 2 BDRM. APT. near BCH. Seeking non-smoking, prof. to share 1200 sq. ft., htd. w/d, hdwd floors on gentrified street. $550 w/ off street pkg. 236-1917 avail. now.

SUPER LUXURY APT. 2 bdrm, 2 baths, all appliances. Sky-line view of Boston. Complex has pool, health club, game room, & more! Shuttle bus to Boston & T. Call Tom 973-3877.

WATERTOWN/BELMONT 3rd F wanted for 8 rm. apt. Porch, yard, fireplace, w/d, & parking. $467+ No smoking-no pets. Avail now-please call 926-6261

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BOSTON-LOFT Live-in/Work, Artists/Professionals. Architect's 1500 SF 3 bedroom plus den with columns, high ceilings, maple floors, new kitchen/bathroom, built in shelving/seating, parking, lots of closets/storage, laundry in building, near "T". EXCELLENT, NEW CONDITION. $138,500 617-569-4888

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CHARLESTOWN Seeks 4th F for quiet house. Lrg sunny room wash/dry, library. 2 cats, no more. Be 24+, nonsmoker, student/prof. $325/util & dep. 242-0593

DORCHESTER Share safe, sunny 6 room apt. w/ WM, dog & parrot. You get your own bedroom, living room for $450.+ Deck & yard, quiet neighborhood. Please call or leave message at (617)265-6566.

JAMAICA PLAIN Room avail. in 5 bdrm. house w/ porches, w/d. Near T, Arboretum and J.P. Pond. Have 1 cat, no more pets. Non-smoker, quiet house w/ professionals & serious students. $300. + utils. 524-0819.

NORTH SHORE 2 roommates wanted to share large house on Lynnfield line near Rt 1. Off-street prkg, swimming pool, quiet location, w/w carpet, dw/d, w/d. No utils $110/week 593-2239

SHARE QUIET HOME In Lynn. Prof. GWM seeks housemate, pref. prof. GWM. Must be neat, clean, non-smoker. Off-street parking. Near commuter rail, w/d modern house w/ fireplace. Lots of privacy for renter. 599-1370

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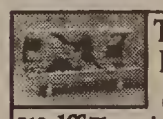
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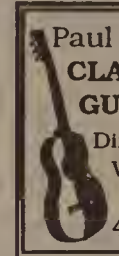
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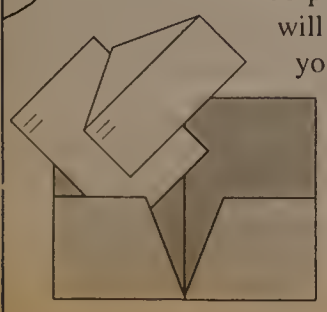
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

COMPASSIONATE, SINCERE, honest, divorced white female, 29, with alluring brown eyes, enjoys life, walks, movies, dancing, camping, snowmobiling, skiing & much more. Seeks a sincere, honest male for friendship and/or a 1-1 relationship. No games, just honesty! EXT•8152.

LOOKING FOR ROMANCE! Very attractive & well-built, divorced white female, 30, 5'8", slim, brown hair, blue eyes, from the Metro-west area, enjoys music, dancing, sports, the beach & the simple things in life. Seeks white male, 35–40, with similar interests, who also enjoys children. Lets have some fun! EXT•8082.

SCORPIO FEMALE, 28, professional, attractive, trilingual, enjoys travel, dining out & flying planes. Seeks male, over 30, with similar interests. No couch potatoes please! EXT•8119.

LINUS WHERE ARE YOU? Voluptuous white female, 32, blonde hair, sky-blue eyes, seeks secure, employed male to share her silk blanket with. If your 32+, dependable & enjoy snuggling, call me! EXT•8083.

MISCHIEVOUS, IRREVERENT, intelligent, absent-minded, 30yr old, professional white female with lots to offer. Cute, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy (but fit), musical, spiritual (liberal Protestant), grad student, loves family, friends, cooking, old movies, cozy fires, XC-skiing, swimming, beaches & more. Seeks kind, funny, bright, basically happy man, 30-40. EXT•8069.

EXOTIC, multi-cultural, "electric" businesswoman, spiritual creative nature, upbeat, well-traveled. Will sing the blues to a soulful, witty, charismatic gentleman, 40-ish, who knows what he wants, understands success, communicates his dreams with availability for unlimited possibilities. Ethenticity treasured! EXT•8160.

SWEET & SINCERE! Full-figured, very attractive, single white mom, 34, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, great dimples, enjoys movies, cooking & quiet evenings. Seeks good-looking, kind, sincere gentleman, 34-44, 5'10"+, for friendship & possible relationship. Sincere replies only! EXT•8062.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPLANT working in Cambridge! Professional white female, mid-30's, good shape, attractive & secure, loves MacGraphics, cats, a wide range of music, Healthworks, dancing, exploring the East Coast, Champagne & fun! Looking to share future experiences with the right man! EXT•8066.

FRIEND & LOVER! Attractive, thin, classy female, mid-40's, loves to laugh & converse, seeks educated, secure male who values an honest relationship based on friendship. EXT•8116.

MY FANTASY GUY BUYS 7 INCHES, knows what Sonic Bubble gum is, has long hair & maybe glasses. He's a little shy, but very bright & funny. This attractive white female, 26, is hoping he also reads the personal ads! EXT•8046.

SWEET, PETITE & PRETTY white female, 22, nice shape, dark brown hair, green eyes, non-smoker, enjoys music, dancing & movies. Seeks honest, caring, thoughtful, handsome white male, 23-28, with dark hair, who is mature, well-built, likes to have fun, and has a nice personality. Call me! EXT•8073.

MONOGAMOUS, DOWN TO EARTH, black female, 30, 5'5", with a great sense of humor, seeks a similar male, 26-40, who enjoys sports, going to movies, dining in & rainy weather. Don't pass this up! How does friendship first sound? Let's give it a try! Nothing beats a try but a failure! No games please! EXT•8121.

LET'S GO OUT & HAVE FUN! Single working mom, 27, 5'7", cute, good figure, great personality, in need of some fun & romance. Seeks a white male professional with equally good looks & great personality. EXT•8133.

ATTRACTIVE, MATURE, proportioned, full-figured white female, 25, 5'8", seeks an attractive black male, 25-37, 6'+, "Basketball type", who is a sharp dresser, monogamist, mentally & financially secure or at least knows what he wants. No smokers or drug users! EXT•8101.

SEEKING ROMANCE! Attractive, classy, non-smoking Jewish female, late 30's, financially & emotionally secure, physically fit, energetic, great sense of humor. Desires a non-smoking Jewish male, 38-48, for adventure, affection, stimulating conversation, fine dining, jazz & moonlit walks. Only sincere should reply! EXT•8003.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SINGLE! White female, 25, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, athletic, mature, honest & professional, seeks a male, with similar interests, for a 1-1 relationship. Enjoys all sports, long walks & talks, dancing, the beach, skiing, cooking, family & friends. Tired of the bar scene type! EXT•8031.

VERY ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN FEMALE, 34, 5'3", dark blonde hair, divorced, Independent, non-smoker. Seeks tall, dark & handsome, Italian male, 30-38, 5'10"-6'2", non-smoker, with a good sense of humor & a good job, for possible relationship. Reply only if you fit description! EXT•8110.

THE PARTY IS OVER! Very attractive, classy & sexy, marriage minded, Cape Veridian lady, 42, 5'4", 140 lbs, brown hair & eyes, nicely built. Seeks a tall, well-built, attractive male, 48-55, who has the same interests at heart, is kind, understanding, and enjoys the simple things in life. No games or heavy drinking! EXT•8161.

HONEST & SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 34, 5'6", 130 lbs, intelligent, loving, good sense of humor. Seeks sincere, energetic black male, who enjoys music, dancing, movies & quiet times, for friendship or whatever comes naturally. EXT•8032.

PETITE FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, 58, 5', 92 lbs, enjoys animals, dancing, dining out & a sense of humor, seeks a male, 50-65, as possible travel companion & good friend. Respondent must not take himself seriously. EXT•8126.

BEAUTIFUL, TALL, SLENDER, warm, white female, 33, seeks sincere, different, stable, slim, attractive man with an interest in commitment, satisfaction & new beginnings. Divorced with child(ren) is fine, 39-44 preferred, over 5'10". EXT•8138.

PETITE, ATTRACTIVE BLACK FEMALE, 24, working student into fitness, dancing & reading, seeks tall, attractive Italian male, 25-31, with similar interests. Please no players! EXT•8061.

BEAUTIFUL, PETITE & SLIM Asian female, well-educated, professional, caring mom. Seeks intelligent, attractive, educated, white or Asian male, 35-47, with a zest for life. Please no nerds! EXT•8135.

LOOKING FOR A GOOD MAN! Attractive white female, 24, lite brown hair, blue eyes, sincere. Seeks a white male, 24-35, in good-shape, good personality, social drinker, and enjoys movies, dining & dancing. Looking forward to hearing from you soon! EXT•8102.

NATURAL BLONDE, 39, 5'3", green eyes, avg. weight, North Shore area. If you didn't just break up with your girlfriend or wife, if your tired of the air heads, have your act together, and are looking for a relationship. We have a lot in common. EXT•8104.

END RACISM! LOVE SEES NO COLOR! attractive, eclectic Jewish female, 26, with exotic tooks, long brown hair & alluring brown eyes. Seeks mature, open-minded male, under 40, of higher spiritual & moral values, for a deep & emotionally intense, 1-1 committed relationship. Interests include classic cars, biking, travel, Kaballa, Reggae & dancing. No losers! EXT•8044.

ARE YOU MY MR. WONDERFUL? Attractive white female, 29, 5'5", 118 lbs, with a little one, seeks a handsome white male, 27-34, 5'8"-6'2", who is educated, sincere, well-dressed, well-groomed, and ready for a meaningful relationship. call, you won't be disappointed! EXT•8151.

ITALIAN FEMALE, 40, professional, attractive, physically fit, financially & emotionally secure, with many interests. Seeks a male professional, under 50, who's interested in a serious relationship. EXT•8054.

DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, slim, divorced white female, 41 (looks & feels younger), considered attractive, centered/happy with myself & my life. Optimistic, warm, animated, loyal friend, impassioned about my work (refugee/immigrants rights), quite irreverent, wry/lively sense of humor. A voracious reader/traveler, movie goer, physically active & fit. EXT•8043.

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN FEMALE, 28, 5'5", 125 tbs, college educated, vivacious & fun-loving. Seeks attractive white male, 5'7"+, who is serious about a long-term relationship. EXT•8015.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, HARDWORKING, dedicated teacher, 30, 5'9", 135 lbs, blonde hair & sky blue eyes (Swedish), sensual, sensitive, classy, open & honest. Enjoys exercise, modelling, singing & dancing. Seeks very attractive male with similar interests & qualities. EXT•8019.

IT'S HIGH TIDE, so you better catch this unique, 29yr old, 5'9 1/2", attractive black mermaid who wishes to love, honor & cherish a honest, trusting & open-minded, tall black male, 30-45. EXT•6975.

FIT, PROFESSIONAL, eclectic white female, 37, from Boston, enjoys all music, old movies & romance. Seeks to share city life, concerts, arts, comedy, White Mtn. camping, hiking & canoeing, with a white male, 35+, with similar interests. No tobacco, moderate alcohol! EXT•6974.

WHITE CATHOLIC STATE WORKER, 31, who enjoys family, friends, pets, dining out, the movies, camping & most sports, seeks Catholic male. Sincerity, level headedness & beach walks are important to our growth! EXT•8021.

UNFORGETTABLE! Very pretty, fun professional Jewish female, 31, enjoys dining out, travel, fitness, comedy clubs and baseball. Seeks handsome sincere professional Jewish male, 28-35, for possible relationship. I'm one in a million and you are too! EXT•6986.

MOCHA BROWN & HEALTHY black female, 5'5", light brown eyes, enjoys clubing, movies, cooking & more. Seeks fun-loving, tall, handsome & well-educated white or Spanish male, 25-28, for friendship & possible relationship. I'm waiting sexy! EXT•8020.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionate & sincere, seeks younger male for long-term relationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

DEVOTED & COMPASSIONATE black woman, 25, 5'9", 143 lbs, seeks handsome black male professional, 25-33, 6'2"+, who is independent, sympathetic, trustworthy, respectable & creative, to seek & share excitement, adventure & laughs. EXT•6953.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

TALL BRUNETTE! attractive white female, 28, 5'10", intelligent, great sense of humor, interests include art, theatre, dance, movies, long walks & quiet times. Seeks tall & attractive white male, 28-38, with similar interests, for friendship & possible relationship. EXT•6964.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar interests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6987.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

RECEPTIVE, ATTRACTIVE white male, 34, 5'9", 150 lbs, creative, thoughtful, with a great sense of humor (ok, ok...slightly cynical) and a youthful (but not immature) outlook & disposition. Fascinated by expressive conversations with unpretentious people who are candid & open. Seeks attractive female who's casual, relaxed, sincere, insightful & FUN! EXT•7747.

PAUL NEWMAN LOOKALIKE...HONESTLY! White male, 37, 5'11", 165 lbs, salt & pepper hair, deep blue eyes & a great smile. Looking for a woman who's as BEAUTIFUL on the inside as she is on the outside. Let's meet! EXT•7667.

PROFESSIONAL, WELL MANNERED, white male, 28, 5'10", brown hair & eyes, thoroughbred Italian, 100% American. Seeks female to enjoy blues, books, bikes, billiards, cooking, walking, talking, slight barhopping & photographic excursions during season changes. Open mind & sense of humor are prerequisites. Redheads a plus! EXT•7695.

AMIABLE, ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC white male, 30, 6'1", 195 lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, kind, caring, considerate & exciting, enjoys animals, sports, Boston, art, travel, dining, dancing, quiet & loud times. Seeks similar, tall, elegant & fashion conscious white female. EXT•7689.

SLEEPLESS IN THE SUBURBS! White male, 30, 6'3", 215 lbs, brown eyes, never married, enjoys travel, sports & music. Seeks an attractive, exotic woman (Greek, Hispanic, Italian, etc...), 21-30, for possible relationship. EXT•7789.

TEDDY BEAR SEEKS HUGS! Big, brown, brawny bruin seeks someone to hug. Not interested in painted dolls. Please be 25-40, soft, strong, awake, eager to do & be loved. EXT•7829.

VERY SUCCESSFUL, HANDSOME, professional, caring, funny, divorced Jewish male author, 41, 6'1", 183 lbs, fit, into the outdoors, books, music & friends. I think that Republicans suffer from a serious mental disorder. Seeking attractive, intelligent woman, 24-35. EXT•7736.

HANDSOME & ELIGIBLE! Black male, 33, 6'3", dark-skinned, black hair, brown eyes, Capricorn. Seeks a black female, 23-38, without dependents, who's interests include dining out, dancing, Rap, R&B & live Jazz. If you're seeking a monogamous relationship, call! EXT•7817.

A REAL MAN! Black male, 29, 6'3", 230 lbs, dark complexion. This handsome, humble, sincere, romantic, financially secure & very single man is awaiting your call! EXT•7775.

CHIVALROUS, HANDSOME, solid quality, svelte, divorced white male, 48, 6'2", 190 lbs, into fitness, antiques, arts, bordeaux, fireplaces & romantic walks. Seeks an attractive & fit woman, 28-42, who wants quality. Boston Area! EXT•7729.

WALTHAM! Healthy, happy, blue collar, down to earth guy, 41, 225 lbs, blue eyes, a real gentleman, self-employed & strictly monogamous. Seeks a slim, happy female, 25-41, for romance, weekends & possibly more. Must love kids! EXT•7810.

IF THE SOUND OF THE SURF soothes your soul, if you might enjoy a country picnic as well as an elegant dinner, if love can soften your touch, then lets find each other! Handsome, fit, divorced white male, 41, no children, seeks very attractive & responsible black female, 28-38. EXT•7704.

WARM, LOVING, YOUTHFUL, cute, fit & smart Jewish male, 44, emotionally available, eclectic interests, planning a run at law school. Seeks a cute, fit, smart & emotionally available Jewish female, 34+, to share life's adventures & raise cute, smart Jewish children. EXT•7774.

ADDICTED TO LOVE! White male, 26, 6', 170 lbs, artistic, athletic, outgoing & reasonably attractive, seeks a female partner who knows what she want's out of life. She likes to laugh, love, dance, dine & explore new things together. No disappointments! Race & religion unimportant! EXT•7815.

HANDSOME, ATHLETIC & HUMOROUS white male professional, 30's, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, with European manners, seeks educated, attractive, honest, responsible yet crazy, open-minded, emotionally & physically fit, white female, 27-32, who is happy with herself, and seeks a caring friendship & a quality relationship. EXT•7696.

WHITE MALE, 27, 6', blond hair, blue eyes, loves to travel to places near & far, a good movie on a rainy night, and all sorts of animals. Seeks a bright, perceptive & honest lady, 25-30, with a good sense of humor, for a caring 1-1 relationship. EXT•7830.

WINTER NIGHTS ARE COMING! Attractive, white male professional, 30's, 6', brown hair, blue eyes, in-shape & honest, with a great sense of humor. Seeks an attractive, in-shape, warm, caring, dark-haired lady, for a serious, long-term 1-1 relationship. EXT•7818.

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS! An overly nice white male, 22, 5'7", 140 lbs, seeks (get this) a female, 20-26, with kids. If you have a good sense of humor, like movies, staying at home & hanging around playgrounds (Ha! Ha!), you are for me! Must have blonde hair! EXT•7780.

FRAMINGHAM WHITE MALE, 39, 5'8", blonde hair, mustache, trim muscular build, entrepreneur, home owner, enjoys biking, boats, quiet times, children & my black lab. Seeks slim "girl next door", long hair a plus, to make a life together. Honesty & kindness is the basis for any relationship. Let's explore Block Island together hand in hand. EXT•7770.

PRINCE CHARMING! Attractive, white male professional, 24, 6', 195 lbs, athletic build, enjoys dining out, social drinking & just plain fun. I'm looking for my princess, she's attractive, 19-35, fit, old fashioned, yet fun, for friendship first & exciting rides in my chariot of fire. EXT•7773.

ATHLETIC, ENERGETIC, humorous, sensitive, professional, divorced white male, 44, 5'8", blue eyed Sagittarian with a black lab, enjoys candlelight, oceans, travel, adventure, music, friendship & romance. Seeks an attractive companion, 30's, to make waves on a quiet pond or a raging ocean. EXT•7745.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7771.

WHITE MALE, 28, seeks sharp, self-styled, seemly, counterpart. This adventure traveler, PR exec., loves tennis, creative dining, visual arts & new music. Ideal date is a female, 23-30, with a taste for city & wondering conversation. EXT•7697.

HANDSOME WHITE MALE, 37, professionally self-employed, sincere, affectionate, romantic, secure & passionate. Seeks an attractive, intelligent, spontaneous, fun-loving woman for a monogamous relationship. The holiday season is here, let's spend it together. You won't be disappointed! EXT•7708.

TALL BLACK MALE, 23, 6', 180 lbs, college student, seeks understanding, open-minded female, 20-25, who enjoys spending quality time with someone special, long walks & good conversation. She should have a good sense of humor, and not be afraid to be herself. Race unimportant! EXT•7711.

REDHEAD DESTINY! Do you believe? This well-bred, 5'9" guy, 34, with dark hair & blue eyes is handsome, humorous, fun, and has Christian values as well as a healthy body & mind. Seeking fit, fiery-haired woman, 24-32, for the ultimate rapture & a mind for life-long love. Respond and be pleasantly surprised! EXT•7668.

A RARE FIND! Intelligent, secure & caring, white male, 23, athletic, enjoys skiing, tennis & other sports. Seeks fit female, age & race unimportant, for playing together, occasional weekend getaways, theatre, dinner & many other exciting adventures. EXT•7664.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7671.

IN NEED OF HUGS! Attractive white male, 45, 5'10", 180 lbs, emotionally & financially secure, great sense of humor, physically fit, gentle. romantic, giving, affectionate & honest. Seeking attractive friend, lover, soulmate who can give as well as receive. EXT•7596.

MARRIAGE MINDED, Good-looking, divorced white mate, 40, 5'8", 150 tbs, professional, business owner, educated, warm, caring, humorous, a good friend, athletically inclined, many interests. Seeks an attractive white female, 28-38, who would enjoy spending time with a real down to earth man. No children please! EXT•7630.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

ATTRACTIVE, GAY WHITE MALE, 21, non-smoker, non-drinker, wanting to meet a good friend in Boston, 18-21, to hang with on weekends. Call for more information! EXT•7683.

MASSAGE ACTION! I'm a 28yr old, clean-cut jock/bodybuilder with a tight, muscular body. I'm seeking another straight, athletic & clean-cut white male who could also use a relaxing massage after a long day. Straight, masculine only! EXT•7598.

ATHLETIC, SPIRITED & HANDSOME white male, 37, 6', 180 lbs, black hair, green eyes, muscular, clean shaven, into running, lifting, biking & swimming. Seeks vicarious man for sweaty workouts, fun & perhaps intimacy. EXT•7752.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER

NOVEMBER 10-23, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST (If you know your ascendant, read it too)

Advance notica that retrograde Mercury is turning direct could come days before the actual event, Monday at 12:39 a.m. If your phone, fax and car are already acting strange, if you're getting lots of hangups, this is why. Another set of weirdnesses may appear with the partial solar eclipse (wa see *nada*) Saturday afternoon during the Scorpio new moon. Paople with 21 degreas Scorpio, Taurus, Leo or Aquarius prominent in their natal charts can get a serious case of the creeps, but nobody escapes the tough square between the sun and sad Saturn on Tuesday. That much depression and sense of loss is hard to avoid. What we'll do instead is "process" (what does that really mean?) during Wadnesday's potent sun-Pluto conjunction. More about rebuilding, rehabilitation and rascue missions. A year from now, the next time the sun and Pluto meet, there'll be visible benefits from Jupiter's transit of Scorpio, but until then take comfort in the fact that the worst of this *annus horribilus* is over and, except for some grief as '94 begins, the holiday season will be a happy one. Sagittarius, the party sign, starts on Monday the 22nd at 2 a.m.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

All relatively quiet on the relationship front, particularly if you can rise above a partner's petty jealousy or obvious manipulations. You know that while your Mars ruler is in high-minded, high-flying Sag, you don't have to stoop to conquer or to prevail, either. The new moon ushers in another round of money matters, e.g. checking out other people's resources. And Mercury's tumaround signals much batter communication, maybe even a contract with significant others. Sign and sigh in relief.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

You can pretty much abdicate and let someone else run your life. While such an abundance of Scorpionic action dominates the week, all you can reasonably do is pay attention or court — if the situation calls for it — your allies. Let *them* work out any difficulties you may encounter with a client or your boss. This time Taurean charm, honesty and determination amounts to zilch. However, you can't let a partner's paranoia on Wednesday turn those allies into adversaries. Vigilance!

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Getting a bit intense about your pleasures? Is recreation more important than work? Now that your Mercury ruler, in your housa of fun and games, is turning direct, it's almost safe to maka plans for the holidays. (Give it a few days to gain momentum.) But keep in mind that the Scorpio new moon takes place in your house of work and service, so you could wind up baing busier than ever during the next threa lunar months. If that prospect scares you, carefully watch what happens on Wednesday. Time to bail?

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

New moon and if not a new romance, than more juice added to an old one. Why you should grow horns out of the blue and act like a green-eyed monster is but one of the mysteries Scorpio periodically lays on you. Solving it, however could be fascinating, and a little scary. Just be careful and take the necessary precautions. Once a Crab descends into the pit of passion, thoughts of safety are left behind. A walk on the wild side can turn into a trek through the dark side. What if you suddenly want out?

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

You're not a peripheral player this week, not by a long shot. (Incidentally, that good-luck vibe is still hanging around you.) When your sun ruler is eclipsed (partially) by tha Scorpio moon on Saturday, expect a visitor from the past, one of the architects of your lifestyle, perhaps a contributor to the Leo sense of *noblesse oblige*. By Wednesday, it could be a cathartic experience. Try spilling your guts (in a regal way, of course) to this co-star to resolve lingering differences.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Detail-driven fanatics should know that the new moon kicks in Saturday at 4:34 p.m. so your little rituals must be timed correctly. Maybe a ceremony will put you back on track, maybe your Mercury ruler's turnaround will do the trick. Maybe not. Don't force movement or decisions quite yet; everything in its own rhythm, even if you feel stymied while the sun squares Saturn early in the week. Go to confession on Wednesday to relieve your sense of sin and impending exposure.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

Excuse me, but it's totally personal. Nothing that happens this week falls outside the boundaries of your limited interests — your ego, finances, history, homelife and creative block. But mainly it's your money scene that dominates your waking-and-sleeping thoughts. How to crash through this feeling that you're being restricted? Wait until Wednesday, when the Scorpio sun meets powerful Pluto, to discover which road to recovery best suits your purposes; what investigation will yield the most-telling results.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

The pressure doesn't let up this week. Even though tha rest of the signs get some relief, you're stuck in the depths of a personal decision. And there you'll remain until (1) your Scorpio new moon wish (and accompanying ritual) takes hold, (2) the sun tests Saturn and tha anxieties you harbor about where home should be, and (3) your Pluto co-ruler merges with the sun's creative force to renew your energy vortex. Once again you rise like the phoenix from the ashes of another burnout. Happy re-Birthday.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

You're wandering through a strange landscape, not unlike Your Own Private Twilight Zone, where your senses don't seem to ba working properly, where what mattars is what happens out of sight, out of earshot. And while you're not totally at the mercy of hidden forces, that funny smell really could be a rat. Better to trust an acquaintance's information (once Mercury is moving forward), than sit and stew in your own juices, fomenting plans of vengeance. Get through tha nasty stuff and forget it.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

No paranoia this week — for a change, your anxieties are based in reality, albeit astrological reality. But after you face the problem — probably generated by a so-called friend — when the sun squares your Saturn ruler, you will have something to show for it. Saturn in your money house all year keeps testing your sense of values, making you redefine, over and over, just what it is you want. Probably to have it out with that so-called friend on Wednesday. New info and a young confidant after Mercury goes direct.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21-FEB. 18)

Being honored on Veteran's Day for a job well done? Something interesting, new or offbeat could happen as the week begins, affecting your status and your place in the world beyond the office. Then, when the sun pressures Saturn in your sign, you might feel threatened, unsure of yourself. How odd! Meet this challenge as best you can, but don't get too involved in the coming and goings (more likely goings) of powerful people on your scene. The situation fixes itself early next year.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 19)

The new moon in your ninth house of philosophy and foreign affairs can evoke higher thoughts from your higher mind. Or is that an English import who's giving you ideas? If you think smart is sexy, and who doesn't?, you'll get quite turned on this weekend. Plus Mercury turning direct in your house of sex and other mysteries of life further confuses tha issues — is it your brain or your body, your sense organs or your soul going through this Scorpionic transformation. Mmmmm.

For Rockie, call (900) 933-0033 for Rockie's daily forecast, 18 years old or over; Touch-Tone phones. $1.25 per minute. LA. Weekly (213) 667-2620.

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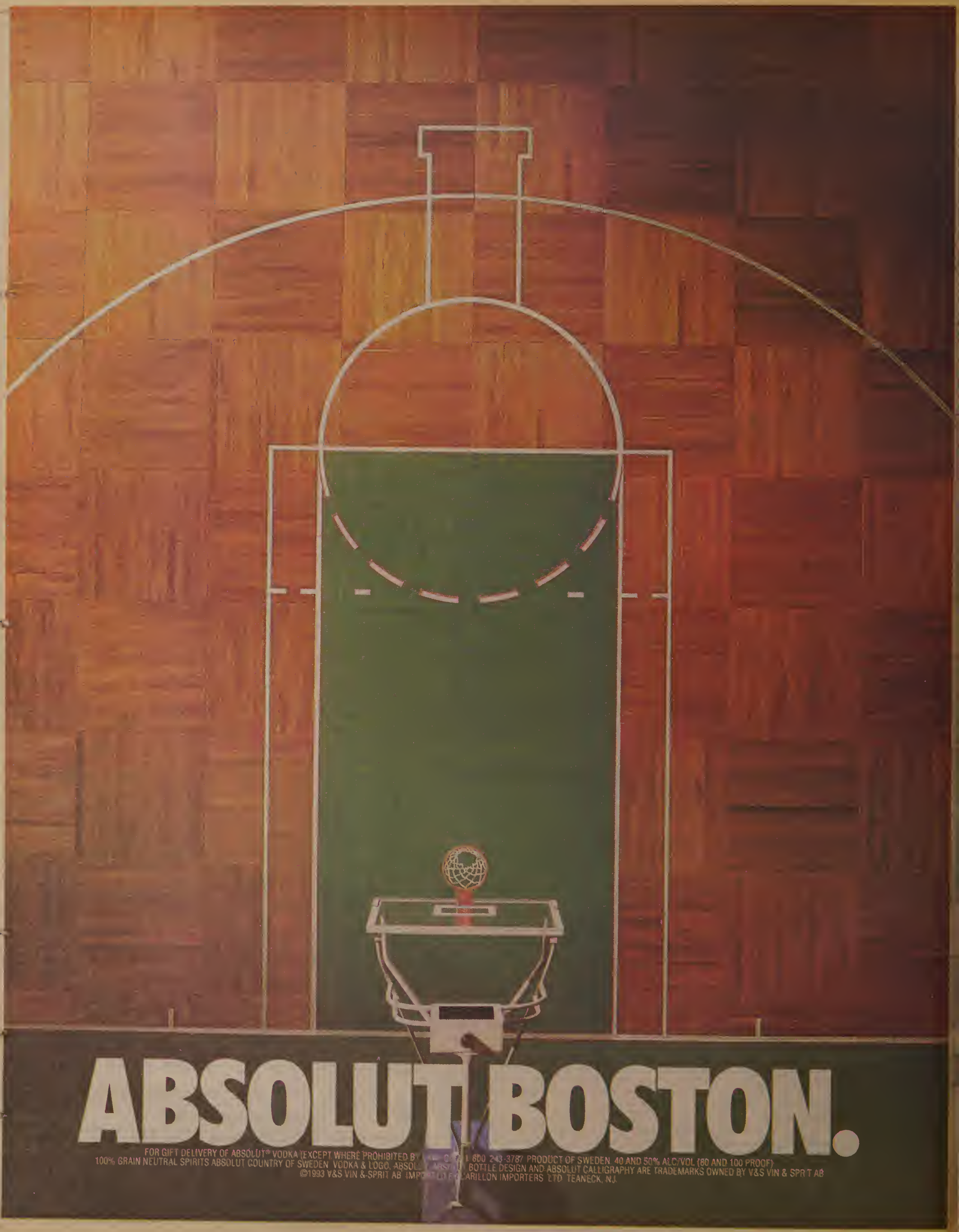
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November 24 – December 7, 1993

The Improper Bostonian

Suggested Price 50¢



Gifts Yule Love

The Complete Guide to Holiday Shopping

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

Their Secret Gardens

A group of nine women — a rainbow of ages, ethnicities and, given the subject and the times in which we live, of sexual orientations and experiences — were filmed talking about sex by an all-women crew during a weekend retreat. Amazingly matter of fact though these women are discussing orgasms, masturbation, the pleasure of foreplay, sex toys, bisexuality, and the



sometimes-elusive nature of desire, the trusting-group ethos also casts a warm blanket of support around the women; more than one cry when mentioning incest and the long shadow it has cast across their sexuality. There's also facts-of-life discussion and pajama-party-style hilarity, which remind you that the participants like each other and are having fun doing this. In lyrical moments, the art of the kiss, of lying together and of skin are celebrated. One of the women virtually chugs with joy as she talks about how she loves to feel "full, hot, sweaty and passionate" with a man, and that an indispensable part of sex is having the man make her laugh. Another reports that sex and feeling sexy can hibernate, like a bear, and come back to life in the spring. One woman whose mother told her sex is great but wouldn't accept her daughter's hugs hints at the weird ways that sex and affection can be disconnected. The video, a frank model for further frankness, can be rented to stimulate — there's a word — discussion among other women, or as a once-removed way to talk to men.

Embracing Our Sexuality: Women Talk About Sex
Available for rental or purchase
964-4466

East Feast

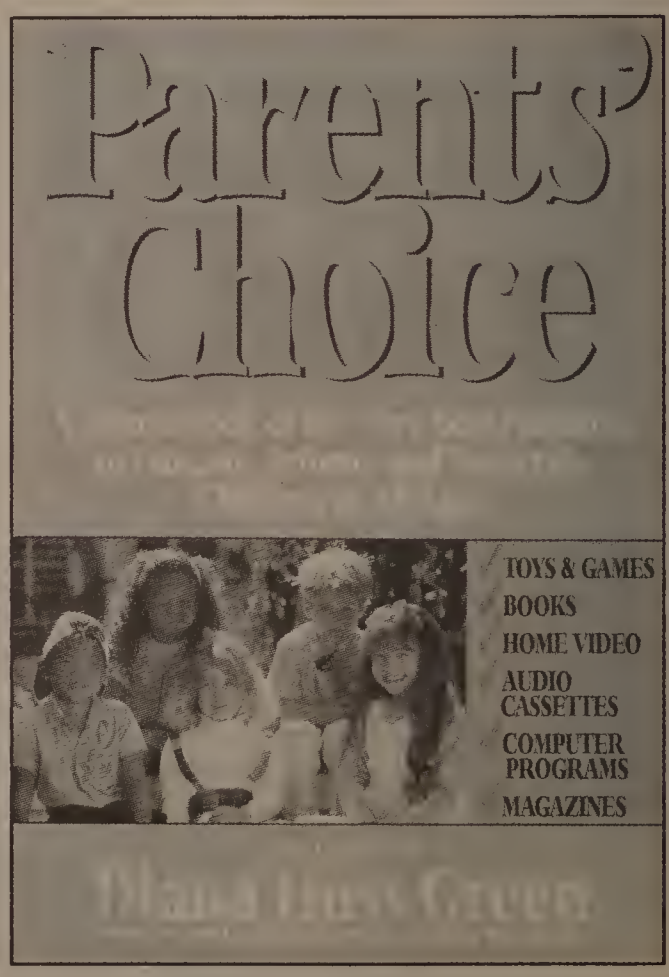
Prem-La, a Nepalese store that opened in Cambridge 15 years ago and proceeded to emigrate around the city, is now back on Mass. Ave near Harvard Square. Flavorful and exotic, and serving as a community center for Nepalese festivals and events, Prem-La has a series of impressive and large Buddha statues, including Luxmi, consort of Vishnu and the goddess of wealth, and a White Tara and a Green Tara. These sister statues preside with a serene and mysterious air. Smaller and more readily affordable are sculptures of Ganesh (of the elephant face); indigenous artifacts, such as clay bowls with an imposing dragon curling around the rim; and tangerine-colored wooden dragons, which hang from the ceiling. Shadow puppets representing Hindu characters are made of leather so thin it seems papery. At the intersection between religion and modern meditation are cymbals that, once struck, emit tension-reducing emanations of sound. Similarly, the singing bowl's ring, produced by passing a stick around the edge, becomes louder and louder; apparently the sound, when made by a monastery full of monks, resembles voices. Turn a rainstick upside down and hear the muted musical tumblings of thousands of seeds — nature imitating nature. Also offered are colorful, traditionally woven, hand-knit sweaters and sturdy-cotton backpacks with webbed handles, available for $20-$25. Yak-wool sherpa jackets make for outdoor attire of very, very eastern-mountain sports.



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Kiddie Critic

Children's books and toys proliferate at such a rate that it's tough for parents to know what's what — not to mention what's interesting, worthwhile, attractive, safe, nourishing and fun for kids. To sort through the broad range and allure of high-quality products and the shrillness of the tacky end, the magazine *Parents Choice*, the Michelin in this field for 15 years, has compiled selections, reviews and honors of the best. Editor Diana Huss Green has made your Christmas shopping easier and quicker by compiling a sourcebook of the best in the land of books, audio cassettes, videos, toys, computer programs and magazines, arranged according to the age of the child. And while your fingers are doing the walking , you can also inform yourself — as all good parents should — about the broad range of top-of-the-line valuable products in each category (for example, books with backbone and with the stature to become classics). Thanks to the listed addresses and phone numbers, you can call the companies to find out where products are sold or to order. Green's style is clear, crisp and readable. Her passion and delight in these products worthy of her imprimatur sings off the pages.



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Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146

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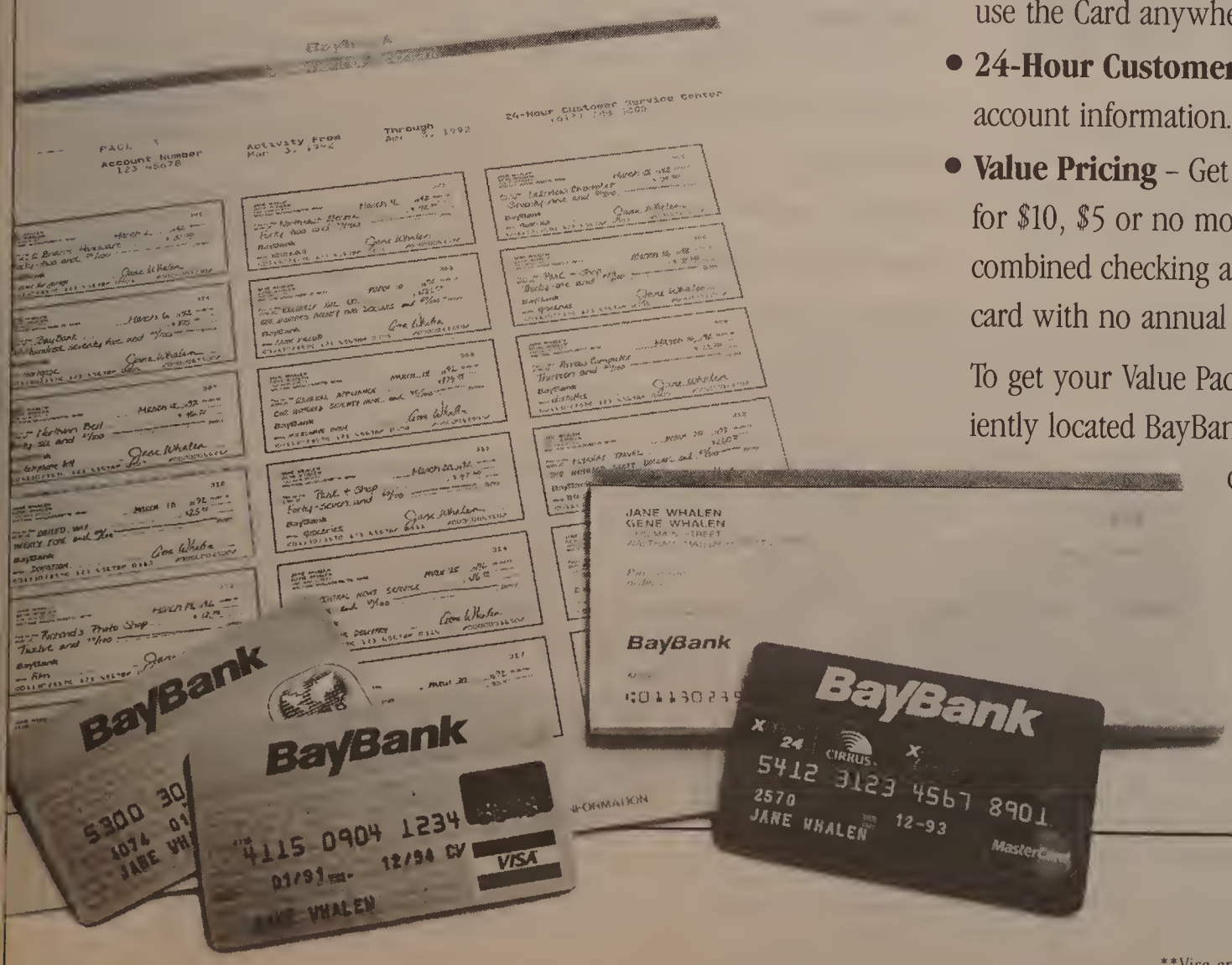
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Nov. 24-Dec. 7, 1993

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Gifts Yule Love

Working under the premise that gift-giving is nothing less than an art, we hit the streets of Boston and went *shopping*. This issue is our present to you: Our holiday guide lists presents yule love to give and they'll love to get.

by Jennifer Kornreich and Tobin Anderson
Photography by Paul Pilcher



16
Piano Forte

Not one to soft-pedal her complex-and-primal view of female sexuality, Jane Campion delivers another strong, beautiful film in *The Piano*. This time, the New Zealand director joins forces with American actors Holly Hunter and Harvey Keitel to explore a love story that counterpoints a sexual triangle and a piano.

by Kaj Wilson



31
Captain Kurt

Nirvana, that sneering, snarling, talented Seattle band, and its guitar-smashing frontman, Kurt Cobain, recently cruised through Boston in their first local concert since their debut-album, *Nevermind*. Nirvana has come a long way — in output *and* double-edged hype.

by Paul Robicheau



On the Cover

Model: Julie Hudson, The Chute Agency
Photographed and Styled by: Paul Pilcher

Correction/ Notes:

Last issue's "Table of Contents" incorrectly dated John F. Kennedy's 1960 speech commemorating the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Social Security Act.

Kudos to *IB* staff writer Christopher Francescani, who will be heading off to NYC to work for the *New York Post*.

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One Drawback To Winning The Lottery.

THE LOTTERY

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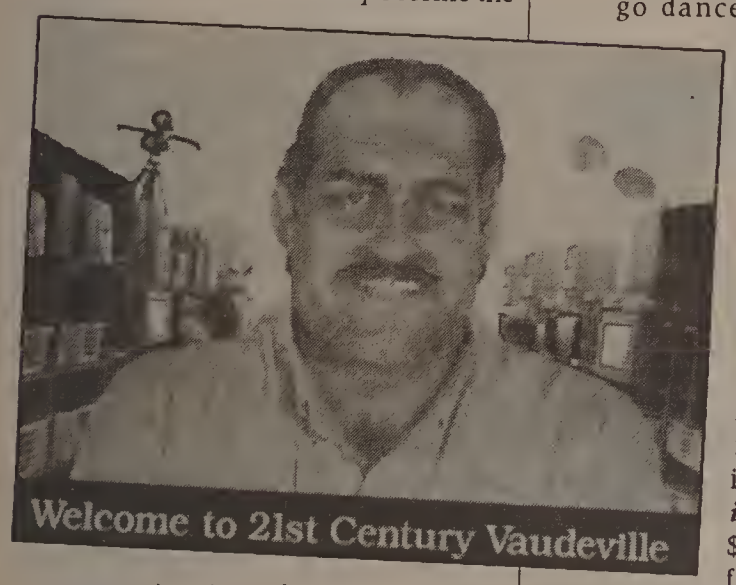
CITY RAVE

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

BY JENNIFER KORNREICH

TELEVISION

Here's a fantastic phenomenon that makes you glad to be alive in the Age of Information and in Beantown at the same time: Boston is the first city to carry ***21st Century Vaudeville*** as a commercial venture. The offspring of Telemorphix — a company that advocates non-brain-dead TV and operates through "virtual space" (the network of its international employees' personal computers and modems) — *Vaudeville* brings a new dimension to interactive media. While the technology is staggering, all you need is your trusty boob tube and a phone. Viewers who call in to the show literally become the



Welcome to 21st Century Vaudeville

program's writers, directors and actors via animated surrogate characters that they control. After 15 minutes of tutelage in the "electronic green room," viewers may pick a digital puppet from the show's database, have a new, impromptu character drawn, or even send in their own drawing to be animated. Participants can sing, discuss pop culture, perform comic sketches, rattle off poetry, and do anything their inspired hearts desire. Between these animated, improvised skits, the show broadcasts videos submitted by viewers (any format except porn) and other experimental stuff, such as a cleaned-up version of underground-circus proprietor Jim Rose's self-mutilation sideshow. Truly a pioneer in the medium, *Vaudeville* airs on Monday nights from 9 to 10 on Channel 62. It's high-tech fantasy for the low-tech average Joe.

VINTAGE

Sick of seeing T&A on booze commercials? Guys, don't lie to me; you probably aren't. Well, anyway, if by some miracle of God you are — or you're just a hooch aficionado (I know there are quite a few of you out there) — haul your lush-ous selves over to The Nostalgia Factory (336 Newbury St.; 236-8754). Through Nov. 30, the Factory is featuring an exhibit of more than 200 original beer-and-wine ads, from the late-19th century through the early '70s. The best part: if you wish, a one-of-a-kind period piece can be yours for only $6-$14. Notable among the "Lost Weekend" finds is a Miller ad featuring a family, grandparents and all, enjoying a football game and their favorite fermented stuff. Interesting family values.

BOOK

Miami *Herald* columnist and investigative reporter Carl Hiaasen explores strangeness in Florida and satirizes Congress in his best seller, ***Strip Tease*** (Knopf, $21). It's hard to say which aspect of this loopy novel is more fun: the characters or the hyperactive prose. With wicked precision, Hiaasen interweaves the lives of a slew of go-go dancers (one named Urbana Sprawl), a misanthropic bouncer, a wayward Congressman (gee, imagine that), a political fixer aptly named Moldy, and a voyeur called Mr. Peepers. An amazingly rare-quality read; you laugh while your brain cells devour the intelligence contained within these pages.

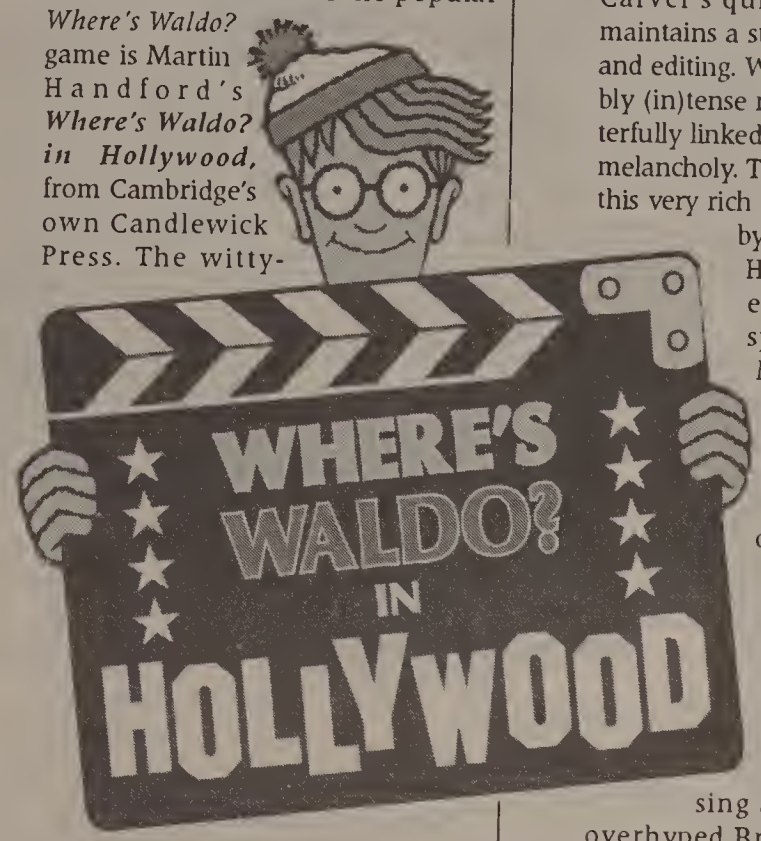
Mr. Louise Erdrich is finally making a name of his own in the literary world. ***Working Men*** (Henry Holt, $19.95) is Michael Dorris's first anthology, and an impressive one at that. Don't let the title fool you: these stories encompass all sorts of characters, from the turn-of-the-century mother who loses her favorite son in a freak accident, to the loafing ex-football player who finds himself with an inscrutable wife and a job teaching French (which he doesn't speak). Dorris tends to write very, very quietly, but the sweetness of his imagery and the pensive insights that float throughout the work more than make up for the lack of verve.

SCIENCE

Feeling a little more cerebral than usual? Want to expand your mind — literally? Through Jan. 2, the **Museum of Science** (Science Park, 589-0250) offers an in-depth exhibit of the brain's biology and workings called ***It's All in Your Head***. The exhibit features a 9-foot replica of the brain, cortical twists and all. Walk through and examine it from different angles. There are all sorts of hands-on devices, computer games and interactive-video programs, in addition to various types of intelligence tests (spatial, linguistic, musical). A fascinating exhibit for those of us who find it all too easy to forget that even the rush-hour drivers on Storrow have this vital organ.

KIDDIE CORNER

The newest version of the popular *Where's Waldo?* game is Martin Handford's ***Where's Waldo? in Hollywood***, from Cambridge's own Candlewick Press. The witty-and-complex illustrations bring the simple scan-and-find format to life. The movie sets include a silent film, a western and an epic-adventure flick. Searching for various Waldo characters and props from among the impossibly crowded throngs will necessitate the kids' attention for so long that you might even have a chance to flip through a magazine before hearing your name called again.



FILM

The holiday-movie boom is upon us! But while most of the newer flicks are merely exploding the box office, ***Short Cuts*** is still making tongues wag with its ambitious scope. 1993 has been a banner year for short fiction, and cinema's mainstream attempt to co-opt the form is done masterfully in this long-(three hours)-but-always-compelling film. Loosely based on Raymond Carver's short stories, ***Short Cuts*** follows the incidental links between no-less-than-22 protagonists. Although Altman's been blasted for mutilating Carver's quiet work, the director maintains a steady hand in his pacing and editing. What results is an incredibly (in)tense movie, replete with masterfully linked images and Los Angeles melancholy. The casting is the icing on this very rich cake: Look for star turns by Lily Tomlin, Tom Waits, Huey Lewis (yes, really, even obsolescence spurned him), Frances McDormand and Lyle Lovett. Robert Altman's magnifying glass blows up ordinary people like so many ants on a hot summer day. Find out what all the fuss is about.



CHEESE

If you're tired of the usual dueling-piano bars but you want to sing along to wretchedly overhyped Broadway show tunes, check out the **Masquerade Cabaret** at the Roxy (279 Tremont St.; 361-7024; 227-ROXY). A local troupe of singers and dancers, members from the Riverside Theater Works, sashay through everything from Andrew Lloyd Webber to Fats Domino to Madonna. The songs, sets and costumes change every show so that no two are alike. Tickets are $15; doors open at 7 every Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening through Dec. 11.

WRITING

The **Sunday Muse** is a non-profit organization that emphasizes the process of writing rather than the finished product itself. Attention is given to works-in-progress so that all you would-be Naylors and Mailers out there can get feedback as you go. Readings are held Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8 at the Claddagh Restaurant (113 Dartmouth St.; 262-9874). Local established writers participate regularly (Anne Bernays, BU's Barbara Hyett, Tuft's Jonathan Strong), but unknowns are always welcome. Admission is free and dinner and drinks are available for those willing to shell out some minor bucks. Call 542-2711 for information.

HOT TICKET

BY LARA EWEN

TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

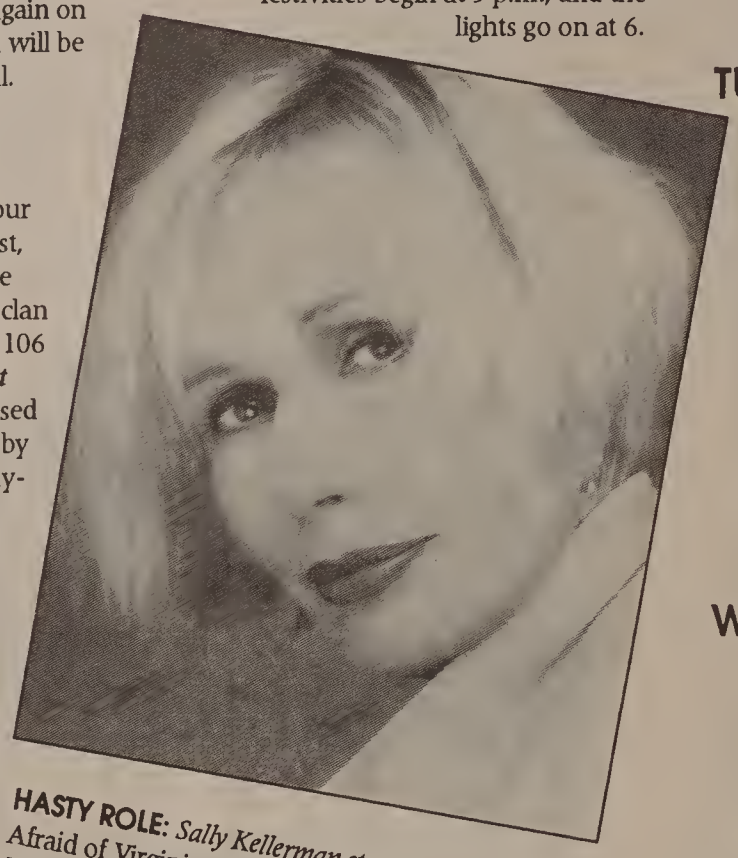
24 Andre Previn conducts cellist Wendy Warner and the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** tonight at 8 and again on Nov. 26 and 27. The program will be Haydn and Mozart. Delightful. Call 266-1200.

THURSDAY

25 After finishing your Thanksgiving feast, why not leave the dishes until later and trot the clan over to the Colonial Theater (106 Boylston St.) to see ***The Secret Garden***. This hit musical is based on the classic children's book by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Playing at 7:30 p.m through Nov. 28. Call 931-2787.

FRIDAY

26 It's that time of year again! The Boston Ballet's production of ***The Nutcracker*** is the most popular in the world (a record audience of 140,000 is expected), and it starts tonight at the Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., at 7:30 p.m. This is a not-to-be-missed highlight of the holiday season in Boston. Call 931-ARTS.



HASTY ROLE: *Sally Kellerman stars in* Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, *playing at the Hasty Pudding Theatre through Nov. 28.*

SATURDAY

27 The Cambridge Theater Company's final performances of ***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?***, starring Sally Kellerman (of *M*A*S*H* fame), are tonight and tomorrow night at the Hasty Pudding Theater, 12 Holyoke St., in Harvard Square. Call for times and tickets: 496-8400.

SUNDAY

28 What's 91 feet high and glows? The **nation's tallest Christmas tree**, of course. Join Boston Bruins-center Adam Oates and WBZ's Tom Bergeron for the lighting of the Brickstone tree in Brickstone Square, Andover. The festivities begin at 5 p.m., and the lights go on at 6.

If you go, bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots. Sponsored by Marshalls and Brickstone Square. Call (508) 749-3008 for information and directions.

MONDAY

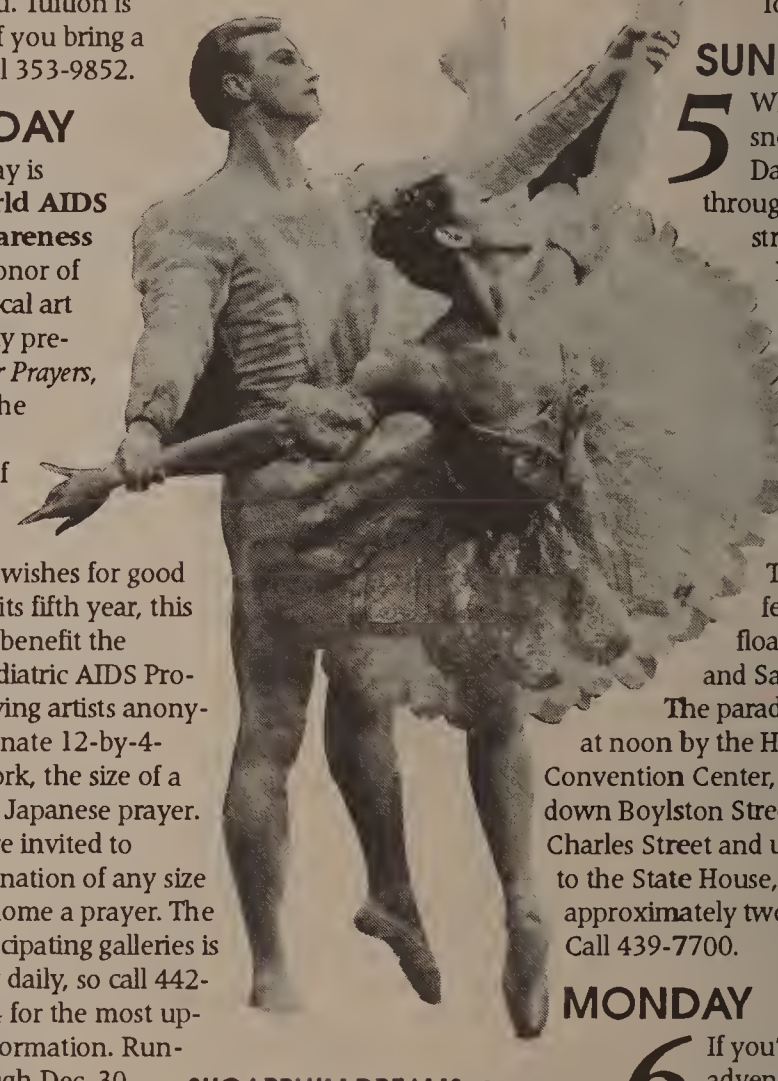
29 If you happen to be in the downtown area today, why not take a stroll through ***Winter Wonderland*** on the Boston Common? For 30 days (Nov. 26-Dec. 26) the Common will be transformed into a holiday paradise, with a petting zoo, sleigh rides, gingerbread houses and even Frosty himself on hand! Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m -7 p.m., and Sunday, noon-7 p.m. Tickets are $4 for children ages 4-12 and senior citizens, and $6 for adults. Children under 4 get in free. Call (800) 8-WONDER.

TUESDAY

30 No drink can quite compare with champagne when it comes to being festive. Tonight, the **Boston University Wine Club** presents a demonstration pairing the wine with finger food, from 6-8 p.m. in Room 117, 808 Comm. Ave. Raymond Ost of Boston's Meridien Hotel and Jean-Louis Carbonnier of the Champagne News and Information Bureau will be there. So should you. Tuition is $30, $25 if you bring a friend. Call 353-9852.

WEDNESDAY

1 Today is **World AIDS Awareness Day.** In honor of this, the local art community presents *Paper Prayers*, based on the Japanese tradition of offering painted prayers as wishes for good health. In its fifth year, this event will benefit the Boston Pediatric AIDS Project by having artists anonymously donate 12-by-4-inch artwork, the size of a traditional Japanese prayer. Viewers are invited to make a donation of any size and take home a prayer. The list of participating galleries is expanding daily, so call 442-8800 x204 for the most up-to-date information. Running through Dec. 30.



SUGARPLUM DREAMS: *Susanna Vennerbeck and Roland Price rehearse a scene from the Boston Ballet's* Nutcracker, *at the Wang Center through Jan. 2.*

THURSDAY

2 If you have a penchant for the unique, check out the **Boston Public Library's "Discovery Concert Series."** The series features musical gems discovered in the BPL's Brown Collection of 19th-and-20th-century manuscripts and first-edition publications. Today at 2 p.m., the Calumet Quintet performs an unpublished-and-previously unperformed piece by Luigi Boccherini in the Rabb Lecture Hall in the Central Library. Call 536-5400 x295.

FRIDAY

3 Get cultured! The **Cultural Survival winter bazaar**, representing more than 30 indigenous societies, continues today and tomorrow at Memorial Hall, Harvard University, from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. By purchasing arts and crafts from all over the world, you will be helping these communities secure themselves financially and preserve their cultural heritage. Call 621-3818.

SATURDAY

4 Talkin' 'bout my generation — The Who's ***Tommy*** arrived in Boston Wednesday, and if you haven't had the chance to see it, well, that's what weekends are for. Considered by many to be the first rock musical on Broadway, the show — with an original score by Pete Townshend — will be here until Dec. 26 at the Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St. Call 931-2787 for tickets.

SUNDAY

5 Who needs snow? Dashing through the streets of Boston today is the **First Annual Sleigh Bell Parade.** The event features floats, bands and Santa Claus. The parade begins at noon by the Hynes Convention Center, travels down Boylston Street onto Charles Street and up Beacon to the State House, lasting approximately two hours. Call 439-7700.

MONDAY

6 If you're feeling adventurous, go to the ***MIT Premiere Orchestra Concert*** to see the-first-ever performances of works by students and lecturers. Included are *An Autumn Flowering* by award-winning composer David Lefkowitz. Admission is $1 at the door. Call Alan Pierson, 731-0201, for information.

TUESDAY

7 How sweet it is! **Belgian-chocolatier Alexis Biolley** will demonstrate and explain (in English) how chocolate is made, and (yum!) entice you with his original creations at the French Library tonight at 6:15. An appropriate dessert wine will be served. Admission is $15, and non-refundable-advance reservations are required. Call 266-4351 to indulge yourself.



SECRET STORY: *Lydia Ooghe in a scene from* The Secret Garden, *playing at the Colonial Theatre through Nov. 28.*

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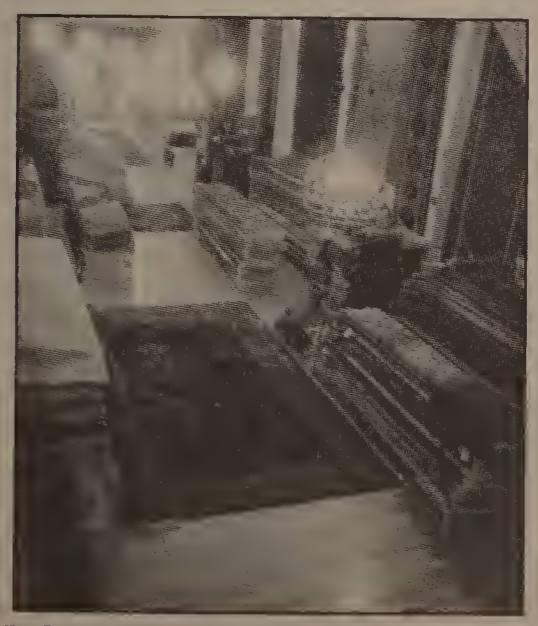


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What makes presents desirable above all is an extra dimension that often eludes the best works of art — the fun quotient.

Present Tense?

Gifts Yule Love to Shop for and They'll Love to Get

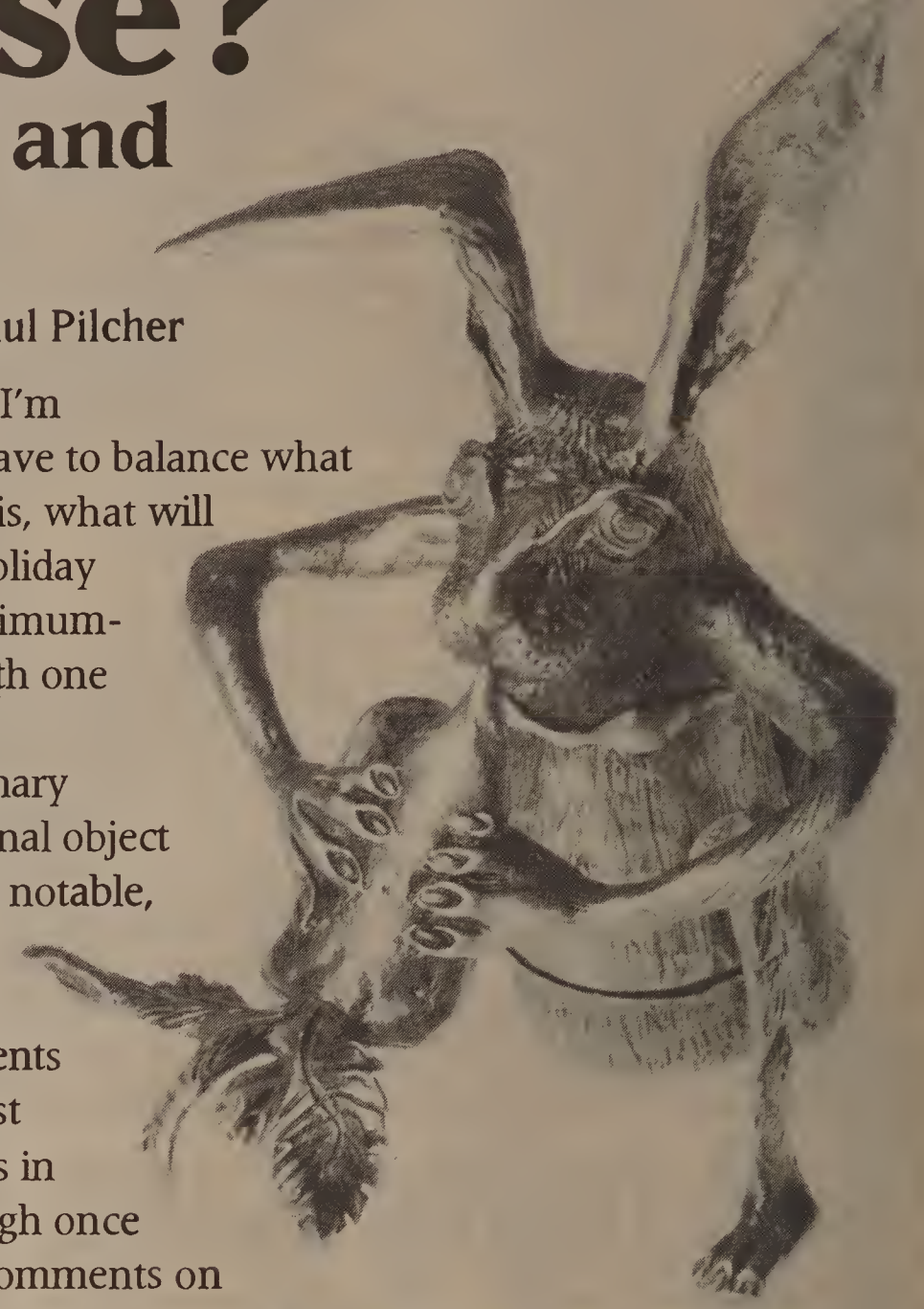
By Jennifer Kornreich

Photos by Paul Pilcher

I've always been one to take things a little too seriously, but I'm convinced that gift-giving is nothing less than an art. You have to balance what your beneficiaries need with what they really want — that is, what will make them happy enough to look forward to next year's holiday season. Just because your best friend could really *use* a maximum-support brassiere doesn't mean you should *actually present* her with one on Christmas.

Ever since World War II, critics have futilely argued over the primary definition of art: Is it an aesthetic exercise in pure form; a functional object operating in the real world's realm; or anything the masses deem notable, resulting in what some snobs called "kitsch?"

Well, gifts can be evaluated in much the same way. Some are beautiful, some are useful, some are goofy. But what makes presents desirable above all is an extra dimension that often eludes the best works of art — the fun quotient. The ultimate test of your success in gift-giving is the tendency of your friends and family to smile/laugh once the wrapping paper is ripped to shreds. (You have failed if their comments on the lovely packaging exceeds their forced "Oh… thank you. I can use this, really.") What follows is a gift guide that will leave the recipients of your bounty swooning with gratitude for your imaginative generosity.



LUCKY RABBIT: *A carrot-chomping pewter bunny that is actually a box, with just enough space to hold prized, smaller-scaled valuables, makes a wacky-wabbit of a present.*



SHINY AND NEW: *Lighten up with the Dolphin-Woogie, a lamp whose screen flashes colorful, aquatic images.*

Stuff to Please Your Eyeballs

Good Lord, is there anything worse than those cheesy plastic figurines that look like they're straight out of the pages of some *TV Guide* special-advertising section? Don't exasperate your loved ones with Hummel look-alikes. If you're going to give things that have no other purpose than to clutter up the home and look pretty, we'd like to suggest some infinitely hipper ways to go the *chotchke* route. One of your best bets is to stop by **AmeriGoods** (164 Newbury St., 859-9535); just about everything in the store is fascinating. Got a pal who slinks into Lycra every morning for step class? Pick up one of the **witty aerobic animals** made by **World Art in Florida.** Made of hand-painted wood, these giraffes, leopards and zebras pose gymnastically in their leotards and leg warmers ($19.95 each).

For a steeper price (but, come on, it's for your big sister, who saved your sorry butt when you'd otherwise have been beaten up in the schoolyard) you can purchase one of the store's **fanciful pewter "boxes"** made by **artist Don Drumm.** Each of the madcap creations — the Trojan horse, the carrot-chomping mad rabbit, the dragon, the gasping bass, the howling crazy dog — is more than an eye-catching statuette. The camouflaged, tiny space within is the perfect size for holding a couple of keys or a few coins. Price ranges from $42-$62.

Another sure bet for collectibles is any of the treasures found at the **Charles Street Woodhouse** (102 Charles St., 523-0797). For the kids, there's **Noah's Ark** ($38.50), made of Maine pine, the toy has a ramp that opens to reveal the eight pairs of animals inside. For the grown-ups, the shop's **Heritage toys** are among the most charming woodenware. These foot-high, hand-carved sculptures have the look and feel of antique Americana. Set on wheeled platforms, the 3-D storybook cutouts include a hen with her newly laid egg, the infamous cow jumping over the moon, and a musical wind-up Noah's Ark. $45-$88. In the same vein are the **half-fish bookends** found across the street at **Elements** (103A Charles St., 227-3029). The head and tail flank opposite sides of your bookshelf ($40).

More things of beauty abound at **Hooloomooloo** (222 Newbury St., 247-2333). The entire store is irresistible. Luckily for those of you who can't make decisions, only some stuff is affordable. Among the best sellers, and justifiably so, are the **handmade brass bookmarks** inspired by Egyptian art ($15

The ultimate test of your success in gift-giving is the tendency of your friends and family to smile/laugh once the wrapping paper is ripped to shreds.

each). These anthropomorphic beasts, lovers entwined Klimt-style, mothers nursing their babies are almost too gorgeous to stick between the pages of a dog-eared paperback. Hooloomooloo also features **funky, lightweight pins** ($24 each) in the shapes of fish, penguins and pig heads, all — believe it or not — in good taste.

If you can't shell out cash for exorbitant gems, but you know someone who likes to wear unusual jewelry, she'll love a class at **Beadworks** (23 Church St., Cambridge, 868-9777; 349 Newbury St., 247-7227). A **$30 gift certificate for Basic Technique class** provides the bearer with the materials and the methods to create earrings and necklaces with beads imported from around the world.

Kinda Functional Accouterments

Light up someone's life! **Selletto** (244 Newbury St., 424-0656) exclusively offers two stunning creations by artist Sanji Woogie: lamps that take their visual cue from Japanese origami art and work according to the principles of thermodynamics. The **Dolphin-Woogie** and **Bunny-Woogie** ($69.95 each) are merry-go-rounds of light. The heat from the bulb makes the paper-cutout center rotate within the surrounding square lampshade, projecting multicolored images of spinning beasts. These lamps rivet the viewer's attention; they're ideal conversation pieces. Mail orders available. For an entirely opposite look, check out the **galvanized lanterns** from **Urban Outfitters** (11 JFK St., Cambridge, 864-0070; 361 Newbury St., 236-0088). The crude make of the lanterns *oozes* Dickensian charm, particularly apt for the Bostonian winter. The UO people say this was a huge hit last year.

Time is money, right? Well, if you're of the giving-checks-is-crass school of thought (like anyone with a modicum of taste), you'll give them the fourth dimension itself. The **quirky wall clocks** ($28 each) at **Elements** (18-20 Union Park St., 451-9990; 103A Charles St., 227-3029) are a wonder. Each circular steel disk, encrusted with such brass oddities as miniature kitchen utensils, nautical symbols, pennies and western motifs, runs on a mere AA battery. The miracles of modern science! For a less-industrial look, consider the old-fashioned, **cast-iron sundials** ($44-140) at **T. Wyatt Ltd.** (106 Charles St., 720-2530).



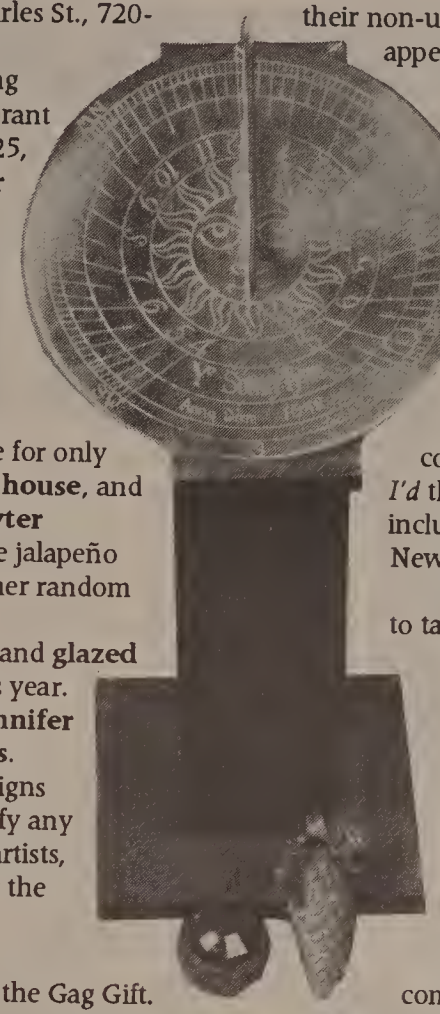
WOOD YOU LIKE THIS?: *The Charles Street Woodhouse's hand-carved, Americana-style chicken Heritage toy and antennaed-shrimp napkin holders.*

There's nothing wrong with giving home-oriented stuff, as long as it's vibrant and way cool, as well as useful. For $25, you can purchase a **miniature water dispenser** from the Can You Imagine? Corp. at **DAPY** (Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 236-0482; Burlington Mall). The device holds eight glasses' worth of just about any liquid your heart desires. **Wooden napkin rings** designed to look like shrimp, antennae and all, are available for only $3.75 apiece at the **Charles St. Woodhouse**, and for $18.95, you can buy **painted pewter winecorks** at AmeriGoods shaped like jalapeño peppers, cacti, grapes and a million other random things.

Trays of painted ceramicware and **glazed terra cotta** are extremely popular this year. We found the best, by local **artists Jennifer Coles** and **Steven Yaffe**, at **Elements**. Their Matisse-inspired, cartoonlike designs sell for $35-$80, and are sure to electrify any coffee table. Similar platters, by other artists, are available at Hooloomooloo. Not for the puritanical or staid-at-heart!

The Year of the Gag Gift

1993 might as well be The Year of the Gag Gift. Kitsch has come a long way! Like everything else, it's evolved into an acceptable venture. But that's not necessarily a bad thing. I've found quite a few playthings to covet (pure fluff, sure, but their non-utilitarian whimsy only increases their appeal to the hedonist in me).



GIFT OF TIME: *A clock is always a timely gift: T. Wyatt's cast-iron sundials, $44-140.*

Someone at your place of work needs one of a pair of voice-activated toys, the **Whipping Boy** or the **Yes Man** ($25 each). The Whipping Boy takes the blame for everything his owner does, ruefully screeching things such as, "It was all my fault!," "How could I have been so stupid?," and my personal favorite, "I'm a disease — I make myself sick!" The Yes Man is more straightforwardly obsequious: "I couldn't agree with you more!" and "I wish *I'd* thought of that!" Available at area stores, including **DAPY** and **Hip 2B Square** (224 Newbury St., 424-0190).

Cartoon figures are always sure-fire ways to target the kid in every adult. **Filene's** (Downtown Crossing; 357-2100) features a series of **Peanuts silk ties** at $30 each. The funniest prints are those of Snoopy as Joe Cool, playing football, and as a gift-bearing Santa. The new **Warner Bros. Studio Stores** (Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 859-3770) also specialize in cartoon memorabilia. For $24, you can pick up one of the **mechanical music boxes,** commemorating a famous scene from a cartoon. Open the drawer at the bottom, and the tableaux come to life. There's the singing-and-

Continued on page 10

St. Nick's Music Picks

By M.T. Anderson

Quivering, embattled, in the midst of a mall at Christmastime, swamped with jolly, shrieking children while "I'll Be Home for Christmas" wails over the loudspeakers, one longs for a simpler time. One longs for a simpler time, and a bludgeon. The great charm of classical-Christmas music is that it helps one forget Christmas. One settles back at home with convivial trumpets burbling in unseen choirs, and the squalor of the modern mall is replaced by a seemingly simpler age when clean snow fell, and men wore silk frock coats and argued about the wingspan of cherubim.

Christmas music, in the form of recordings or concert tickets, makes the perfect gift for those eager for an evening's escape. Boson's music scene offers any number of spectacular events and recordings at this time of year.

At Symphony Hall, the **Boston Pops** dominate with a series of Christmas concerts so jolly you'll have to anaesthetize your loved ones. These concerts, always favorites in the Boston area, run from the 16th of December on, and hardly need any introduction. They're packed with carols and jazzy orchestrations.

For those poking around Symphony Hall in hopes of a more contemplative Christmas program, there's **Roger Norrington**'s Dec. 10 performance of Berlioz's *L'Enfance du Christ*, an intimate oratorio that sketches in muted shades the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. The number of the Symphony Hall box office is (617) 266-1492.

Handel's *Messiah* has long been a tradition in Boston. In the last decade or so, **Boston Baroque** has staked a powerful claim to best-annual performance of Handel's masterwork. Performances this year will be at Jordan Hall on Dec.16 and 18;

Continued on page 11

book your tickets soon, as, in this case, the return of the Messiah doesn't necessarily mean that the last shall be first. Tickets and information: (617) 641-1310. Needless to say, Boston Baroque's Grammy-nominated recording of *The Messiah* (Telarc 80322) is a highly recommended gift idea. An early-instrument performance, it ranks alongside Christopher Hogwood's lucid-and-elegant account (L'Oiseau-Lyre 430 488-2) and Trevor Pinnock's lean-and-hungry version (Archiv 423 630-2).

The **Boston Camerata**, another ground-breaking local early-music group, offers a wonderful range of



GO FOR BAROQUE: *The Boston Camerata's baroque disc includes Charpentier and Purcell.*

PROPER BOSTONIANS

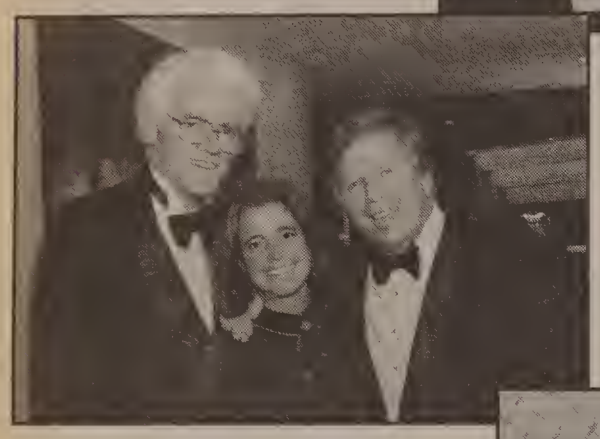
PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

IRISH EYES ARE SMILING

Some 1,200 of Boston's biggest and brightest attended last week's 12th-annual American Ireland Fund New England Dinner Dance at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The Dinner is one of the city's most successful benefits (raising more than $1 million annually for peace, culture and charity programs in Ireland).



GUESTS OF HONOR: *Governor William Weld, center, is flanked by AIF 1993 Dinner chairman Patrick Purcell, CEO of News America and president and publisher of the* Boston Herald, *left, and the fund's executive director, Kinglsey T. Aikins, right.*



DINNER PARTNERS: *1993 Dinner-underwriter Peter Lynch, former Fidelity Group guru, left, poses with AIF founder Robert K. Kraft and his wife, Myrna.*



IRISH STARS: *World Trade Center president and AIF founder John Drew chats with Boston Police Commissioner William Bratton.*



DANCING LASS: *Deirdre O'Brien, daughter of AIF Dinner-underwriter Paul C. O'Brien of New England Telephone, dances with Holy Cross student Ed Soltesz.*



FROM IRELAND, WITH LOVE: *The Irish Consul General Conor O'Riordan and his wife Trisha take in their first AIF Dinner.*



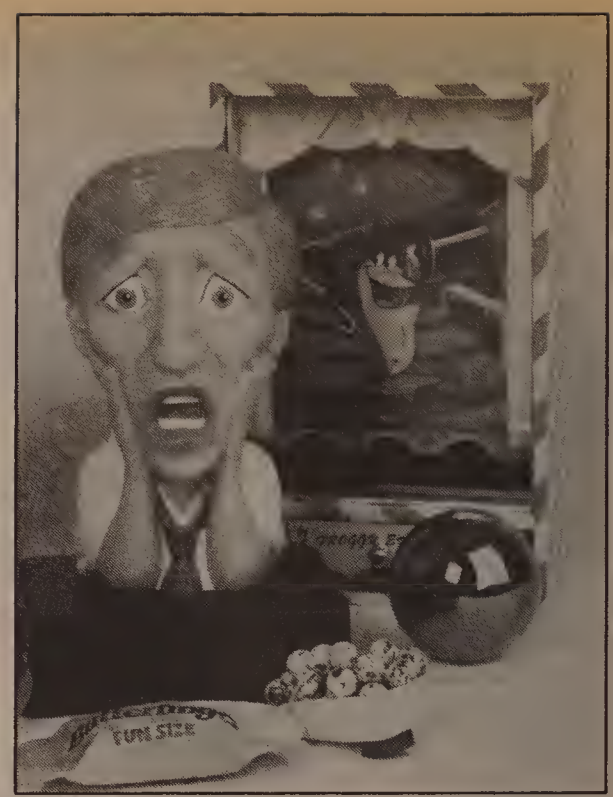
SUPPORTERS OF THE OLD SOD: *Pam McDermott and Tom P. O'Neil, partners in McDermott/O'Neil and AIF founders.*

Gifts Yule Love

continued from page 9

There's the singing-and-dancing frog who drives the hobo crazy in 1956's *One Froggy Evening;* Sylvester caught in the act of grabbing Tweety out of his cage in 1957's *Birds Anonymous,* and Bugs and Daffy dancing to the "Loony Tunes" theme in tails and top hats.

But why not go for even more outrageous examples of novelty gifts? Again, at **Elements**, you can choose from an assortment of **all-cotton throw pillows** sporting wacky prints ($28-36 each). There's the Warhollike multiple montage of Elvis; a blue-and-gold sun-moon-stars theme; and a farm scene, complete with barn, farmer and animals. At **Hip 2B Square**, $24.99 will buy you **a decidedly ungeeky calculator,** adorned with a replica of a pool table, solid-and-striped balls to boot. And perhaps the funniest example of tackiness comes from **Filene's** because it appears so unintentional, so earnest in its proposed purpose. Yes, my Inadvertently Gauche Award goes to the **microwave-heated seat cushion,** manufactured by **Dearfoams** ($30). Just nuke the two-person apparatus for six minutes, and you're guaranteed a few hours of warm gluteus muscles. And, hey, it's water/stain-resistant, and it comes with its own totebag, too! Ludicrous and embarrassing, but ideal for friends who'll be attending freezing football games through January.

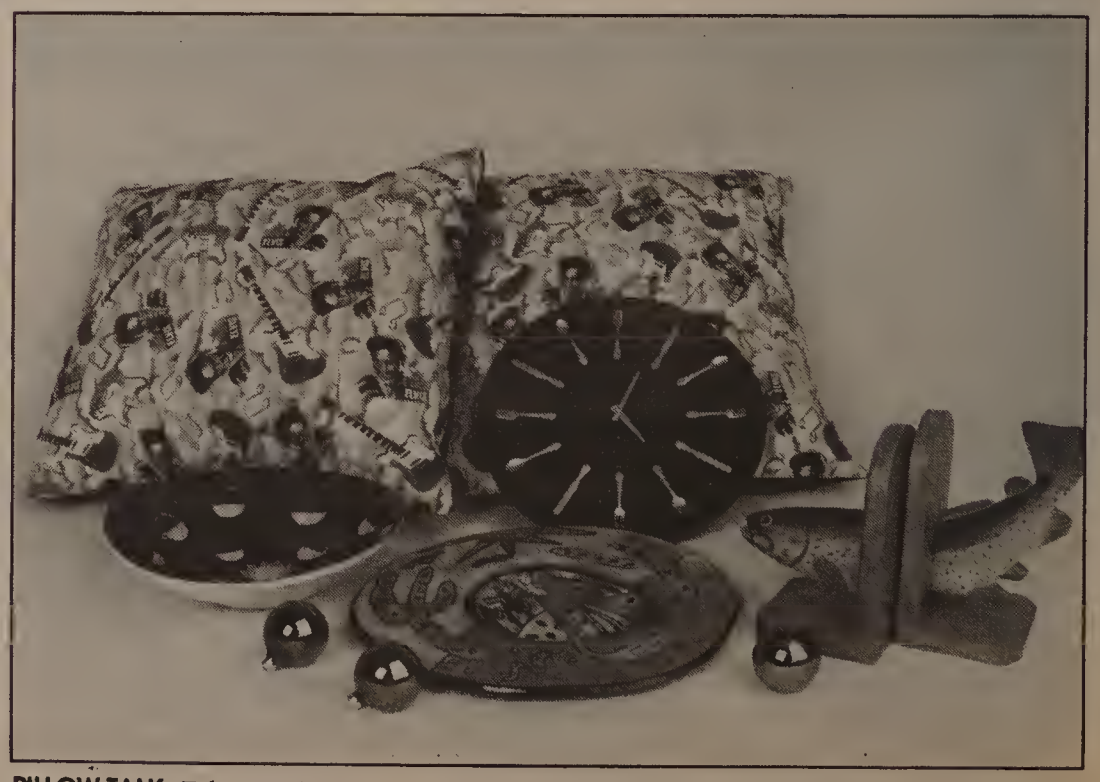


GAGGLE OF GIFTS: *The battery-operated Whipping Boy, candy magnets, and a "Loony Tunes" mechanical music box indulge kitschy and whimsical desires.*

Of course, instead of actually *giving* a prime specimen of kitsch, you can present your more high-minded friends with a tome that chronicles its role in the descent of popular culture. **Urban Outfitters** and area bookstores carry **HarperPerennial's *Encyclopedia of Bad Taste*** by Jane and Michael Stern ($16). The book is not only hilarious — paying tribute to such horrifyingly seductive phenomena as feminine-hygiene spray, Muzak, wax museums, Lawrence Welk, pro wrestling, ant farms, lawn ornaments, maraschino cherries and the Gabors — but it's honest-to-God educational, as well, replete with accurate historical and statistical information. A definitive volume on media-saturated anomalies.

EDIBLE INCREDIBLES

I must stray from my gifts-as-art discourse to touch briefly upon the edible-present category. Don't bother to give food, *unless you genuinely want to make your loved ones fatter.* For calories that really count, I have just one suggestion: **Truffles** (Prudential Center, 800 Boylston, 536-2663). Aside from its signature handmade truffles (beautiful, egg-shaped chocolates filled with champagne, Grand Marnier and hazelnut) the store showcases more unusual confections. Truffles' fudge flavors include penuchi nut, apple-cinnamon, and mudslide; its jumbo coconut clusters and peanut-butter cups are the size of a child's hand! This penultimate candy shop assembles **gift baskets of hand-painted Limoge boxes, chocolates, non-chocolate candy and magnets** that replicate scoops of gum balls and famous candy bars (prices vary; $3.50 per magnet). ❑



PILLOW TALK: *Take a walk on the other side of gift-giving at Elements on Charles Street: oversized Elvis pillows; painted-ceramic bowls by local artists Steven Yaffe and Jennifer Coles, a clock with cutlery-pieces marking time, and half-fish bookends.*

Christmas music, in the form of recordings or concert tickets, makes the perfect gift for those eager for an evening's escape.

St. Nick's Picks

continued from page 9

ancient Christmas music this year. Its Christmas concerts Dec. 18-19 will feature carols and dances from France (for information: (617) 262-2092). Boston Camerata's programs are always entertaining and skillfully arranged.

The Boston Camerata has also been busy in the studio. Beyond its lively new recording of traditional American Christmas music — not so much Ives as Currier and Ives (see "Classical Music" column in this issue, p. 30, for a review) — Nonesuch records has just released a handsome set of three for its earlier Christmas discs: *A Medieval Christmas* (Nonesuch 71315-2), *A Renaissance Christmas* (Nonesuch 79134-2), and *A Baroque Christmas* (Nonesuch 79265-2). These discs are cheap and make good-and-unusual gifts, either alone or in the new boxed set (*With Joyful Voice*, Nonesuch 79303-2). The medieval disc, in particular, is striking, presenting examples of almost every major medieval musical genre — from organum, in which a single voice floats freely over potent open chords, radiant as a frigid sunrise, to jangling carols sung as donkeys are led, dressed as bishops, into a decked-out cathedral. The baroque disc offers as its main selection Charpentier's delicate "Midnight Mass," based on French carols, performed here with some pretty-scrumptious ornamentation. At mid-price, all are an exquisite gift recommendation.

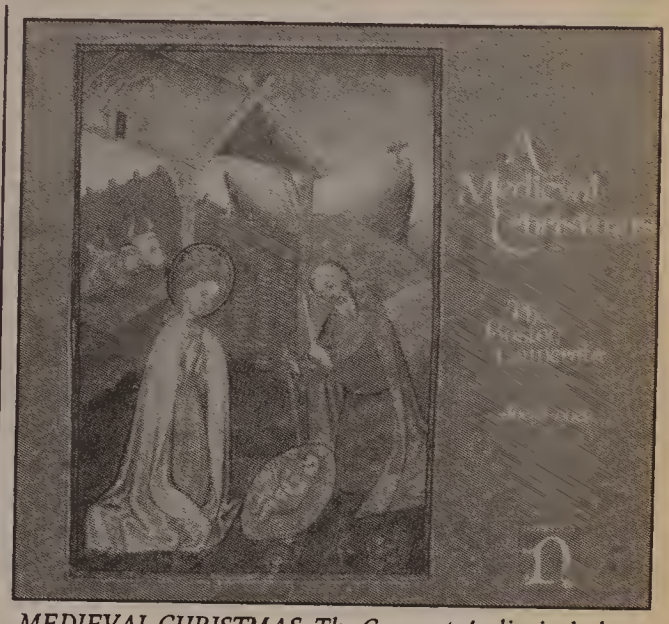
If you want to hear Charpentier's "Midnight Mass" live, it will also be performed by the Spectrum Singers at First Church Congregational in Cambridge on Dec. 5, along with Poulenc's little set of fauvist motets on the Nativity. For information, call 469-3723.

The **Boston Classical Orchestra,** which performs at historic Faneuil Hall, is offering a Christmas selection ranging from excerpts from Handel's *Messiah* to Christmas symphonies by Haydn and local composer **Daniel Pinkham,** who has recently had a disc of his highly accessible Christmas and Advent cantatas released (Koch 3-7180-2). The performances are on Dec. 1, 3 and 5; for information, call (617) 426-2387.

The **Boston Cecilia**, which recorded Pinkham's "Christmas Cantata," will be giving a performance of this and Britten's "Ceremony of Carols" at All Saints Church in Brookline on Dec. 18 (for information, call (617) 232-4540). These are very approachable, modern works, modern, yet touched with inflections of past rites.

Most local churches will be holding Advent **processions of lessons and carols**, a fine old form that never fails to enchant, unless you stand next to someone tone deaf. The Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul is holding its Advent service on Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. Also worth checking out are churches such as Trinity, the Advent and Emmanuel, which offer choral singing without parallel. Emmanuel's choir released a disc featuring some of **Heinrich Schütz**'s unaccompanied Advent and Christmas motets earlier this year (Koch 3-7174-2). These are luminous performances, already receiving international acclaim.

Finally, for those getting tired of all this hymning and hooting, Tchaikovsky's ballet ***The Nutcracker*** is performed Nov. 26 through Jan. 2 at the Wang Center. This is another local tradition: If you grew up near Boston, chances are you spent at least one night of your childhood gāsping gape-mouthed at the delightful spectacle of the ballet's magical, growing fir tree and wondering why all those funny little people were hopping around it. The spectacle still glitters, and the music still enchants. Call (617) 931-2787 for information.



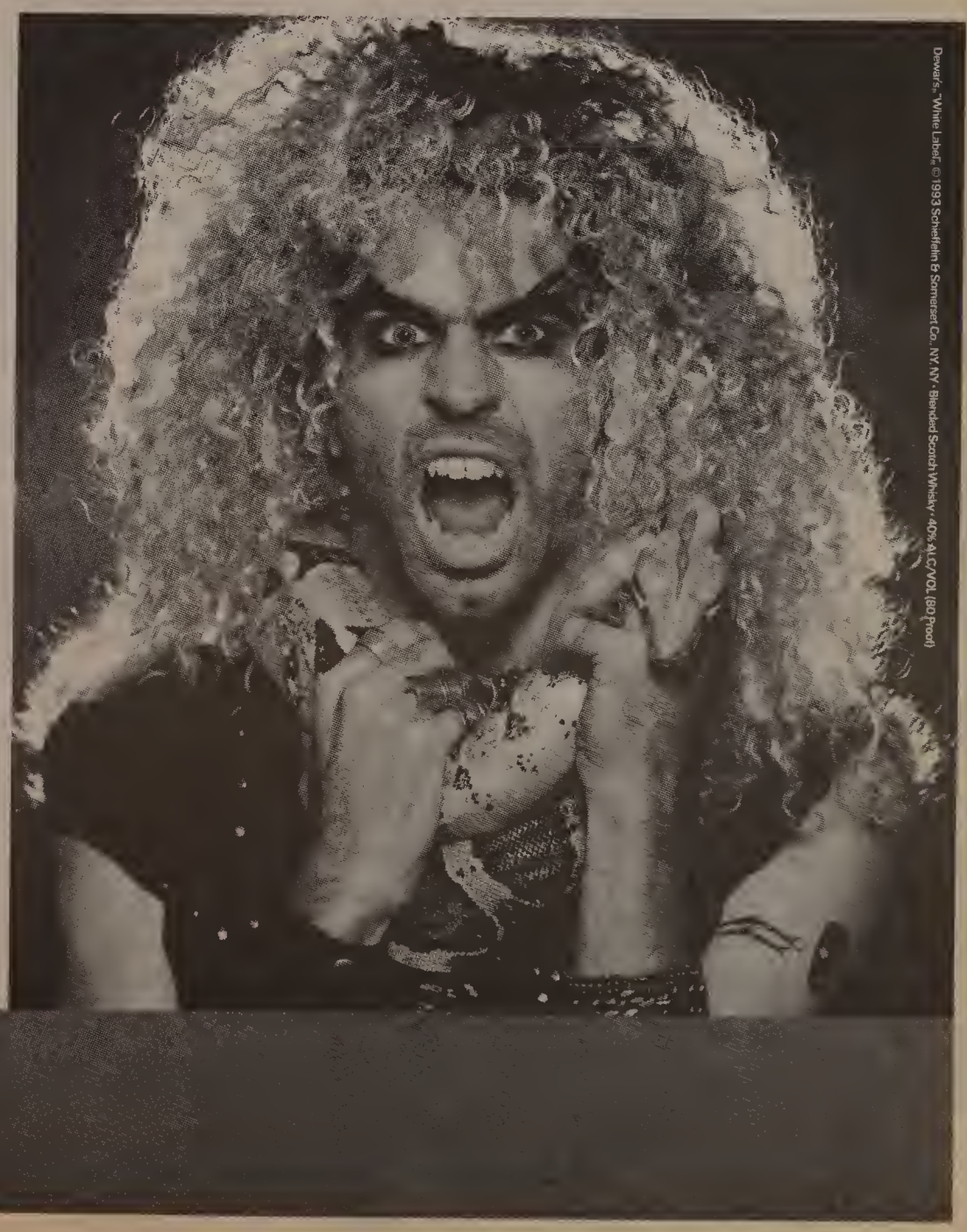
MEDIEVAL CHRISTMAS: The Camerata's disc includes a striking example of every medieval genre.

Classical Christmas music offers a welcome alternative to department-store cheer, and it would be a blah Christmas without it. At any rate, this should suggest ideas for special-and-unusual gifts for those who want to give something out of the ordinary and take a break from rockin' around the Christmas tree. ❑

Your taste in music isn't the only thing changing.



Dewar's



Dewar's, "White Label" © 1993 Schieffelin & Somerset Co., NY, NY - Blended Scotch Whisky - 40% ALC/VOL (80 Proof)

PROFILES

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER

Jane Langton
Divinely Inspired

By Nicole L. Mills

"Div Insp" is the label on a stop knob of the great pipe organ in the Church of the Commonwealth, which is, in a way, the main character of Jane Langton's latest mystery novel *Divine Inspiration*. The name, she explains, comes not from any religious enlightenment she might have received, but from an afternoon in which she and her son were trying to figure out how to use the remote control for their TV and VCR. After some frustration, she recalls, smiling, her son suggested that remote boxes should come equipped with a button marked "Div Insp" for those times when mechanical know-how fails. The Div Insp button on the Church of the Commonwealth's pipe organ has a similar function: whenever the organist "loses touch with whatever the hell's going on in the service."

Whether divinely inspired or not, Langton's new novel, set familiarly in the Back Bay, is a cleverly woven detective story incorporating such varied elements as mechanical pipe organs, the sewer system running under the Back Bay's landfilled acres, and the art of starting fires. "The underpinnings of things in mystery stories are very important," she says.

In *Divine Inspiration*, Langton's professorial detective, Homer Kelly, neatly connects all of these pieces. To understand exactly how all these underpinnings work, Langton spent about two years writing and researching her book. She admits to "always finding, with each chapter, that I had to run out and look up something else."

Langton, who lives in a 200-year-old farmhouse in Lincoln, not half-a-mile away from Walden Pond, has set nine of her 10 novels, including *Emily Dickinson Is Dead* and *God in Concord*, in Massachusetts. To be inspired, she reports she has to "wait until something hits me; it has to be an interesting place and have some connection to something literary or musical."

For Bostonians, a great part of the charm of *Divine Inspiration* is the I've-been-there response that readers will have as characters traipse through Trinity Church, run over Beacon Hill and stroll down Comm. Ave.

Langton's next novel will be set in Cambridge and promises to contain the interweaving musical, mystical and whimsical threads that characterize her work.



MYSTERY WRITER: *Jane Langton's latest novel will strike familiar chords with Bostonians.*



ZOO KEEPER: *Sanders Lewallen plans to overhaul Boston's zoos, as he did Atlanta's.*

Sanders Lewallen
Animal Instinct

By Johanna Roveto

With quiet confidence, Sanders Lewallen announces that Boston's zoos will be the next great American zoos. Waving his arm past the Franklin Park Zoo's rain forest and aviaries, he points to a hillside that will house lions and zebras and to campsites used by scouts from across Eastern Massachusetts. He shows off the lawn between the two Franklin Park entrances, part of the Emerald Necklace, already hosting concerts that are among new programs drawing the community to the zoos.

"Ten years ago or so, *Parade* magazine surveyed the best and worst zoos in America. The worst list included alligator farms, the zoo in Atlanta, and Boston," he remembers, smiling. Atlanta is no longer even considered for such a list, thanks to Lewallen, who led the turnaround of ZooAtlanta. He is now president of the Commonwealth Zoological Corp. (CZC), formed in July 1992 to privatize the zoos and make Franklin Park Zoo and the Stone Zoo destinations once again for both residents and tourists.

An architect and designer by training, Lewallen focused on zoos from the start and spent several years with the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. He took on Atlanta, where local naysayers cited inner-city neighborhoods and run-down exhibits as reasons that change would be impossible. Lewallen quietly built community ties and in turn drew the interest of corporations and foundations, eventually proving the naysayers wrong.

"If people want a great zoo, they can have it." Lewallen and his team of 60 at CZC are well into the first of a three-phase program to update the zoos by the year 2000. As in Atlanta, Lewallen has been reaching out to community members from Boston and its suburbs. Membership is increasing, and attendance has more than doubled this year to some 400,000 visitors annually. Lewallen is now reaching out to businesses interested in being a part of certain success.

At the same time, Lewallen is busy educating Bostonians about the rich history of our zoos, pointing out historical landmarks and rare species being studied here. "Sex at the Zoo," a Valentine's Day presentation on animal-mating habits, outlines another aspect of the zoos' work, the procreation of endangered species.

"Years ago, zoos were consumers of the animal world. These days they are contributors, giving back what we have pushed almost to extinction. We need the community to be a part of that. Boston has everything else in terms of culture and education. What was missing, what we are bringing back, are zoos."

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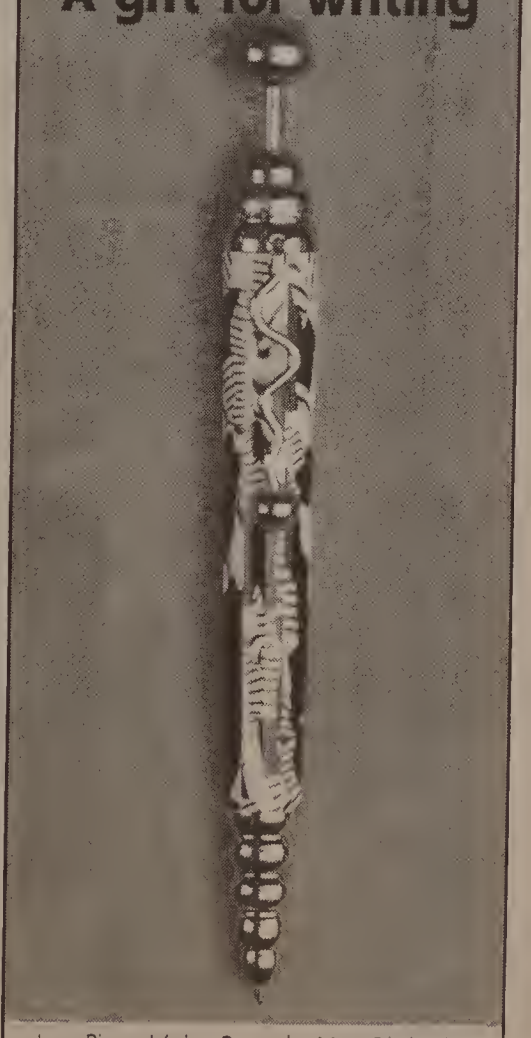
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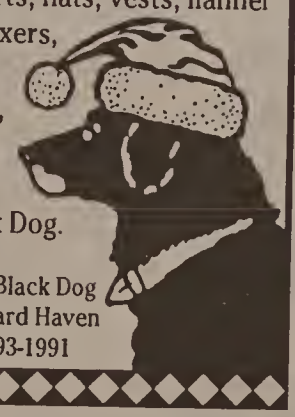
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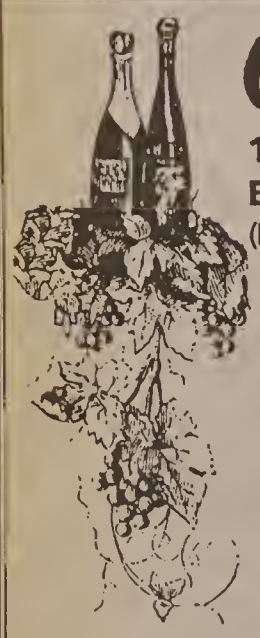
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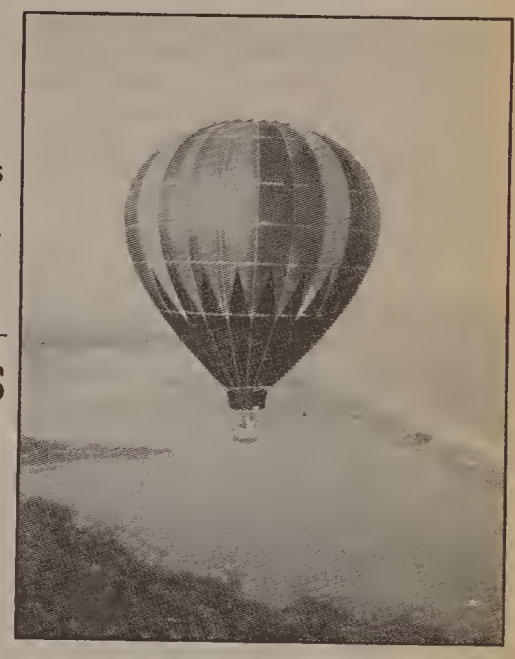
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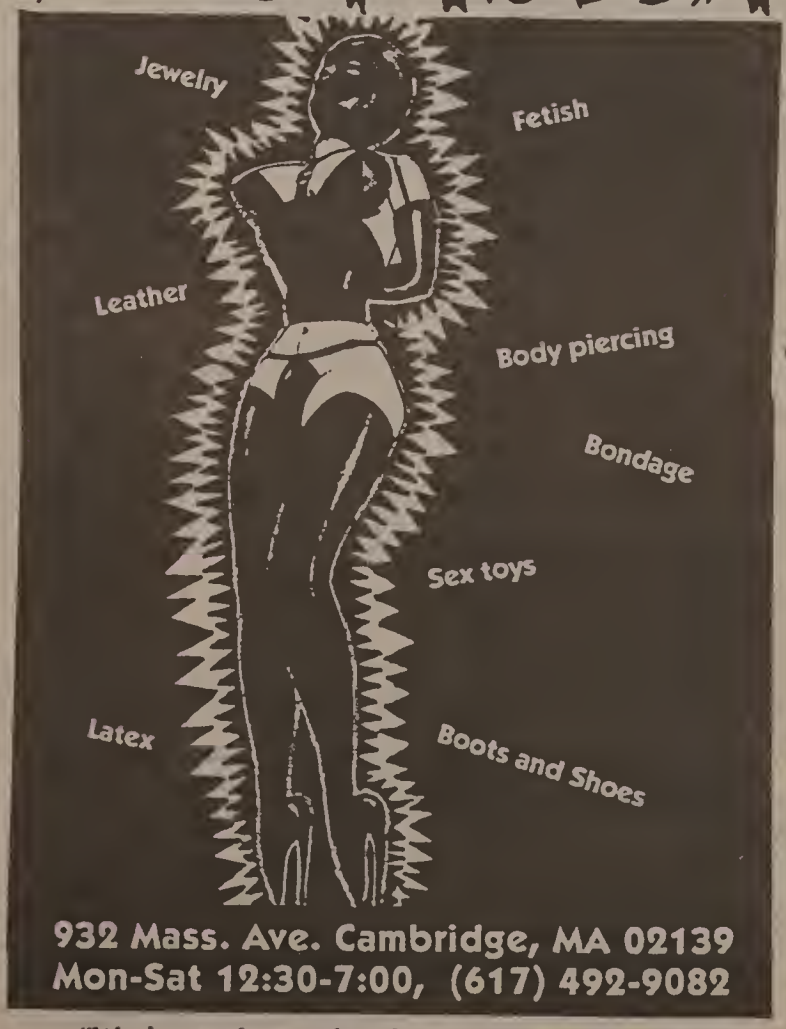
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★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE
★★★★

Farewell My Concubine is the title of a Chinese opera and director Chen Kaige's epic film about two Beijing opera stars who endure brutal training as boys in the 1920s and give their last performance in the 1970s. Cheng Dieyi (Leslie Cheung) plays the concubine, on- and off stage. Duan Xiaolou (Zhang Fengyi) is his heterosexual and more-secular friend and lover — and king to Dieyi's concubine. Their struggles with identity, integrity, love and loyalty are compelling, especially as they are brought on by sweeping political tumult. Through repetition of a single passage, the transfixing beauty of the language, the music and the concubine emerges. Also starring Gong Li as the courageous whore whose attemps to lead a quiet life are doomed to failure.

K.Wilson

FEARLESS
★★★

Why is this admirable film ultimately disappointing? The answer may lay in the uneven tone and disjointed story — maintaining a grip on the characters amid the confusion is difficult. Still, the surrealistic horror of the opening images, surveying the aftermath of a terrible plane crash, knocks the wind out of you. The film's mystical approach to the reluctant hero's (Jeff Bridges) new sense of invulnerability and ghostly detachment from his family is a welcome twist on the straight comedy of *Hero*. A good point for debate is the scene in which Bridges tries to release fellow-survivor Rosie Perez's guilt over her dead baby by smashing his car into a brick wall. Is the scene absurd or is it justified as an oddly rational act that appears completely irrational?

J.W. Hall

FLESH AND BONE
★★★

This moody, somber film stars Dennis Quaid as Arlis, a young Texan haunted by a dark past and a father (James Caan) who raised him to be a partner-in-crime. Now a clean, straight vending-machine supplier, Arlis finds his regular route upset by a sweet-but-abused young woman (Meg Ryan) who joins him for the ride and by his father, who tries to steer him back onto the wrong road. Unfortunately there is more flesh than solid bone here. Still, the plot holds together (the twists work) and the acting is superb.

M.R. D'Entremont

A HOME OF OUR OWN
★

Honest, heartfelt and totally boring. Director Tony Bill has avoided drama at all costs to capture the hellish drabness of complete poverty. Kathy Bates plays a tough, unsentimental mother raising six kids on her own, who tries to set down roots in a house in Idaho that is little more than a shack. What passes for conflict is the tension between her and her eldest son (Edward Furlong), who resents her relentless optimism. Bates seems uncomfortable mouthing the penny slogans that her character is continually pronouncing as she marshals her kids about. Even the narrator — the grown son looking back — sounds bored by it all. For a vastly superior, less-sentimental coming-of-age portrait, set against the hardships of poverty and flawed parents, see *This Boy's Life*.

J.W. Hall

LOOK WHO'S TALKING NOW
★★

As if enough hasn't been said already, TriStar unleashes the latest adventures of the ne'er-do-well Ubriacco family. This time they reluctantly adopt two dogs, a mutt (voice of Danny DeVito) and a pedigree poodle (voice of Diane Keaton). As they adjust to apartment life, the dogs make the family's already-complicated life almost unbearable. The dogs have problems of their own, and only we know why they chew shoes and "make" on the rug. These dogs scratch and claw their ways into our hearts with their canine intellect and endearing expressions. Their personalities are at least as interesting and well-defined as the human characters. Only Kirstie Alley whines better than they do.

M.R. D'Entremont

MALICE
★★

Good campy fun, although it's apparently meant to be a serious thriller. Taken at face value, the film is utterly ridiculous in all dimensions: plot, direction, acting, and most of all, writing. A Yuppie college-town couple, played by Bill Pullman and Nicole Kidman, find their marriage becoming strained after the new hot-shot doctor in town (Alec Baldwin) rents out a room in their house. When Baldwin botches an operation on Kidman, she takes the huge settlement and leaves her dazed husband, who decides to track her down and discovers things aren't quite what they seem. Adding to the mess is a tossed-off subplot of a serial killer on campus. Best line belongs to the ultra-confident Baldwin: "I *am* God." Lots of shots of Smith College and Boston.

J.W. Hall

MY LIFE
★★

If you blubbered through *Ghost*, Bruce Joel Rubin's previous film, his latest film about death should get to you again. Michael Keaton has cancer (symptomatic of repressed anger, it's suggested) and fears dying before his wife, Nicole Kidman (who's really preggers), gives birth. For the child, Keaton starts videotaping his guarded life, forcing him to reconnect with his blue-collar family, of which he's always been ashamed. There's also the requisite mystical stuff as Keaton reluctantly turns to a faith healer (Haing Ngor). Those who disliked *Ghost* may feel a similar retreat from tougher moments, as the journey to death becomes a fantasy release of anger and fear and a parade of cute moments to make us feel better. Well made, but there isn't a surprising moment in it.

J.W. Hall

THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS
★★★★

Tim Burton's macabre stop-motion animation musical is a welcome antidote to Christmas-sugar shock brought on by too many sugar plums, cuddly toys and ho-ho-hos. Jack Skellington, King of Halloweentown, falls down a rabbit hole into Christmastown and becomes so enamored of this frosty, merry and bright world that he kidnaps Santa Claus and takes over. The problem is that Halloweentown, a black-white-and-gray place where Doctors Seuss and Caligari would feel right at home, is the only world he and his helpers know, and they can't help but put a Halloween spin on Christmas. Presents are bloody with sharp teeth, and Santa's sleigh is a coffin pulled by reindeer skeletons and Zero, the red-nosed ghost dog. The story is actually rather sweet and the forces of good prevail thanks to feisty-rag-doll Sally.

K.Wilson

SHORT CUTS
★★★★★

Arguably the best film of the '90s, so good that it even survives an inadequate, less-than-earthshaking ending. The Robert Altman of *Nashville* still lives, thank god, re-energized by the collapsed moral center of middle-class Los Angeles. Altman weaves together several Raymond Carver short stories about couples fighting, falling apart and screwing around. A film that takes chances and asks hard questions about what it means to be human, it's a scathing, pornographic tragicomedy on the level of *Last Tango in Paris*. Breathtaking acting from Tim Robbins, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Jack Lemmon and Chris Penn among a huge, great cast. Discussion groups ought to be mandatory afterward; so many emotions are stirred up that a release is needed.

J.W. Hall

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

PIANO FORTE

"...In *The Piano,* director Jane Campion continues her exploration of female sexuality. But the film is a significant departure from her earlier work..."



PIANO DUET: *Co-stars Holly Hunter and Harvey Keitel*

Movies dish up lots of sex but mostly they shy away from exploring sexuality, especially female sexuality. Women peel off their clothes, pant, moan and climax, all in less than the time it takes to soft-boil an egg. The films of New Zealand-director Jane Campion are notable exceptions.

In *A Girl's Own Story* (1983), her wonderfully disturbing-and-funny short film about adolescent-female sexuality, a girl dons a mask of Beatle Paul and practices making out with her girlfriend. A daddy's-girl wannabe tries to compete with a mistress and wife — her mother — for Daddy's lust.

Campion's brilliant *Sweetie* (1989) is a tale of two sisters: Kay, a pinched, sexually paralyzed young woman, and Sweetie, a punked-out, medicated nightmare. Sweetie turns out to be the family garbage can, the repository for family members' individual-and-collective craziness, including their sexual urges and fears.

The heroine of *An Angel at My Table* (1990), based on the autobiography of New Zealand-writer Janet Frame, is so painfully shy that her sexuality is a source of shame and torment until she moves to Europe and has an affair.

In *The Piano* Campion continues her exploration of female sexuality. But the film is a significant departure from her earlier work: it has more of a plot, it's set in another century — in the 1850s — and it's very romantic. Campion cites Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* as an influence, and Ada, the film's plain, serious and passionate heroine (exquisitely played by Holly Hunter), is a cousin of Charlotte Brontë's Jane Eyre and Lucy Snow (from *Villette*).

Ada consciously stopped speaking at the age of 6. She communicates through her daughter Flora (Anna Paquin), with whom she's extremely close, and through her passionate-and-insistent piano-playing. Ada journeys to New Zealand to meet and marry Stewart (Sam Neill). When her piano is stranded on the beach, she makes a deal with Baines (Harvey Keitel), an illiterate, tattooed settler gone "native," to acquire it back key by key. Thus the stage is set for Ada, Baines and Stewart to play out a complicated, sometimes-humorous and savage sexual triangle.

The New Zealand landscape is also a major player in the drama. It's breathtaking, elemental. The ocean, the mountains, the vegetation, the rain and the mud: each has a life force and will of its own. It's a wild, watery world ("bottom of the fish tank" is the look and feel Campion wanted), an unconscious, non-rational, non-linear world in which truth and meaning exist below and beyond the level of human speech.

The line between the civilized and the savage, the life-sustaining and the murderous, the conscious and the unconscious constantly shifts and blurs. The piano is equal parts life preserver and "coffin." Stewart has an appealing sweetness but is capable of shocking savagery. Baines looks dangerous but can be gentle and sensitive; Ada's silence and music speak to him. Their passion is wild but is played out within the boundaries of 19th-century romanticism, except when it takes a modern twist and turns. Ada, who lives by her own rules, enjoys the power she has over the two men and subtly plays one against the other.

Campion knows that sexuality doesn't just happen; it develops in a historical, social and psychological context. And it's a family affair. After glimpsing one of her mother's "piano lessons" with Baines, Flora and her friends wander around the forest, rubbing their bodies against trees. Stewart tells Flora she is shaming the trees and makes her wash them down as punishment. Eventually, Flora allies herself with Stewart — no doubt out of anger and jealousy directed at her mother.

The Piano is about a sexual triangle, if you count only the adults. ❑

IF YOU GO

THE PIANO
★★★★
DIRECTED AND WRITTEN BY: Jane Campion
PLAYING AT: Loews Nickelodeon, Loews Harvard Square and General Cinema Chestnut Hill

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

La Mort de Chabrol

"...Chabrol's blasé attitude caught up with him. The once-great filmmaker has dried up..."

Claude Chabrol started off brilliantly in the mid-1950s, as young, genius film critic for France's influential magazine *Cahiers du Cinema*. In 1957, he co-authored the first book about Alfred Hitchcock. As filmmaker, Chabrol began the French New Wave with his dazzlingly precocious features, *Le Beau Serge* (1958) and *Les Cousins* (1968).

In the 1960s, Chabrol became, simply, one of the world's great filmmakers, combining Hitchcockian suspense with perverse Buñuelian wit for his own inimitable filmic purposes. In Chabrol's circumscribed bourgeois world, stifling, perfectly polite French suburbia — beautiful wines, elegant dinners, classical music — unraveled into adultery and murder. Raw sex spilled over, and red blood splattered.

With seeming ease, Chabrol produced masterpieces: *Les Bonnes Femmes* (1960), *La Femme Infidele* (1968), *Le Boucher* (1969), *This Man Must Die* (1970). But in the 1960s and 1970s, the extremely prolific director also made a bunch of so-so movies — lightweight, commercial, ill-conceived co-productions — that he didn't seem to really care about. Some of his choices were just plain inexplicable.

"Chabrol has more formal talent than any of the French New Wave directors, including Godard and Truffaut," director Bertrand Tavernier (*Round Midnight*) opined over a breakfast with me at September's Montreal World Film Festival. "But he can be very lazy."

Tavernier, who worked for him as a publicist in the late 1960s, said that Chabrol always balked at doing location scouting. Cynically, Chabrol sometimes cast questionable actors and agreed to do stupid movies, just for the hell of it.

"I remember Chabrol taking me aside on the set and whispering about his actors, `Look how bad they are!,' and enjoying that," Tavernier recalled.

Bad actors, bad movies. So what? As long as there are good movies, too.

Not too surprisingly, Chabrol's blasé attitude caught up with him. Since the fascinating *Violette* in 1978, the once-great filmmaker has dried up; his once-enormous talent has shriveled and almost disappeared.

Only once in recent years has Chabrol achieved arthouse success: *The Story of Women* (1968), a detached-and-phony feminist look at a woman abortionist operating in Vichy, France. Chabrol came back with the amazingly moribund *Madame Bovary* (1991), so lacking in passion and imagination that dullard Charles Bovary could have directed it.



THUMBS DOWN: *Stephane Audran, left, and Marie Trintignant star in Chabrol's dreary* Betty, *about an alcoholic nymphomaniac.*

Which brings us at last to an utterly depressing new Chabrol film called *Betty*. For a dreary night at the cinema, watch Chabrol's alcoholic-nymphomaniac femme-fatale protagonist (Marie Trintignant) connive her way though her sorrowful life. Chabrol alternates between mawkish confessionals by Betty and tiresome flashbacks. Some of the story takes place at a hellish bar-restaurant called the Hole, an appropriate setting for the dance-of-the-dead descent of Claude Chabrol's filmmaking.

Chabrol's wonderful actress wife, Stephane Audrane, who stars in his classics, is wasted as Betty's confidante.

The War Room

We're back on the Clinton-campaign trail, the New Hampshire primary and beyond, for this wry, vastly entertaining documentary about what happened behind the scenes of the 1992 presidential election. Bill and Hillary are seen in only peeks and glimpses: a likable junior-high gym coach with a pretty, blonde wife and a goofy-looking daughter. All attention is on the planners and plotters: stud George Stephanopoulus and, more often, James Carville, the merry machiavel who runs away with the movie because of his charisma and off-the-cuff acerbic wit: "[George Bush] reeks of old. When I see an old calendar, I think of Bush's face." Ross Perot's 60-million-dollar presidential campaign? "The most-expensive single act of masturbation in history." ❑

IF YOU GO

Betty

★

Directed and Written by: Claude Chabrol

Playing at: Coolidge Corner Theatre

The War Room

★★★

Directed and Written by: D.A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedis

Playing At: Coolidge Corner Theatre

CRITIC'S CHOICE

KEY

★ Don't Bother
★★ Fair
★★★ Recommended

	Improper Bostonian	Boston Globe	Boston Herald	New York Times	L.A. Times	The New Yorker	Time
The Age of Innocence	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Cool Runnings	★★	★★	★	★★	★★★	★	
Demolition Man	★★	★★	★	★★	★	★	★★
Fearless	★★	★★★	★★	★★	★★	★★	★★★
The Joy Luck Club	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★	★★★
Malice	★★	★	★	★★★	★★	★★	
The Nightmare Before Christmas	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
The Remains of the Day	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★
Rudy	★★	★★	★	★★	★★	★	
Short Cuts	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★★	★★	★★★

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–Mopsy Strange Kennedy, *The Improper Bostonian*

Arts Review / Charles Giuliano

Flower Power

"...The flower paintings are seductively beautiful and Gillespie's portraits reveal deep interpretations of character and personality..."

One of the most important art events of the year is a rare retrospective, "Frances Cohen Gillespie Paintings," of 17 portraits and floral still lifes at the Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College. Those suffering the seasonal blahs will welcome this feast of rich color and warm light, which will be on view in Cambridge through Dec. 17. These highly realistic, detailed paintings, from the 1960s through the present, often require several years to complete.

"Fran Gillespie is in it for the long haul," Theodore E. Stebbins Jr., the John Moors Cabot curator of American Art at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, writes in the exhibition catalogue. "She lives in order to paint and paints in the same way that she lives: nervously, obsessively, beautifully. She might have become a victim: instead she has drawn on huge reserves of courage and on her own special vision to become one of the best painters anywhere."

The artist was, for many years (until a move to rural New York), a part of the Northampton Realists: Gregory Gillespie, her former husband; Randall Diehl, Scott Prior and Jane Lund. These artists paint directly from nature, in the tradition and techniques of the Old Masters. Several also pursue forms of surrealism and fantasy illustration. While these artists are highly respected by some important curators, critics and collectors, their work has been ignored and even ridiculed by the multicultural, politically correct, cutting-edge art world. So much for fashion and taste.

The paintings in the Bunting show ask the basic question: How can you work with the techniques and the vision of the past and still be a part of contemporary art? This does not refer to the cloying-and-populist sentimentality of Andrew Wyeth and Norman Rockwell nor to "TV Realism," where we "take our magic brush and then, so easily, bing-bang-boom, we have a little tree."

Gillespie's images are the result of intense concentration, brutal self-criticism and a relentless search for what the 19th-century British-critic John Ruskin described as "truth to nature."

Particularly in her paintings from the 1970s, the surfaces were repainted so many times that the endless layers of paint form a surface like shallow relief sculpture. With compulsive obsession, Gillespie was "just trying to get it to look right." She has never been an intuitive painter with facile brushstrokes, but her paintings have improved and intensified over the years due to her fundamentalist work ethic. She claims that she is getting faster; recent pictures reveal that her surfaces and command of detail are crisper, ever-more masterful and confident.



FRANCES COHEN GILLESPIE: John Hope's Cattleya Orchids, *1985-1992.*

While the flower paintings are seductively beautiful, the portraits reveal deep interpretations of character and personality. An early work, *Adolescent Nude* (1976), depicts her pubescent daughter lying nude on a Victorian couch with a floral-patterned wallpaper. The unclassical detail of plain-white underpants was added, at the insistence of the model, after the painting was finished. A double portrait with her former husband was cut into separate portraits (both in this show) and reworked after they were divorced. Her side (with an uncanny resemblance to the Mexican artist Frida Kahlo) reveals his "amputated" arm. The exhibition also contains her masterpiece of portraiture, *Leah a Roma*, 1985-88. Here, a seated adolescent girl wears a silk robe before a window with a Greek pot on the sill and a view of Rome beyond.

Gillespie was a Bunting fellow from 1981-1982. The Bunting Institute, founded in 1961, offers distinguished women access to the research facilities of Harvard University but is funded and administrated by Radcliffe College. Each year the institute offers fellowships to 40 women in many academic fields, four of which are in the visual arts. The program is the most extensive and prestigious of its kind and has spawned many "mini-Buntings," according to Florence Ladd, the charismatic director of the institute, who describes her job as "nurturing genius." ❑

IF YOU GO

Frances Cohen Gillespie Paintings

On Exhibit at: The Mary Ingraham Bunting Institute of Raddiffe College, Maurine and Robert Rothschild Gallery
34 Concord Ave.
495-8212

Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

PORT OF CALL

"...Great vintage port, with its long intriguing history, constitutes one of the few unique-and-enduring masterpieces winedom has evolved..."

Vintage port, with its long, intriguing history, is the classic wine for people who love to talk. By its very nature, it is never something you gulp to "wash down" food, to borrow a distressingly accurate phrase from current usage. Opaque, thick in aroma and flavor complexity, and slow to evolve, port stimulates memory, encourages shared confidences, and allows the poet we may have lurking within to rise to the surface.

This most civilized of wines, however, faces mountainous hurdles before it can grow in general appreciation. First, the near-universal prejudice against sweet wines as somehow beneath scorn reduces dramatically the potential consumer audience. Another sizable group, although it may prize vintage port, is forever seeking ways to reduce its caloric intake and somehow finds sugar in wine easier to skip than in desserts.



IM-PORT-ANT: *Peter Cobb, director of Cockburn port, a wine considered to be understated, cool and aristocratic.*

Guardians of public decency have long equated alcohol consumption itself with a litany of evils. Even those of us resistant to their propaganda have begun to feel it is more responsible to consume less alcohol. Vintage port hovers around the 20-percent-by-volume mark: strike two!

Furthering the perception that drinking port constitutes conspicuous consumption and is therefore out of phase with the sober-and-moderate '90s, the wine is expensive. Worse, it seems elitist and inaccessible. In addition to the uncomfortable aesthetic-and-health questions port raises, one must follow what appears to be a complicated folklore of vintages and stylized serving rituals. A sizable group must be assembled to consume the bottle at one sitting since mature port is as perishable as old claret.

Finally, if port is a wine one discusses rather than quaffs, how prosperously can it fare in an age when the art of gracious conversation is nearing extinction? Who has time nowadays to sit for hours after dinner swirling, sniffing and reminiscing as the magical liquid in the glass begins gradually to reveal its wonders?

Make no mistake: fathoming what it is that makes this wine so special is an effort well worth expending. Great vintage port constitutes one of the few unique-and-enduring masterpieces winedom has evolved. Recent opportunities to taste five offerings from the storied 1963 vintage, just emerging into drinkability, yielded the following delightful comparisons:

Cockburn. A cool aristocrat, understated and reserved, emblematic of the house-style. One cannot but esteem the breathless aroma of dried flowers and spice. The once-formidable tannins have fallen away, leaving the impression of a satin-textured beauty with tender harmonious fruit and a finish that stretches beyond the horizon.

Fonseca. A humbling wine; complete, exotically rich and fleshy, built on a monumental scale. The luscious fruit tends to the sweet and raisiny, but there is ample backbone to guarantee further glories.

Quinta da Noval. With enveloping aromas of bitter almond, dark chocolate and licorice, this is a marvel of coiled youthful energy. Still sturdy, almost aggressive, there is a concealed charge of explosive fruit in the glass. Tasted at a sumptuous feast prepared for the grand opening of the Swissôtel Boston's Salon Adrienne, the wine seemed tough and charmless at first, but the blue-veined Roquefort accompanying it coaxed the considerable flavors along.

Taylor, Fladgate. Flamboyant in aroma, this bold, strutting peacock shows traces of youthful violet, Oriental spice and cassis. Its expansive brew of moka, berry and walnut flavors balance nicely against the firm acid and smooth tannins. Deep and compact in every sense.

Warre. The sole disappointment, nice cherry perfume, but the fruit is fading and the flavors are a bit weak and medicinal. This was tasted after dinner at a San Francisco restaurant, however, and the suspicion lingers that the bottle had been opened too long. Restaurants should avoid serving mature vintage port by the glass for just this reason. On the other hand, some establishments, such as the Pillar House in Newton, offer a bonanza of older bottles at very reasonable prices (e.g., among the 1963s: Sandeman at $85, Warre at $90 and Noval at $95, each below current retail). ❑

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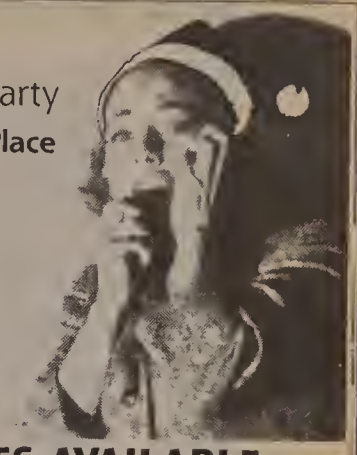
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THE FISH PIER

667 East Broadway, South Boston, 269-2111.

The largest selection of fresh, fried, baked, and broiled seafood and the friendliest service in South Boston characterize the Fish Pier restaurant. The menu also includes a multitude of chicken dishes, prime and BBQ ribs, sandwiches, salads, appetizers, chowders, and other hearty American fare. The ample portions of succulent sea scallops, fresh-from-the-sea fish, juicy prime rib, and other house specialties come at a price that will please your accountant. (The Boston Globe's Cheap Eats reviewers rave about the Fish Pier). Mention the Improper Bostonian and enjoy a free appetizer with your dinner! Come down to South Boston's neighborhood mecca for fresh seafood or call up for delivery anywhere in Boston. Open for lunch and dinner: Mon. and Tues. 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wed.-Sat. 10: 30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 12-9 p.m.

GANDHI RESTAURANT

704 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 491-1104.

Major credit cards accepted.

Enjoy a fresh and healthy, light and spicy menu that offers a plenitude of vegetable, seafood, chicken and lamb entrees. For vegi lovers baingen bartha, eggplant cooked with peas and tomatoes, and bhindi bhuna, fresh okra roasted with onion, ginger and garlic are exotic treats. Gandhi offers tender chicken and lamb dishes cooked in curry sauces or with vegetables. Shrimp Nargassi, shrimp cooked with spinach, and fish vindaloo, spicy fresh curry mix with potato, are other light and healthy alternatives. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week, lunch 12-3 p.m., dinner 3-11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

GEOFFREY'S CAFÉ - BAR

651 Boyiston St., Boston, 437-6400.
578 Tremont St., Boston, 266-1122.

With two convenient locations, in the heart of the Back Bay and in the South End Geoffrey's Cafe - Bar has become a favorite for many of the locals. Geoffrey's serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner and decadent desserts 7 days a week. Geoffrey's prides itself with serving the healthiest portions of the freshest food at extremely reasonable prices and was the Improper Bostonian's winner for "Best Waitress" and "Best Brunch." Stop by one of their two locations today. Open Mon.-Thur. 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Fr. 7:30 a.m. to midnight, Sat. 8 a.m. to midnight, and Sun. 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

GREEN BRIAR RESTAURANT

304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.

Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads and burgers at this Brighton Irish restaurant. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Brunch every Sunday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Open from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week.

GRENDEL'S RESTAURANT AND BAR

89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160.

Major credit cards accepted.

Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sun.-Thur. 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

HARVARD STREET GRILL

398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.

Major credit cards accepted.

Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek is a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: grilled salmon with shiitake, spinach, bean sprouts, ginger, and tamari; smoked chicken and tart cherry pate, or the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce and desserts such as chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce, lemon buttermilk tart with blueberry coulis, or homemade fruit ice. 1993 Wine Spectator award of excellence, 1993 Ivy award. Open Tues.-Thur. 5:30-9:30 p.m., Fri.and Sat. until 10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

HOUSE OF BLUES

96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583

Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free mon.-Sat.,12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

ICARUS

3 Appleton Street, Boston, 426-1790.

Major credit cards accepted.

Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including "Best Reastaurant" from the Improper Bostonian.. Chef-owner Chris Dougaiss' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeno sorbet, juniper and pepper-crusted venison, and a wellfleet littleneck clam roast with tomatoes, basil, and zucchini. A sumptuous list of homemade desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level din-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

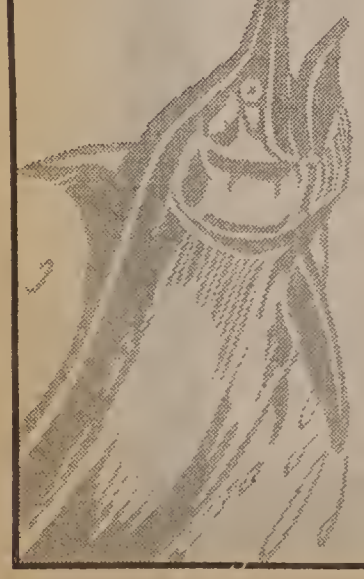
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Dining Review /R.E. Brunson

Rude Food

"...Dick's is the place: Service with a sneer and food that is fresh, fried and home-style, although a little bland — like Mom's..."

When Dick's Last Resort opened in October, a new (low) level in dining arrived in Boston. On a Friday night, just a week after the opening, we found ourselves waiting in line to enter this culinary twilight zone, along with a crowd of gustatory thrill-seekers who wouldn't have known Biba's from Butthead. We usually give a restaurant a month or two to get its act together before a review, but with Dick's, we decided to hold our nose and dive right in. Besides, the restaurant probably wouldn't get better with age and it certainly couldn't get much worse. In fact, Dick's apologizes in advance.



RESORT CUISINE: *Nostalgia for diners who miss the days before beer went lite and cholesterol became a dirty word.*

Upon entering, any food-poisoning worries were dispelled by the sign next to the kitchen informing diners that the restaurant was breaking records with six poison-free days. The host herded our party to a long table shared with 11 other diners and insulted us as we sat down. The dining room has all the ambiance of a warehouse. Its walls are covered with neon-beer signs and a collection of pictures that must have been lifted from someone's trash. The highlight of the collection is a portrait of Elvis on a black background (velvet?).

Our waiter arrived, recited the menu and announced that the strip of paper on the table would act as our plate. The slow thinker in our group asked about wine but decided to pass on the MD 20/20. Beer is the beverage of choice at Dick's; almost all the brands are stocked in the large sizes and served in a bucket on ice. We chose Mamba beer from Africa. Food offerings range from ribs to frog legs, with an emphasis on the fried. However, the menu does have several selections for health-conscious "wimps."

For starters, we ordered a half-pound of boiled shrimp ($9.95) and the fried froggy legs d'Kermit ($13.95). The boiled shrimp arrived in a bucket, as does most of the food, and were fresh and tender, not really requiring the side of cocktail sauce. The fried frog legs also arrived in a bucket and were light, crispy and a bit bland. While we ate, the place became packed, and as busy as everyone was, two members of the staff found the time to visit our table and insult our party. Surliness and attitude are a tradition at Dick's.

While waiting for the rest of our food, we were entertained by the near riot at the other end of our table. A party of six shook the table as they pounded their fists and shouted for more beer. After the live music started, buckets of hot homemade fries, dishes of a very good cole slaw, and a small relish dish with carrot sticks, peppers and olives arrived. All of these items accompany the entrees.

For our entrees, we had decided to go for the grease with the fried pork chops ($10.95) and the fried shrimp ($12.95), along with the honey-glazed roast chicken ($9.95). The four pork chops were hot and tasty, not greasy at all. Someone in the kitchen knows how to fry food. The fried shrimp were delicious, covered in a crunchy breading and a little bit spicy. They were accompanied by a ranch dipping sauce. The honey-glazed chicken was tender, but the glaze was nothing to write home about. With no plates, we made quite a mess on the table, but we didn't have to clean it up.

Ordering dessert after buckets of food and beer was difficult, but we sampled two that were made on premises, the Kevorkian chocolate pie ("to die for") and the apple crisp with ice cream ($2.75). The chocolate pie is heavy-duty chocolate with a thick, fudgy layer topped by a layer of mousse. It was gooey and surprisingly delicious. The apple crisp was aromatic with cinnamon and was also good. As far as the food was concerned, the phrase "just like mother used to make" came to mind. If she knew how to cook, that is.

So, when filled with nostalgia for the days before beer went lite and cholesterol became a dirty word, Dick's is the place. Service with a sneer and food that is fresh, fried and home-style, although a little bland — like Mom's. However, the faint of heart may want to try a more sedate lunch or Sunday brunch before working up to a Friday or Saturday night. ❑

IF YOU

Dick's Last Resort

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267-8080

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Alison Arnett, Boston Globe
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

ing room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly from 6-10 p.m., until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Monday-Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

INDIA PAVILION

17 Central Square (on Western Ave), Cambridge, 547-7463.
Major Credit cards accepted.
Savor royal recipes, preserved from the time of the mughals! India Pavilion offers delicious Indian cuisine, cooked in traditional Indian style. From a host of entrees select lamb entrees such as lamb pasanda, or chicken entrees such as chicken kandharl; chicken cooked in a cream sauce with cashews, and chicken masala; chicken cooked in a thick curry sauce. The menu offers other meat dishes such as beef shahjhani and shahjahni biryani, as well as popular vegetable enrees like malai kofta, vegetable balls fried and cooked in a delicious sauce. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime, and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week. Lunch12-3 p.m., dinner 3- 11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT AND MUSIC CLUB

17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, 776-2004.
Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and now it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around, and it's healthy to boot. Natural free-range, antiblotic-free beef, chicken, eggs, and more. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna with Jamaican relish, and homemade pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. The atmosphere is unpretentious and casual, and prices are reasonable. In October, enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., brunch is served Sat. and Sun. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Located on the red line.

THE KELLS

161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
Looking for a great place to take yourself or the family for delicious food that won't hurt your wallet? The Kells of Boston is the place for you. With an authentic Irish atmosphere and menu sure to please all. After starting the meal with appetizers like potato skins or shrimp cocktail, the posibilities are endless. Meat lovers are sure to be thrilled with the large New York sirloin steak or teriyaki steak tips, while dishes from the sea include baked stuffed shrimp, New England broiled scrod, scallops, and more. Childrens portions are also available. This is more than just another Irish pub and restaurant; The Kells prides itself on great food, prices, and service. Food specials all day. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. for cocktails. Parties and functions welcome.

THE LAST HURRAH! BAR AND GRILL

Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School Street, Boston, 227-8600.
This popular turn-of-the-century pub is a favorite gathering place for local celebrities and sports legends. The classic American cuisine includes tender Boston scrod, Parker House rolls, and luscious Boston creme pie. Conveniently located in the heart of Boston near Downtown Crossing. Serving lunch Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m. -5 p.m. Saturday, noon -5 p.m. Serving dinner Monday-Saturday 5-11 p.m., and 2-11 p.m. Sunday. Serving drinks until 1 a.m.

LEGAL SEAFOOD

Park Plaza Hotel: Restaurant & Café 35 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-4444. Statler Office Building: 27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566. Kendall Square: 5 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, 864-3400. Chestnut Hill: 43 Boylston St., Rt 9, 277-7300. Copley Place: 100 Huntington Ave. Boston, 266-7775. Prudential Center: 800 Boylston St., Boston, 266-6800.
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Sea Foods has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp, and scrod.

LUCIA RISTORANTE

415 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 367-2353.
Since 1877 Lucia Ristorante has followed a basic philosophy: to present authentic cucina italiana as well as innovative dishes with a pledge toward freshness and quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Monday-Thursday 4 to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Sunday 1 to 11 p.m.

MAISON ROBERT

45 School St., Boston, 227-3370.
Two restaurants and café bar. Elegant formal dining rooms and unique private party rooms for meetings and parties. Cosy intimate café with private party rooms like the "vault". A nice place to gather with friends is the newly renovated café bar entered through the terrace. This sunny space makes you feel like the warm waters of the Mediterranean are just outside. The new bar menu offers tastes of the Mediterranean with your favorite drink. Prix fixe complete dinner in the café at $15 and $22. Serving lunch, cocktails and dinner.

MAGNOLIAS SOUTHERN CUISINE

1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971.
Major credit cards accepted.
Formerly The Cajun Yankee. Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings the best the south has to offer. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep fried cheese, home smoked salmon and goat cheese, and blackened scallops. Entrees include Maryland soft shell crabs, grilled pork loin with corn relish and hot pepper jelly, blackened prime rib, and sautéed shrimp with pineapple and cherry tomatoes with southern cilantro pesto, and pan-seared tuna Belle Watlings' style. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday-Saturday 6-10 p.m.

MAMMA MARIA

3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations rec. Valet parking; no dress code.
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Choice Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's "Best of the Best", offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu, and daily baked bread. Be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Open 7 nights a week Mon.-Thur. 5:30-10 p.m.; Frl.-Sun. 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tues.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MASSIMINOS CUCINA ITALIANA

207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959.
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth-watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Very close to North Station T stop; convenient parking.

MICHAEL'S WATERFRONT

85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.
Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom ravioiis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in the Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sun.-Thur. 5:30-10 p.m., Fri. and Sat. 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

O'LEARY'S PUB AND RESTAURANT

1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes such as Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thur.-Sat. 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

THE ORIGINAL SPORTS SALOON

47 Huntington Ave, Boston, 536-1904
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here; they do it differently than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 7 days a week from 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

LA PICCOLA VENEZIA

63 Salem Street, Boston, 523-9802.
No credit cards accepted.
Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, polenta, tripe, scungilli, baked caratelli, veal scallopini, and traditional pasta favorites. Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

POPPA & GOOSE

69 First St., Cambridge, 497-6772.
Created by several Harvard, MIT, and Tufts alumni, Poppa & Goose's main mission is to serve as the link between the local community and Cambridge's greatest resource: the country's largest and most diverse international student population. The theme of the restaurant and market is to promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition. The menu attests to this theme, with its ever-growing variety of authentic international dishes contributed by students. The "Poppa & Goose Community Kitchen" is dedicated to cook-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Listings Continued,

ing classes conducted by volunteering international students. Come and be chef for an evening; relax in the cheerful dining room and enjoy scrumptious food at reasonable prices; or take a Poppa & Goose kit home and effortlessly prepare an exotic dish in your own kitchen. Whether you are in the mood to eat, cook, or participate in cultural exchange, Poppa & Goose's door is open. Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dinner 5:30-10 p.m. daily.

Positano

93 Salem St., North End, 367-4878.
Major credit cards accepted.
At Positano, you will experience the flavor and warmth of the Mediterranean Amalfi Coast right in Boston's North End. Within Positano's friendly, casual decor, ample portions of authentic, carefully crafted recipes are served up at everyday prices. Start your meal with their fresh antipasto, a medley of grilled eggplant, shiitake mushrooms, zucchini, and roasted Belgian peppers; or a salad of homemade mozzarella, plum tomatoes, and fresh basil. Enjoy linguini tossed with swordfish in a fresh basil sauce for a mere $9.95, or chicken saltimbocca layered with fontina cheese, and Parma prosciutto in a cream sauce for $10.95. All of the prices are this reasonable! Come in any time of day for Positano's truly home-style Italian cooking. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Red Terrier Grille

1096 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 566-4144.
One of the few restaurants in Boston where breakfast is served all day everyday. Owners Carol Tringali and Robert DeFilippo serve home-cooked meals. They boast huge portions and exceptional value. Dinner prices range from $5 to $6. Try hot home-cooked dinners with real mash potatoes, or the roast beef dinner, stuffed roast pork, or corned beef & cabbage, just to name a few. Open Sun. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Mon.-Fri. 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sat. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel

Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sun.-Thur., Fri. and Sat. 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar

160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7 days a week from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sun.-Tues. 5-10 p.m., Wed.-Sat. until 11:00 p.m.

Taj Mahal at Kenmore

484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Third & Charles Bar & Grill

202 Third St.,Cambridge; Kendall Square, 547-9310.
Major credit cards accepted.
Don't let the name fool you; the T&C is a bit of Mexico moved to Cambridge. Featuring food "mild, hot, or insane," the menu includes everything from traditional tacos to the house specialty T&C pollo—a chicken breast with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a light sour cream sauce. To rinse it all down, try a brew from the extensive beer list, or a margarita in an exotic flavor like melon or black raspberry. Moderately priced with an extensive bar. For an atmosphere that is as lively and colorful as the food, stop by the T&C. Take out available. Serving food Monday-Wednesday from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; until 11 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Bar closes at 12:30 a.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar

290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring fresh seafood, poultry, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to order, and great hamburgers. The Sunday brunch offers made to order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest, and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities available, free parking. Just one-fourth of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Mon.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., dinner Mon.-Sat. 4-11 p.m., brunch Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wed.-Fri. at 7 p.m.; Sat. 6 and 9 p.m., Sun. 6 p.m.

THANKSGIVING AT ANTHONY'S PIER 4.

TRADITION IS SERVED.

Anthony's is once again offering its popular Thanksgiving dinner. It's a true feast served all day with unusual attentiveness. Please call for more information concerning this very special day celebrated at Anthony's since 1938.

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Anthony's PIER 4

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Model, Jessica Smithers, Shute Agency. Photo © Paul Pilcher, 1993

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Congratulations to:

Marybeth Mackay of Boston, MA for winning a dinner for two to Davio's and a limo for the evening in the Improper Bostonian' Fall '93 mail in survey drawing.

Notice to all Readers and Advertisers:

The December 23 issue of the Improper Bostonian is our annual double-holiday issue which will be available for four weeks.

Publication of the Improper Bostonian will resumes its normal bi-weekly schedule with the January 19 issue.

Our offices will be closed from December 23 to January 3.

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Brunch Board

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705.

Armadillo Café
1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston-Boston, 232-4242.
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include chile poblano relleno, roast chicken enchiladas, fajitas, Brunch Chili, Louisiana Lost Bread and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sunday 12-3 p.m.

Cafe Suisse
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600.
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. You can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

Cityside At The Circle
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an a la carte menu from traditional Eggs Benedict to sizzling fajitas. Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Arrive early and enjoy brunch on the outside deck.

Cottonwood Restaurant & Cafe
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225.
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-7440.
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine indigenous to our American southwest brings to you wonderful brunch items such as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays, too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

Icarus
3 Appleton St., Boston, 426-1790.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

Johnny D's Restaurant & Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004.
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual, low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. "One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- *Boston Globe*. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30 p.m.Cajun dancing every Monday 8 p.m. with Krewe de Roux, and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30 p.m. Great food-Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

The Kells
161 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub and restaurant features one of the best brunch offerings in the area. Sundays at The Kells means all you can eat brunch for just $6.95! Some of the many delectable items from which you can select include steamship roast beef, honey baked ham, chicken curry, rice pilaf, scrambled eggs, a variety of salads and much more. Great lunch and dinner menus also available, with special children's portions—all at Kells' low prices. Food specials available all day, every day. Brunch hours are Sunday 11:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Open 7 nights until 2 a.m.

O'Leary's
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049.
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

Rowes Wharf Restaurant Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995.
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates, hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

Cityside at the Circle
wishes all a safe & happy holiday season.

Cityside gift certificates are a great gift idea.

1960 Beacon St. Brookline • 566-1002

Appeteasers /R.E. Brunson

Pillar of Honor

"...The Pillar House was one of 11 restaurants in the history of Massachusetts to receive *The Wine Spectator*'s Award of Excellence..."

The Pillar House's wine list has been racking up accolades for the Newton establishment. The restaurant was recently one of 11 restaurants in the state ever to be awarded *The Wine Spectator's* Award of Excellence. The Pillar House was singled out for its selections in Bordeaux and California cabernets. The restaurant was also honored by *Restaurant Hospitality* magazine, which awarded it First Place International Wines in the publication's World of Wine competition.

Life Is a Cabaret

Step into the cabaret world of the 1930s and 40s **Upstairs at the Pudding** in Cambridge. The restaurant concludes its series of cabaret nights in the Club Bar with a program on Nov. 29. The evening will feature songs ranging from 18th-century Italy to the Broadway cabaret of Gershwin and Porter. The performers will be mezzo-soprano D'Anna Fortunato with pianist Tim McFarland and classical-guitarist Rick Shilling. A supper-club menu and period cocktails will be available. The entertainment starts at 8 p.m., and admission is $10 at the door. Call 864-1933 for reservations.

Juicy Details

Starbuck's, the Seattle-based, coffee-house chain has paid big bucks (more than six figures) for a Newbury Street location. All parties involved are sworn to secrecy, but someone spilled the beans. **Lofti Saibi**, former sous chef at **L'Espalier**, has opened his own bistro and bar in Canton called **Mediterraneo**. No one seems to have noticed, but **Gus Sanders** of the *Herald* is celebrating his 50th year as a food writer. **Michael Haggerty** is the new chef at **Florentina** restaurant in Inman Square in Cambridge. The bread and pastries are made daily on the premises and the sampling of dishes that I have tasted were delicious.

Jerry Lynch has left **Buonoconti's** to join the **Back Bay Restaurant Group**. **Alloro** has opened on Hanover Street in the **North End**. The restaurant has a New York-trained chef and an eclectic wine list. It looks like a winner. **Davio's** on Newbury Street has expanded the cafe by 40 seats and now offers a private room for functions. **Goemon Noodle** will be opening another restaurant soon in Brookline at an undisclosed location, and **Joe Tecce** is looking for a spot on Newbury Street. The new downstairs addition to the **Rattlesnake** always seems to be packed; it may have something to do with the food. Chef **Ruben Romano** has a wonderful dish in his pollo frito, roasted chicken with fried-plaintain sauce.

Holiday Cheer

The arrival of the holiday season will be celebrated in Cambridge on Nov. 26 during the **Massachusetts Tree Lighting and Holiday Festival** at Charles Square from 1-6 p.m. Santa will be making an appearance for the children and the fest will include singing, snowflake-decorating and a silent auction. The wide variety of Massachusetts-specialty food-and-product vendors will feature apple-gift packs, cranberry confections, maple syrup, honey, sauces, vinegars and other items. Locally grown Christmas trees, wreaths and roping will also be available. The climax of the event will be the lighting of the donated Christmas tree at 5:30 p.m.

Spice of Life

Daddy-O's in Cambridge continues its series of guest-chef evenings with a visit from Olga Bravo and Becky Wagner, of Olga's Cup and Saucer, in Little Compton, R.I. The two chefs will prepare a special menu on Dec. 1, from 5-10 p.m, that includes Provencal smoked-tomato tart with mesclun salad and grilled fresh tuna tamales served with saffron rice and confetti salad. Desserts include polenta with marscapone served on a bed of pink applesauce.

After the last diner has feasted on Dec. 1, the guest chefs will return to their other career as artists who whip up non-edible creations in their Providence, R.I. studios.

Daddy-O's is located at 134 Hampshire St., Cambridge. Call 354-8371. ❑



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Press 1 for main menu and press desired event code to continue.
Press * to return to main menu at any time. Have paper and pencil ready!

DIRECTORY

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TO LIST YOUR CLUB, BAND OR EVENT ON
INSIDE BOSTON CALL 232-8146

Bar & Club Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

Breweries

Breweries Commonwealth Brewing Company
38 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.
"Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as "Boston Burton Ale" served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live Reggae and Calypso every Friday and Saturday Night 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 cover, and if you have dinner here, cover is waived Dancing

Avenue C
5 Boylston Place, Boston, 423-3832.
A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Friday and Saturday nights. Piano rooms.

General

Atrium Lounge
The Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston, 523-3600.
Every Wednesday from 7-11p.m. relax in the comfortable setting of the Atrium Lounge at The Bostonian Hotel with some of the best jazz artists from the Boston area. Enjoy the talents of artists like Mike Jones (piano) Gray Sargent, (guitar), Dave Whitney, (trumpet) and more! Complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

Cantab Lounge
738 Massachusetts Ave., Central Sq., Cambridge, 354-2685.
Live music every night. Upstairs Monday- Geoff Bartley's New Open Stage (folk and more), Tuesday: Geoff Bartley presents Irish, Blue Grass Country Woman & Acoustic Rock. Call for details, Wednesday: Framework. Thursday and Sunday: Rock with Fresh Waters. Friday and Saturday Little Joe Cook & The Thrillers-world famous blues!! Downstairs Friday: Poetry Slam! Saturday: Comedy with Guilty Children. Must be over 21 years, positive ID required.

The Eliot Lounge
370 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 262-1078.
"The Elliot is Boston's Best Sports Bar, only because it never tried to be one." Charles Pierce, Boston Magazine. At the corner of Mass. and Comm. Avenues sits this neighborhood pub. There are lots of intriguing photos on the walls. Early BAA Marathons, golf, horse racing and a balcony section devoted to recent Celtics' greats. An ever-expanding selection of draught and bottled beers make this a great stop before, during or after a game. On Saturdays dance to Nard's Rock and Roll Revue in a casual atmosphere. Also available for holiday parties for groups of up to 140. Call now to reserve your date. Open daily from noon til 2 a.m.

The Green Dragon Tavern
11 Marshall Street, Boston. 367-0055
Major credit cards accepted.
The Green Dragon was called "Headquarters Of The Revolution." Originally founded in 1657, this was the original site for the planning of the Boston Tea Party and the meeting place for important patriot groups. The Sons of Liberty and the Boston Society of Mechanics met here regularly. The Green Dragon Tavern is open daily 11a.m. to 2 a.m. with entertainment nightly. The Tavern serves lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch with daily lobster specials and 13 beers on draft.

Harpers Ferry
158 Brighton Ave.,Allston, 254-9743.
Voted Boston's Best Blues Club by Rolling Stone. Harpers Ferry is undeniably home of Boston's best live rhythm & blues. Featuring rhythm and blues jam every Sunday with Host Stovall Brown and every Wednesday with Host Rick Russell and The Cadillac Horns. Live music 7 nights a week with the very best in local, national and international artists. Call the club for schedule of shows and advance ticket sales.

House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and International acts every day of the week. Lunch-time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

Johnny D's Restaurant & Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004.
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The Littlest Bar
47 Province St., Boston, 523-9766.
Located near Downtown Crossing, and a quick walk from the Orpheum Theatre. 10 customers, the two regulars who sit in the corner and sip their stouts, the bartender and cocktail waitress make up a full house in this charming little watering hole. Guinness and Rolling Rock are among the beers served on tap. Edibles also served. Hours are from 8:30 a.m.-12 a.m. weekdays and Saturdays.

Maxwell Jumps
335-A Huntington Ave., Boston ,266-1705.
Maxwells, on Hunington Avenue across from Northeastern University always has something going on. Try your skill at jello shots or maybe racing down the World Famous Maxwells' Bobsled course! DJ and dancing during the week plus live acts too. Join The Digg Band every Friday night for the area's most rockin' blues. Maxwells always fun- all the time!

The Rowes Wharf Bar, Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf, Boston, 439-3995.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." The Improper Bostonian. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166.
Located next to the Boston Tea Party Ship, 1/2 block from South Station. Monday Night Football Party 9 p.m.-12 a.m.. Thursday: Three Cheers Karaoke Contest 8 p.m.-12 a.m.. Weekly 1st prize of roundtrip airfare to Hawaii. Friday: Friday Night Dance Party. DJ Dave Stewart spins your favorite music. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday thru Sunday Boston's dinner theater to die for. Free parking 7 nights a week.

Irish

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.
Entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Featuring some of Boston's best bands - Monday nights; Boston's Best Irish Sessiun. Wednesday nights; Karaoke prizes and give-aways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1 a.m. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010.
Party and dance at Boston's newest hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wednesday thru Sunday. After-work parties on Thursday and Friday with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's biggest and best bands! Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

Continued on Page 30

About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

Bar Hop to It

"...Since you're probably going to end up in the gutter at the end of the night (if you do it right), you should at least try to start at the top..."



It doesn't have official recognition or regulations, teams, clubs, mascots, Olympic hopefuls, sponsors, or world-renowned champions with multimillion-dollar-endorsement contracts and their pictures displayed *ad nauseam*, but — as far as sports go — it is one of the more grueling. Yes, my friends, we are talking about bar hopping. Now, I am fully aware that bar hopping does not appeal to every sports enthusiast. It surely is not for the faint-hearted, the weak-livered, the highly principled or the underage (unless, of course, equipped with a clever ID).

Detractors claim it is downright dangerous to encourage people to go out and booze themselves silly, but if you follow these two hard-and-fast rules, even an amateur should be fine: 1) Take cabs and 2) Splash cold water on your face and take another look at that person you've been drooling over at the end of the bar. If he or she still looks good, God help you, you're on your own.

Now that we've gotten that out of the way, and you know what you're in for, I absolve myself of any-and-all future guilt or responsibility for anyone's stupid-and-drunken actions. You're all big girls and boys, so let's not get our knickers in a knot; it's all in good, clean fun.

As I mentioned before, there are no official regulations for the sport of bar hopping, *yet*. There are, I understand, scattered groups of a few staunch devotees, however, their differing practices are hotly debated. Some say the objective is to hit as many bars as possible; others insist that it's not the quantity, but the diversity and quality that count. I tend to agree with the latter and choose my destinations in the belief that they represent the apex of their respective milieus. The beauty of this method is that you can move laterally between several bars before progressing to the next rung down the ladder.

It is my firm belief that since you're probably going to end up in the gutter at the end of the night (if you do it right), you should at least try to start at the top. Head to the most grown-up bar you can find (or get into — some of you may be limited by unfortunate social disabilities that are, naturally, beyond my control). Arrange yourself decoratively at the bar of Marais, Biba or the West Street Grill. Order an adult drink, like a martini, a gimlet or a nice glass of wine. Converse charmingly and wittily with your companions. Grow steadily more excited and raucous. Decide, after a couple more cocktails, that you need to go somewhere with more action. At this juncture, there are a couple of different schools of thought. You can head to a club, do several shots and dance recklessly with complete strangers. Or you can simply go to another bar that offers a more restless-and-louder clientele, preferably one with loud music and loose morals.

After several more beverages and either making a complete idiot of yourself or distributing your phone number to way-too-many people, decide that you need to go somewhere for last call. Now for some reason known only to higher powers, the bars that have the latest last calls are also the bars that have the sketchiest clientele and atmosphere. We all know where they are. Stumble in, revel in the reek, and convince the bartender to serve you. Lose your last tenuous grasp on reality; imagine that whatever you are doing right now will have *no effect whatsoever* on how you feel in the morning. Stumble out into the street, resist the urge to sit down on the curb and just "take a little nap," pile into the cab, and try not to pass out before reaching your destination. Good luck. ❑

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Nov. 26	Mark Morris & Catunes Tim Crandall
Nov. 27	The Sense
Dec. 1	Tim Crandall
Dec. 2	The Marcels
Dec. 3	The Swinging Steaks Tim Crandall
Dec. 4	Standing Hamptons/Tim Crandall

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Allston's Best Irish Pub
Kinvara Pub
On the Allston/Brighton Line

Nov. 24	Da Mud Hens Thanksgiving Party
Nov. 25	DJ Tom
Nov. 26	Dennis Healy Band
Nov. 27	The Candles
Nov. 28	Donegal Corduroys/DJ Tom
Nov. 29	Walk-on Comedians, Luck of the Draw (darts)
Nov. 30	Free Jukebox
Dec. 1	Trivia
Dec. 2	Bruce Jacques & Invisible Band
Dec. 3	Tip the Waitress
Dec. 4	Da Mud Hens
Dec. 5	Cupla
Dec. 6	Walk-on Comedians, Luck of the Draw (darts)
Dec. 7	Free Jukebox

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
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Brighton's Best Irish Pub
The Green Briar

Nov. 24	Classic Trax/Karaoke
Nov. 25	Dennis Healy Band
Nov. 26	Standing Hamptons
Nov. 27	Standing Hamptons
Nov. 28	DJ Ed
Nov. 29	Irish Sessiun
Dec. 1	Karaoke
Dec. 2	The Pour Boys
Dec. 3	Da Mud Hens
Dec. 4	Swinging Johnsons
Dec. 5	DJ Ed
Dec. 6	Irish Sessiun

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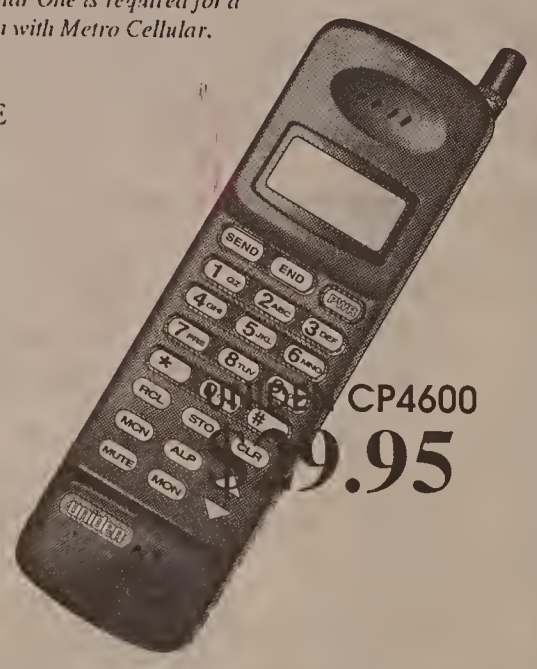
B &C's continued from Page 28

The Irish Embassy Pub
234 Friend Street,Boston, at the Boston Garden,742-6618.
Do you remember The Irish Embassy Pub in Falmouth? Of course you do! Now we are also at The Boston Garden. Come down and enjoy a great crowd in a fun, casual atmosphere. Sundays there are acoustic jams in the afternoon and a D.J. at night. Monday nights come down and beat the winter blues with our blues jam.Tuesdays: Eoin Woods. Wednesdays: Best original music. Thursdays: College cover bands. Fridays: Alternative music. Saturdays: Classic hits.

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub The Kells prides itself on featuring "the best in live bands." Everything from the cutting edge of rock to original Irish folk music. Live entertainment is featured 7 nights a week, and Irish/American folk music can be heard on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. For those important sports events, check out the TV at The Kells, the biggest screen in Boston! Students are welcomed to visit. Open 7 nights until 2:00 a.m.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400.
If you are looking for a lively pub with an Irish flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wednesday thru Sunday. Sunday night: DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guinness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2 a.m. and ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049. If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time. Live Music

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Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Virgin Merry

"...We long for early music and antique carols during Christmas to remind ourselves of a forgotten, even mythical age of innocence and faith..."

In the holiday season, we long for a forgotten, even mythical age of innocence and faith, an age of snowfalls and quiet mysteries not unlike our own half-remembered childhoods. Perhaps this longing for an age of imagined simplicity explains the intimate connection of Christmas with early music and antique carols. Through a vision unsullied by the aluminum glint of Kmart tinsel, we hope to see the familiar in a fresh light. Two new Christmas recordings present different sides of this vision: Anonymous 4, on its album *On Yoolis Night* (Harmonia Mundi 907099), sings medieval music of a startling purity, while Joel Cohen and the Boston Camerata, on their new disc *An American Christmas* (Erato 4509-92874-2), aim for simplicity through homespun boisterousness.

As in previous release *An English Ladymass* (Harmonia Mundi 907080), the all-female vocal group Anonymous 4 concentrates on devotional music of the Virgin Mary. Recent historians have stressed the role of men in the creation of the medieval cult of Mary — men projected onto her all their bewildering range of female idealizations — but it seems that Anonymous 4 seeks to reclaim the Virgin as an image for womankind. Instead of the echoes of Judgment and the savage Saughter of the Innocents that often darken the texts of medieval carols, these pieces tend to celebrate Mary's maternal, nurturing nature, and the hope for renewal that lies in birth. Feminine themes, perhaps, but not effeminate; the music and texts often rise to an almost Donnelike, strikingly willful sense of vision: "O privilege of the Virgin Mary:



MAID IN HEAVEN: *Strong enough for a man, but poliphanically balanced for a woman.*

her womb is the dining-hall of the divine Trinity. This childbirth has great mystery, since the king of all kingdoms cries between two animals." It's lines like these that counteract the cheap images of the Nativity that bombard all of us — Christian and non-Christian alike. At this time of year, we suddenly apprehend the primitive power of the Virgin Birth as if we'd never seen it in claymation.

The program is varied and extremely attractive. A passage of chant, soaringly intoned, blossoms into polyphony as rich and lively as a rose window. Moments of pious stillness alternate with isorhythmic movements of complex activity. Anonymous 4 has achieved a stunning unity and purity of tone. The group's silvery voices, crystalline but never hard, are perfect for texts portraying the simultaneously virginal and tender. As with any re-creation of medieval music, there are fundamental questions about the choice of voice and instrumentation (including the bitter certainty that most of these works were written by and for male musicians), but since medieval-performance practice is so variable and unclear anyway, one can hardly complain about a performance of such beauty and assurance.

If Anonymous 4 eschews the nasal, even folksy vocal tone that some associate with ancient music, the Boston Camerata wholeheartedly embraces it, relishing each rough edge and joyous American twang. The group manages to create the illusion of rough-and-ready frontier performance without sacrificing any nuance of subtlety in phrasing or color. Its disc celebrates the American spirit in all its moods, from the exuberantly crass to the hauntingly solemn, from an ornate, New England fuguing tune to a black-Kentucky-woman's Shaker spiritual, raw with longing. It's a heady and effective mixture.

Diversity is obviously the order of the day. In fact, if there's any fault in the disc, it's that the selection seems almost too heterogeneous at points. As always, Cohen has good reasons for his juxtapositions, which he lays out fully in his charmingly rambunctious program notes; as always, he has a fine eye for showmanship. Those who attended the Camerata's excellent concert at last spring's Early Music Festival will remember the power and momentum of some of these pieces—Jeremiah Ingall's little masterpieces especially. These recorded performances are even stronger for their extra warmth and grit.

Both discs aim at reproducing the conviction of clean faith and innocence, but they highlight different aspects of the Christmas experience as we'd like it to be. While Anonymous 4's disc conjures images of sacred flames in ascetic chapels ringed with holy presences, the Camerata's disc seems more a gathering of friends, carolers stomping snow off their feet and nodding wistfully over eggnog. Both approaches imply, in their own way, a deep and very real spirituality. These discs will make perfect (and unusual) gifts for anyone who enjoys classical, New Age or folk music; music like this transcends those boundaries, defies those descriptions. Perhaps in a century and a half, early-music groups will be giving original-instrument performances of rarities such as "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and "I'm Mr. Heat-Miser." Until then, these should tide you over. ❑

The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

Captain Kurt

"...Laced from start to finish with Kurt Cobain's noise guitar, Nirvana wasted no time in wielding the punk-rock weight that first won the throne..."

"Don't be fooled by the lack of professionalism. It's just a gimmick."

Ah yes, wise(guy) words from Nirvana-bassist Krist Novoselic, onstage before 6,000 at the Springfield Civic Center during the Seattle superband's first local concert since ... well, *Nevermind*.

Nirvana's last Boston show was at Axis (as part of a WFNX birthday party) in 1991, a week before the release of *Nevermind*, the album that smelled like teen spirit all the way to the bank.

Needless to say, Nirvana has come a long way — both in terms of creative output and double-edged hype. And, indeed, just about anything the group did onstage might have been called a gimmick.



GRUNGE GUITAR: *Kurt Cobain's detached demeanor played him rock-star cool at the band's Springfield Civic Center show.*

Such is the life of antiheroes at the top. The arty stage decor was already pretentious, with winged med-school mannequins like the one on the cover of Nirvana's *In Utero* album, vine-covered tree trunks and a field of fake poppies (a funny, flowery nod to Kurt Cobain's admitted drug of choice during the writing of the new album). Even Cobain's detached demeanor could have been seen as rock-star cool.

But from the opening slam of "Radio Friendly Unit Shifter," laced from start to finish with Cobain's noise guitar, Nirvana wasted no time in wielding the punk-rock weight that first won the throne. For a nonchalant bunch, it was a mighty sound, melodically widened by bassist Novoselic (who hopped about like a hulking marionette), doubled by backup guitarist Pat Smear from the Germs, and driven home by drummer Dave Grohl's muscular-but-precise thrashing.

The assault wound through the sledgehammer-hinged "Milk It," the freight-train roll of "Territorial Pissings" and a climactic "Breed," balanced by the lulls of a cello-hung "Dumb" and "Polly," the latter with Cobain on acoustic guitar. Cobain's knack for melody infused everything, from the rawest rocker to the most dirgelike lament. Freed by the presence of Smear, he still kept the attack bare bones, and short on solos. His big guitar break in "Smells Like Teen Spirit" was overshadowed by strobe lights for more of a psychedelic effect.

The 95-minute set's only down side was when the band's snotty-yet-playful attitude (such as addressing the crowd in gibberish) turned nasty. "For the next person that throws a shoe, I'm gonna turn my guitar on and leave for an hour of feedback," Cobain snapped to the mosh pit. "One rotten apple in class fucks up, and the rest have to suffer."

Cobain closed the night by doing pretty much the same thing, falling to his knees and indulging in feedback-hung guitar noodling. After 10 minutes, even the goofy Novoselic gave up on him, walked behind Cobain's amp and sprinkled the guitarist (now playing on his back) with liquid. When Cobain rose to swing his guitar for the rafters, he slipped on the wet stage, cautiously got back up, and went flying on his ass again — before twice heaving his guitar into the air and letting it crash. Then he dragged it behind his amp, tried to knock the mannequin's block off with a toss and lit a cigarette as the house lights came up.

Pearl Jam might win the battle of Seattle supremacy in the '90s with its more mainstream gestures. But while Pearl Jam's *Vs.* album is a strong piece of work that points toward longevity (especially when the band fully develops its own sound), Nirvana's latest album and tour show a band blasting away for the moment. The band — or its act — might burn out. But for now, Nirvana is still a glorious baby on the national stage, a bastard and proud of it.

ELSEWHERE: The next big thing on the alternative-rock front is Smashing Pumpkins at a sold-out Avalon on Nov. 27 and 28, although it remains to be seen if the studio-sedated sound of the band's new album translates well to the stage. A good alternate that weekend would be Boston-psychedelic-grungers the 360's at the Causeway. Dec. 3 is a night for post-New Age fans with Liz Story and Nightnoise at Berklee and a Philo folk showcase with Bill Morrissey, Cheryl Wheeler and Kristina Olsen at Somerville Theater. ❑

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COMPILED BY LARA BWEN

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7				

SPECIAL EVENTS

BRICKSTONE TREE LIGHTING
Brickstone Square, Andover
On Nov. 28, Boston Bruins center Adam Oates and WBZ's Tom Bergeron will be on hand for the lighting of the Brickstone tree, which is the nation's tallest Christmas tree. The festivities begin at 5 p.m. and the lights go on at 6. If you go, bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots. Sponsored by Marshalls and Brickstone Square. Call (508) 749-3008.

CULTURAL SURVIVAL
Memorial Hall
Harvard University, Cambridge
Get cultured! More than 30 indigenous societies will be represented in the Cultural Survival winter bazaar, held Dec. 2, 3 and 4, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. By purchasing arts and crafts from indigenous societies from all over the world, you will be helping them to secure themselves financially and preserve their own cultural heritage. Call 621-3818.

FASHION LUNCHEON SERIES
Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
Indulge your eyes before your ears on Friday-Symphony-matinee dates. Some of Boston's finest designers will present the season's fashions, during informal pre-symphony modeling sessions in the Cafe Promenade. The next date is Nov. 26, with Concetta Calitiri. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. and the fashions show at 11:45. Reservations are suggested. Call 424-7000.

GATEWAY CRAFTS HOLIDAY FAIR
62 Harvard St., Brookline Village
The 20th-annual Gateway Crafts Fair will take place on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m to 4 p.m. Gateway Crafts is a vocational program for artistically talented adults with disabilities. These one-of-a-kind pieces are cool. Check it out. Call 734-1577.

POLICE OFFICER'S BALL
Holiday Inn
1200 Beacon St., Brookline
The Brookline Police Department Mutual Aid Association will hold its annual ball on Friday, Dec. 3 at 9 p.m. Funds raised will go to support its Death and Disability Fund. Tickets are $10 per couple. Call 730-2222.

SHERBORN FESTIVAL OF TREES
Sherborn Community Center
Sangor Street, Sherborn
There will be trees galore at the Sherborn Community Center on Dec. 4, when the center hosts its glorious Festival of Trees. Starting with a reception on Dec. 3, from 7-9 p.m., and continuing all through the next day, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., local organizations will be trimming and auctioning lots and lots of trees. Tickets are $1 (Saturday only). Call (508) 655-2701.

SLEIGH BELL PARADE
Beginning outside the Hynes Convention Center, Boston
Who needs snow? Dashing through the streets of Boston on Dec. 5 is the First Annual Sleigh Bell Parade. The event will feature floats, bands, Santa Claus; you won't want to miss this. It begins at 12 p.m. adjacent to the Hynes Convention Center, and will travel down Boylston Street, Charles Street and Beacon Street to the State House, lasting approximately two hours. Call 439-7700.

SLICE THE ICE HOCKEY OPEN HOUSE
Boston Garden
150 Causeway St., Boston
Does the idea of skating on the same ice as the Boston Bruins send a shiver of excitement up your spine? Well, dream no more. The Boston Garden is opening its fabled rink on Sunday, Dec. 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is your chance to don your skates and help raise money for the Horizons Initiative Fund, which aids homeless children. Tickets are $6 and are available at the box office, by calling 931-2000. Call 557-1260.

TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS!

SOUTH STATION, BOSTON
Chugging through South Station's Grand Concourse from Dec. 4 to Jan. 8 is a model-train exhibit. At 16-foot-by-24-foot, it is the largest indoor-garden railway display exhibit in New England. Open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Free. Call 451-2266.

NORTHSHORE MALL, PEABODY
On display until Dec. 31 is the extraordinary *Shining Time Station, with* 22 trains running simultaneously through the station using 16 loops of track. The exhibit covers 2,500 square feet. and is open for viewing during mall hours. Admission is $3 for adults, $2 for children; children under 5, free. Proceeds benefit Boston's Adopt-a-Student Foundation. Call (508) 531-3440.

WINTER WONDERLAND
Boston Common, Boston
If you happen to be in the downtown area, why not take a stroll through *Winter Wonderland* on the Boston Common? For 30 days (Nov. 26-Dec. 26) the Common will be transformed into a holiday paradise, with a petting zoo, sleigh rides, gingerbread houses and even Frosty himself on hand! Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m -7 p.m., and Sunday, noon-7 p.m. Tickets are $4 for children 4-12 and senior citizens, and $6 for adults. Children under 4 get in free. Call (800) 8-WONDER.

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
That perennial holiday favorite, *The Nutcracker* will run at the Wang Center from Nov. 26 to Jan. 2. Tickets are $18-$52. Call 931-ARTS.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER
•Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
The first production of the ART's season will be Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Parts I & II*. Performances of *Part I* will begin Friday, Nov. 26, and run through Saturday, Jan. 1, and performances of *Part II* will begin Friday, Dec. 3 and run through Sunday, Jan. 2. While linked, the two plays are independent, and audiences should feel free to see either or both. Tickets are $18-$42. Call 547-8300.

0 CHURCH ST., CAMBRIDGE
The ART's Institute for Advanced Theater Training will present Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, directed by Curtis Fousek, starting Nov. 26 and running through Dec. 5. Tickets are $10; $5 for students and senior citizens. Call 547-8300.

BACK ALLEY THEATER
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
The improv-theater troupe Renegade Duck performs every Sunday at 1 p.m. until the end of the year. Tickets are $10, $5 for students with ID. Call 628-8428.

BOSTON COLLEGE
Robsham Theater Arts Center
Chestnut Hill
Stuart J. Hecht directs *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, Dec. 2-4 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 5 at 2 p.m. The Neil Simon play, set in 1940s Brooklyn, Is always a sure bet for heart-warming entertainment. Tickets are $7-$8, $4-$5 for students and senior citizens. Call 552-4800.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY

HASTY PUDDING THEATER
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
•The classic drama *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* runs through Nov. 28, starring Sally Kellerman (*M*A*S*H*). Tickets are $18-$32. Call 496-8400.
•From Thursday, Dec. 2-Saturday, Dec. 4, Claire Bloom will star in the new Shakespeare program, *Shakespeare's Women in Love*. Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m., and Saturday at 5 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Tickets are $18-$28. Call 496-8400.
•On Sunday, Dec. 5, Claire Bloom will appear again, this time in a dramatic reading of *Anna Karenina*. This adaptation focuses on the role of Anna, and tells the story largely from her point of view. The performance is given in two parts: Part I is from 4-6 p.m., after which there will be a break for dinner, and Part II is from 8-10 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will go to benefit Amnesty International, who will sponsor a dinner during the break. Tickets are $18-$28. Call 496-8400.



IMPROPER PICK

Rosie's Diner (of paper-towel fame) and Boston's own Blue Diner are among the food for thought, ceramic-and-neon sculptures featured in Alianza's Jerry Berta's Diner Show. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Call 262-2385.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
•Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve a murder mystery. Tickets are $20-$26. Special holiday prices may apply. Call 426-5225.
•Happiness is going to see the Peanuts' *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* gang perform its 26th-anniversary production through Jan. 2, 1994. It's a family musical, but fun for hipsters, as well. Tickets are $22.50-$32.50. Senior-and-student discounts. available. Call 426-6912.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
•See the Tony Award-winning musical adaptation of the beloved children's book *The Secret Garden* from Nov. 23-28. Tickets are $22-$55. Call 931-2787.
•Talkin' 'bout my generation ... the Who's *Tommy* arrived in Boston on Wednesday, and if you haven't had the chance to see it, well, that's what weekends are for. Considered by many to be the first real rock musical on Broadway, the show, with an original score by Pete Townshend, will be here until Dec. 26. Tickets are $15-$60. Call 931-2787.

DOUBLE EDGE THEATRE
5 St. Luke's Road, Allston
DET presents "Song of Songs" Nov. 26-28 at 8 p.m. It's a theatrical song cycle about love; call 254-4228 for ticket information.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
David Drake's one-man-drama *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* was heralded an undisputed winner in the *New Yorker*'s survey of gay and lesbian-oriented plays. It runs through Nov. 28; call 437-7172.

MYSTERY CAFE
290 Congress St., Boston
To celebrate its fifth year, the Mystery Cafe presents *Murder at Rick's Cafe* and *Let's Kill the Boss*. Tickets, which include a four-course dinner plus the show, are $29-$33 and are available at Bostix or by phone. Call 262-1826.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
Bursting with music and nostalgia, *Holiday Memories* recalls Thanksgiving-and-Christmas celebrations as seen through the eyes of a child in the Depression-era South. These two classic American short stories by Truman Capote are re-enacted on stage through Dec. 12; call 332-1646 for times and tickets.

PARK PLAZA HOTEL
Arlington and Columbus Sts., Boston
Forever Plaid, the musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, continues its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner-show packages are $52 and $49. Call 357-8384.

RIVERSIDE REPERTORY COMPANY
French's Opera House
45 Fairmont St., Hyde Park
Not feeling in the mood for all the inevitable holiday cheer? Resisting the constant urge to say bah, humbug? Then go see *Scrooge*, the Dickens classic-cum-movie musical, now being performed as a fully staged production. From the pen of James Leisy, the show runs Nov. 26 to Jan. 2. Tickets are $12-$8. Call 361-7024.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant-theater packages with the European Restaurant are available. For more information about dinner packages, call 227-9872 or (800) 382-8080.

UNDERGROUND RAILWAY THEATER
41 Foster St., Arlington
A witty, wildly diverse collection of songs and stories about women growing older and coming into their own, *Washed-Up Middle-Aged Women* is performed each Fri. and Sat. through Dec. 4, 8 p.m. at the Arlington Center for the Arts. Tickets are $13-$15. Call 643-6916.

WGBH RADIO THEATER
89.7 FM, or 96.3 FM, depending on your location
Boston journalists Nat Segaloff and Daniel Kimmel wrote this radio drama about the Hollywood blacklisting that takes place during the height of the anti-communist hysteria at *The Waldorf Conference*. It will air on Sunday, Nov. 28 at 5 p.m., and will star such luminaries as Ed Asner and Shelly Berman. Call 492-2777.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
Cartoonist Rich Tennant is the brains behind the first cartoon show to capture the fun foibles of life in the Information Age. The display of more than 50 drawings is based on the

Continued on Following Page

syndicated *5th Wave* cartoon series featured in *Computerworld* magazine. As an added treat, the cartoonist himself will be around to sign copies of his new book (and first anthology) in the Computer Museum Store, Nov. 26 and 27, from noon to 3 p.m. While you're there, don't forget to enjoy the more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer. Call 423-6758.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
The Busch-Reisinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. Call 495-9400. To counter MFA's prestigious *The Age of Rubens* exhibit, the Fogg hosts *An Offbeat Collection of Dutch and Flemish Paintings* through Jan. 9, 1994.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART
955 Boylston St., Boston
In addition to its current exhibit, *A Day Without Art*, the ICA will honor World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, with a number of events throughout the day, including a reception and awards ceremony from 1-3 p.m., hosted by the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, to honor those people who are working innovatively in the field of AIDS. For a more complete list of events throughout the month of December, call 266-5151; free admission Thursdays, 5-9 p.m.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. On special exhibition through March 13, *Passionate Acts in Greek Art and Myth*, featuring 22 objects from the museum's collection, the MFA and private lenders, all of which will serve to illustrate just some of the stories from Greek mythology. In addition to visual art, the museum also hosts regular concerts. Call 734-1359 for concert Information; for general information, call 566-1401.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
•Through Jan. 2, *The Age of Rubens* is the first major survey of Flemish baroque painting ever mounted in the United States and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe.
•Its companion exhibit is *Rubens, Bellange, Rembrandt: European Graphic Art, 1580-1660*, a collection of 90 prints, drawings and illustrated books; through Feb. 6.
•MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2.
•Contemporary artist Robert Cumming presents *Cone of Vision* through Nov. 28.
•Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific.
•The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27.
•MFA presents *Deities, Saints and Allegories*, full-length images and busts of classic mythological figures, through March 6.
•American homes, from squatters' encampments to fancy Manhattan penthouses, will be examined in *In and Out of Place: Contemporary Art and the American Social Landscape* through Jan. 23, 1994. Call 267-9300.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
Science Park, Boston
The dinosaurs — including the ferocious velociraptor — from *Jurassic Park* have stormed into New England, but you better get advanced tickets if you want to see them. Also, there's *It's All in Your Head*, where you can walk through a giant (9-foot) brain replica and explore the wonders of the mind. Through May 15, 1994, see the *Mysteries of the Bog* exhibit, where you can scoop cranberries and learn about this misunderstood ecosystem, including the myth of the "Bog-ey Man." Lots of fun stuff to play with, including the Omni Theater and the Charles Hayden Planetarium., no matter what age you are. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations.The museum will be closed at 5 p.m. on Nov. 24 and on Thanksgiving. The exhibit halls, including the *Jurassic Park* exhibit, will be open extended hours: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m., Nov. 26 -28. Call 723-2500.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM
Central Wharf, Boston
Get the dirt on Boston Harbor with the New England Aquarium's new *Go With the Flow* exhibit, which introduces and explains the problems that plague the harbor and the ways that they can be remedied. Although the Aquarium will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, it will be operating under holiday hours the following day, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. The *Terrific Thursdays* program, which provides free admission to all visitors from 3-7:30 p.m., will resume on Dec. 2. Call 973-5200.

PAUL REVERE HOUSE
19 North Square, Boston
Hear ye, hear ye! Come visit the Paul Revere House and the adjoining Pierce/Hichborn House on Dec. 4 or 5, and see how Christmas was celebrated in colonial Boston. Both houses will be decorated for the season and refreshments will be served. Moreover, from 1-4 p.m. each afternoon, musicians will perform seasonal carols. Open from 9:30 a.m. o 4:15 p.m. Call 523-2338.

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM
30 Elm St., Worcester
A Doll House Festival at Salisbury Mansion features doll houses and miniature rooms from New England collectors and is open to the public Thursdays through Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m., through Jan. 2. Call (508) 753-8278.

GALLERIES

ARTISTS FOUNDATION
8 Park Plaza, Boston
The Artists Foundation presents *Sitting at the Same Table: Artists Collaborating With Their Children*, an exhibition in all media by nine artists. In the gallery on the first floor of the State Transportation Building, through Dec. 18.

THE CORNWALL GALLERY
57 Cornwall St., Jamaica Plain
The gallery's eighth group show, a mixed-media membership exhibition, will be on view from Dec. 4 to Jan. 2. The opening reception is Dec. 4, 7-9 p.m. Free. Call for hours and information, 524-8156.

DE HAVILLAND
39 Newbury St., Boston
Debra Dumas will be showing her abstract landscapes in acrylic canvases in her exhibit, *The Soul of the Dog*. It opens Dec. 3 with a reception, from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. Call 859-3880.

HOWARD YEZERSKI
11 Newbury St.
in participation with various gallery locations in the Boston area
Today is World AIDS Awareness Day. In its honor, the local art community presents *Paper Prayers*, based on the Japanese tradition of offering painted prayers as wishes for good health. In its fifth year, this event will benefit the Boston Pediatric AIDS Project by having artists anonymously donate 12 -by-4 inch artwork, the size of a traditional Japanese *prayer*. Viewers are invited to make a donation of any size and take home a *prayer*. Opening reception is at the Howard Yezerski Gallery, 11 Newbury, on Dec. 3, 5-8 p.m. The list of participating galleries is expanding daily, so call 442-8800 x204 for the most up-to-date information. Running today through Dec. 30.

FIRST EXPRESSIONS
81 Arlington St., Boston
This gallery, which is exclusively dedicated to student art from area colleges, displays work by the students of the DeCordova Museum School of Art through Nov. 27; work by MIT students is next on the list. Call 738-8578.

THE FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
Partners in Printmaking, an exhibition of the works of local women printmakers, will be on view from Dec. 2 to Dec. 30, with an opening reception on Dec. 2 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Free. Call 266-4351.

GALLERY 2200
1 Kendall Square, Bldg. 200
Second Floor, Suite 2200, Cambridge
Amy Kaufman: Oil Paintings and Pastels runs through Nov. 30. Viewing hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m-5:30 p.m., and by appointment. Admission is free. Call 527-3930.

JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY
130 Newbury St., Boston
Through Dec. 4, Marianna Pineda's *Search for the Queen* will be on exhibit. This show contains the bronzes, terra cottas and drawing that were done in preparation for her sculpture *The Spirit of Lili'uokalani*, which stands at the State Capitol in Honolulu, Hawaii. Call 437-1518.

MIT VISUAL ARTS CENTER
20 Ames St.., Cambridge
Through Dec. 19:
The Anxious Salon: Narrative Content in Recent Figurative Painting, examines the work of five contemporary artist working in the Old Master style. An interesting contrast to the MFA's Rubens exhibit. Open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 12-6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 12-8 p.m., and weekends, 1-5 p.m. Closed holidays. Free, unless otherwise noted. Call 253-4680.

MOBIUS
354 Congress St., Boston
Showing until Dec. 23 is *Terminal House*, a multimedia installation by Meredith Davis, with additional sound by Ean White that explores the concept of home and the role of the traditional housewife. The opening reception is Dec. 11, from 3-5 p.m., with a gallery talk by the artist at 4 p.m. Free, but donations are gratefully accepted. Call 542-7416.

NOSTALGIA FACTORY
336 Newbury St., Boston
Bottoms up! The Factory presents *Lost Weekend*, an exhibition of original advertising from the late-9th century through the early 1970s, featuring alcoholic beverages. Through November. Call 236-8754.

ROLLY-MICHAUX
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
Rolly-Michaux presents *Joan Miro: A Centennial Celebration* through Dec. 31. In its tribute to the Catalan surrealist (1893-1993), R-M presents the gallery's collection of important aquatint etchings and early lithographs. Call 536-9898 for gallery hours.

STEBBINS GALLERY
Zero Church St., Harvard Square
New paintings by Tony Sansevero, *Hyperion: Neo-Classical Visions*, incorporate the classical poetry that inspired the works. Through Nov. 28. Call 576-0131.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston
Through Jan. 20: Photographer Duane Michals will be exhibiting his work, with more than 75 black-and-white images, including his famous sequences and portraits. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Free. Call 262-1223.
Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
Caribbean Faces and Places is a cultural, historical and photographic exhibition by Rick Weinberg.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Grad-student Ellen Shea traveled to Egypt to document the lifestyle of Egyptian peasants; the result is the 54-photo exhibit *The Faces of Egypt*. On view in the Compton Gallery, Nov. 18-Dec. 31.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER
602 Comm. Ave., Boston
Other Africas, a joint show of three photographers, goes against the grain of both historical representations of colonial Africa and contemporary photojournalistic documents representing Africa as a continent defined by dependence and chaos. These photos show urban and rural Africans as citizens who share concerns and aspirations with their contemporaries everywhere; on exhibit until Dec. 19.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS/ READINGS

ADOPTION CENTER
The Charles Hotel
1 Bennet St., Cambridge
The Adoption Center is holding a seminar titled, You *Can Be a Family in Six Months*. This informational seminar will be all about the process of

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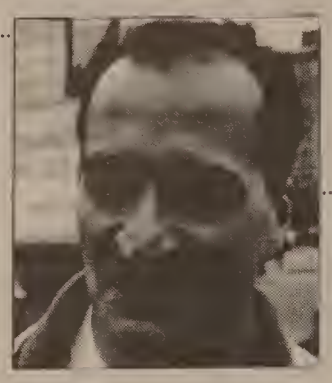
WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY KIMBERLY CAVINESS AND MEGAN GILMARTIN

If your home was burning, what possession would you save?



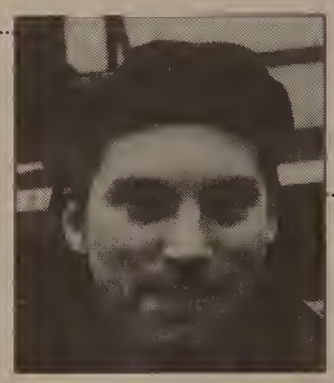
Cathy, 30, New York
"That's hard; I can't think of anything I'm attached to materially. Wait, my address book."



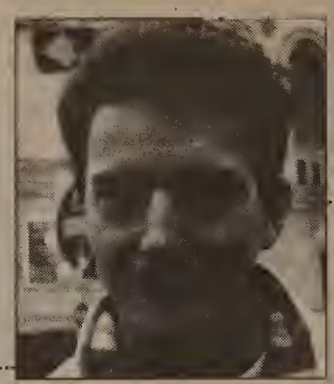
Steve, 28, Boston
"A coat, because I'd be out on the street. I wouldn't care if my TV burned."



Wolfram, 26, Austria
"My eyeglasses, because I see nothing without them."



Chris, 30, Quincy
"My cat, Muddy Waters."



Karl-Michael, 26, Toronto
"My Calvin & Hobbes books; they're very insightful."



Kathy, 40, Southboro
"My kids, and if they were safe, my jewelry bag."

adoption. On Dec. 1, 7-9 p.m. Reservations requested. Call 864-5437.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
808 Comm. Ave., Boston
•No drink can quite compare with champagne when it comes to being festive. Nov. 30, the Boston University Wine Club will present a demonstration pairing wine with finger food, from 6-8 p.m. in Room 117. Raymond Ost of Boston's Meridien Hotel, and Jean-Louis Carbonnier of the Champagne News and Information Bureau will be there — so should you. Tuition is $30; $25 if you bring a friend. Call 353-9852.

MARSH CHAPEL
735 Comm. Ave., Boston
The chapel continues its "Food for Thought" lecture series with a talk by Brian Whalen of the University's Division of International Programs on Tuesday, Dec. 7. *Home Towns, Home Runs and Mobile Homes: Home in the American Imagination* will begin at noon in the basement of the chapel. Free. Call 353-3560.

THE FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
How sweet it is! Belgian chocolatier Alexis Biolley will demonstrate and explain (in English) how chocolate is made and (yum!) entice you with his original creations on Dec. 7, at 6:15 p.m. An appropriate dessert wine will be served. Admission is $15, and non-refundable advance reservations are required. Call 266-4351 to indulge yourself.

PAULIST CENTER
5 Park St., Boston
Licensed psychotherapist Carly Lund will present a program titled *Home Is Where the Heartache Was*, designed to offer hope and inspiration to adults who grew up in a home where alcohol abuse or other parental problems created an unsafe environment. Timed especially for the holiday season, it goes from 7:30 -9 p.m. on Nov. 30. Free. Call 666-2041.

MUSIC

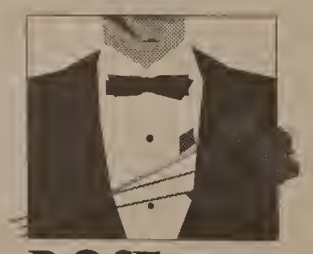
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On Dec. 3 and 4, Cecelia Schievé directs *Opera Scenes*, which will include scenes from operas by Britten and Rossini, among others. Also, Allen Lannom directs the Boston Conservatory Chorale on Dec. 6, when it performs Mendelssohn, Rheinberger, Surinach and spirituals. Both concerts begin at 8 p.m., and both are free. Call 536-6340.

BOSTON PLAYERS
Tsai Performance Center
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
The first concert in this group's second season will take place on Dec. 5, at 8 p.m., when it performs a benefit piano recital, with the works of Beethoven, Prokoviev, Berg and others. Tickets are $15, $7.50 for students. Call 353-8725.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
Copley Square, Boston
The Calumet Quintet will perform a previously unpublished-and-unperformed work by Luigi Boccherini, at 2 p.m. on Dec. 2, in the Rabb Lecture Hall of the Central Library. Call 536-5400 x295.

BOSTON SYMPHONY
Symphony Hall, Boston
Andre Previn will be conducting cellist Wendy Warner and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Nov. 24 and 27 at 8 p.m., and Nov. 26t at 1:30 p.m. The program will be Haydn and Mozart.. Call 266-1200.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
MARSH CHAPEL
735 Comm. Ave., Boston
The Marsh Chapel Choir and Chamber orchestra will perform Handel's Messiah on Friday, Dec. 3 at 8 p.m. Admission is free. Call 353-3560.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
There will be two free concerts by the faculty of the Longy School: Ben Schwendener, jazz pianist, and pianist Marc Rossi will be performing works of their own composition on Dec. 1 at 8 p.m., and Peter Cassino, pianist, with Stan Strickland on saxophone will perform jazz standards and new works on Dec. 6 at 8 p.m. Both concerts are free. Call 876-0956 x991.

MIT
•Kresge Auditorium, 84 Mass Ave., Cambridge
John Oliver directs the Concert Choir in J.S. Bach's *Mass in B Minor* on Dec. 3 at 8 p.m. Admission is $5. Also, the Concert Band will be performing contemporary works on Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. Call 253-2906 for information on either show. If you are feeling adventurous, you should definitely go to the MIT Premiere Orchestra Concert to see first-ever performances of new works by students and lecturers. Admission is $1 at the door. Call 731-0201.

MIT CHAPEL,
opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
The Boston Opera Horn Quartet will be playing Bach, Tchaikovsky and seasonal music at noon on Dec. 2. Call 253-2906.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY
Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
•The NEC Philharmonia will be performing Debussy, Sibelius and Haydn at 8 p.m on Dec. 1. Free.
•*Music for Office Parties* will be the theme as the Contemporary Improvisation Department reinterprets time-worn standards by Duke Ellington, Ravel, the Beatles, Cole Porter and more. Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. Free.

PRO ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
SANDERS THEATER
Corner of Quincy and Cambridge Sts., Cambridge
Wind-and-brass players will be highlighted in the Pro Arte's second subscription concert, Nov. 28 at 3 p.m. It will include works by Dvorak and Berg. Music director Gisele Ben-Dor conducts. Tickets are available at the Sanders Theater box office, 496-2222.

SOUTH STATION
Boston
The free concert series continues with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston Tri-Club Choral Group. Performing at the opening of South Station's Holiday Garden Railroad display, Saturday, Dec. 4 at 1 p.m. For further information about this and other concerts in the series, call 345-7460.

THE IB'S "CALENDAR" IS PUBLISHED TWICE A MONTH. IF YOU WISH TO BE LISTED IN THE DEC. 8-21 ISSUE'S "CALENDAR," YOU MUST GET THE INFORMATION TO US BY NOV. 29.

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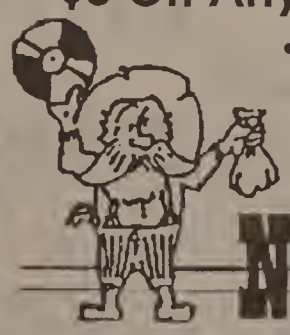
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CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

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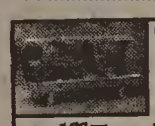
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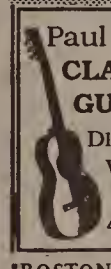
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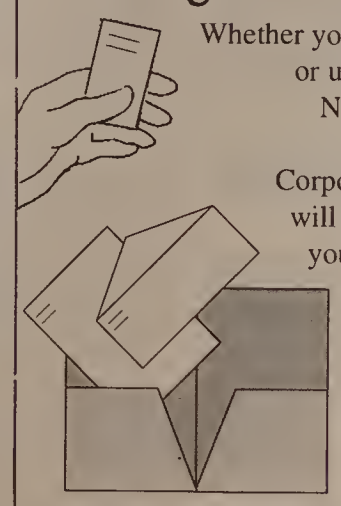
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LOOKING FOR A GOOD MAN! Attractive white female, 24, lite brown hair, blue eyes, sincere. Seeks a white male, 24-35, in good-shape, good personality, social drinker, and enjoys movies, dining & dancing. Looking forward to hearing from you soon! EXT•8102.

DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, slim, divorced white female, 41 (looks & feels younger), considered attractive, centered/happy with myself & my life. Optimistic, warm, animated, loyal friend, impassioned about my work (refugee/immigrants rights), quite irreverent, wry/lively sense of humor. A voracious reader/traveler, movie goer, physically active & fit. EXT•8043.

END RACISM! LOVE SEE'S NO COLOR! attractive, eclectic Jewish female, 26, with exotic looks, long brown hair & alluring brown eyes. Seeks mature, open-minded male, under 40, of higher spiritual & moral values, for a deep & emotionally intense, 1-1 committed relationship. Interests include classic cars, biking, travel, Kaballa, Reggae & dancing. No losers! EXT•8044.

NATURAL BLONDE, 39, 5'3", green eyes, avg. weight, North Shore area. If you didn't just break up with your girlfriend or wife, if your tired of the air heads, have your act together, and are looking for a relationship. We have a lot in common. EXT•8104.

SINCERE WHITE FEMALE, 41, 5'7", trim, seeks a kind, caring & considerate, white male, 40-50, for a lasting relationship. You won't be sorry! EXT•8174.

THE PARTY IS OVER! Very attractive, classy & sexy, marriage minded, Cape Veridian lady, 42, 5'4", 140 lbs, brown hair & eyes, nicely built. Seeks a tall, well-built, attractive male, 48-55, who has the same interests at heart, is kind, understanding, and enjoys the simple things in life. No games or heavy drinking! EXT•8161.

BEAUTIFUL, PETITE & SLIM Asian female, well-educaled, professional, caring mom. Seeks intelligent, attraclive, educated, white or Asian male, 35-47, with a zest for life. Please no nerds! EXT•8135.

VERY SINGLE & VERY GORGEOUS black woman, 22, 5'2", 115 lbs, chocolate brown complexion, big brown bedroom eyes, and a very good-looking figure. Seeks a FINE black male, 22-29, for a special friendship & possible relationship. Call to find out more about me! Serious responses only! EXT•8192.

PETITE, ATTRACTIVE BLACK FEMALE, 24, working student into fitness, dancing & reading, seeks tall, attractive Italian male, 25-31, with similar interests. Please no players! EXT•8061.

BEAUTIFUL, TALL, SLENDER, warm, white female, 33, seeks sincere, different, stable, slim, attractive man with an interest in commitment, satisfaction & new beginnings. Divorced with child(ren) is fine, 39-44 preferred, over 5'10". EXT•8138.

PETITE FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, 58, 5', 92 lbs, enjoys animals, dancing, dining out & a sense of humor, seeks a male, 50-65, as possible travel companion & good friend. Respondent must not take himself seriously. EXT•8126.

VERY ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN FEMALE, 34, 5'3", dark blonde hair, divorced, independent, non-smoker. Seeks tall, dark & handsome, Italian male, 30-38, 5'10"-6'2", non-smoker, with a good sense of humor & a good job, for possible relationship. Reply only if you fit description! EXT•8110.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 29, shapely, blonde hair, blue eyes, enjoys fitness, movies, trips, music, dancing, sports, on-going events, the North End & race tracks. Seeks a white male for fun & great times. No drugs! Light drinker OK! EXT•8171.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SINGLE! White female, 25, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, athletic, mature, honest & professional, seeks a male, with similar interests, for a 1-1 relationship. Enjoys all sports, long walks & talks, dancing, the beach, skiing, cooking, family & friends. Tired of the bar scene type! EXT•8031.

ATTRACTIVE, MATURE, proportioned, full-figured white female, 25, 5'8", seeks an attractive black male, 25-37, 6'+, "Basketball type", who is a sharp dresser, monogamist, mentally & financially secure or at least knows what he wants. No smokers or drug users! EXT•8101.

PERSONALITY PLUS! White female, 27, 5'2", long blonde hair, fit & attractive (but not vain), considered fun-loving & free-spirited, with creative interests from luxury to leisure. Seeks a successful & sincere male, 27-33. EXT•8183.

LET'S GO OUT & HAVE FUN! Single working mom, 27, 5'7", cute, good figure, great personality, in need of some fun & romance. Seeks a white male professional with equally good looks & great personality. EXT•8133.

HONEST & SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 34, 5'6", 130 lbs, intelligent, loving, good sense of humor. Seeks sincere, energetic black male, who enjoys music, dancing, movies & quiet times, for friendship or whatever comes naturally. EXT•8032.

ITALIAN FEMALE, 40, professional, attractive, physically fit, financially & emotionally secure, with many interests. Seeks a male professional, under 50, who's interested in a serious relationship. EXT•8054.

SEEKING ROMANCE! Attractive, classy, non-smoking Jewish female, late 30's, financially & emotionally secure, physically fit, energelic, great sense of humor. Desires a non-smoking Jewish male, 38-48, for adventure, affection, stimulating conversalion, fine dining, jazz & moonlit walks. Only sincere should reply! EXT•8003.

MONOGAMOUS, DOWN TO EARTH, black female, 30, 5'5", with a great sense of humor, seeks a similar male, 26-40, who enjoys sports, going to movies, dining in & rainy weather. Don't pass this up! How does friendship first sound? Let's give it a try! Nothing beats a try but a failure! No games please! EXT•8121.

SWEET, PETITE & PRETTY white female, 22, nice shape, dark brown hair, green eyes, non-smoker, enjoys music, dancing & movies. Seeks honest, caring, thoughtful, handsome white male, 23-28, with dark hair, who is mature, well-built, likes to have fun, and has a nice personality. Call me! EXT•8073.

SWEET, SEXY & PRETTY! Very voluptuous black lady, 30, smart, honest & a little shy, seeks a professional black or Latino male, 28-38, who loves sports, values family, and would enjoy quiet evenings at home with me. EXT•8198.

GREEN-EYED BLACK WOMAN, 29, seeks a non-smoking black male, 27-30, who enjoys late night walks & cuddling in front of the TV. He must be sincere, funny, employed & love surprises. EXT•8200.

CALIFORNIA TRANSPLANT working in Cambridge! Professional white female, mid-30's, good shape, attractive & secure, loves Mac Graphics, cats, a wide range of music, Healthworks, dancing, exploring the East Coast, Champagne & fun! Looking to share future experiences with the right man! EXT•8066.

SWEET & SINCERE! Full-figured, very attractive, single white mom, 34, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, great dimples, enjoys movies, cooking & quiet evenings. Seeks good-looking, kind, sincere gentleman, 34-44, 5'10"+, for friendship & possible relationship. Sincere replies only! EXT•8062.

EXOTIC, multi-cultural, "electric" businesswoman, spiritual creative nature, upbeal, well-traveled. Will sing the blues to a soulful, witty, charismatic gentleman, 40-ish, who knows what he wants, understands success, communicates his dreams with availability for unlimited possibilities. Ethenticity treasured! EXT•8160.

DEFINITELY ATTRACTIVE! Jewish female, 35, sincere, honest, down to earth, emotionally secure, not into playing games, many varied interests. Seeks handsome, white male professional, 33-39, for a committed relationship. EXT•8187.

LOOKING FOR ROMANCE! Very attractive & well-built, divorced white female, 30, 5'8", slim, brown hair, blue eyes, from the Metro-west area, enjoys music, dancing, sports, the beach & the simple things in life. Seeks white male, 35-40, with similar interests, who also enjoys children. Lets have some fun! EXT•8082.

COMPASSIONATE, SINCERE, honest, divorced white female, 29, with alluring brown eyes, enjoys life, walks, movies, dancing, camping, snowmobiling, skiing & much more. Seeks a sincere, honest male for friendship and/or a 1-1 relationship. No games, just honesty! EXT•8152.

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN FEMALE, 28, 5'5", 125 lbs, college educated, vivacious & fun-loving. Seeks attractive white male, 5'7"+, who is serious about a long-term relationship. EXT•8015.

WHITE CATHOLIC STATE WORKER, 31, who enjoys family, friends, pets, dining out, the movies, camping & most sports, seeks Catholic male. Sincerity, level headedness & beach walks are important to our growth! EXT•8021.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar interests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6987.

IT'S HIGH TIDE, so you better catch this unique, 29yr old, 5'9 1/2", attractive black mermaid who wishes to love, honor & cherish a honest, trusting & open-minded, tall black male, 30-45. EXT•6975.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, HARDWORKING, dedicated teacher, 30, 5'9", 135 lbs, blonde hair & sky blue eyes (Swedish), sensual, sensitive, classy, open & honest. Enjoys exercise, modelling, singing & dancing. Seeks very attractive male with similar interests & qualities. EXT•8019.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionate & sincere, seeks younger male for long-lerm relationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

MOCHA BROWN & HEALTHY black female, 5'5", light brown eyes, enjoys clubing, movies, cooking & more. Seeks fun-loving, tall, handsome & well-educated white or Spanish male, 25-28, for friendship & possible relationship. I'm waiting sexy! EXT•8020.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

AMIABLE, ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC white male, 30, 6'1", 195 lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, kind, caring, considerate & exciting, enjoys animals, sports, Boston, art, travet, dining, dancing, quiet & loud times. Seeks similar, tall, elegant & fashion conscious white female. EXT•7689.

SLEEPLESS IN THE SUBURBS! White male, 30, 6'3", 215 lbs, brown eyes, never married, enjoys travel, sports & music. Seeks an attractive, exotic woman (Greek, Hispanic, Italian, etc...), 21-30, for possible relationship. EXT•7789.

PRINCE CHARMING! Attractive, white male professional, 24, 6', 195 lbs, athletic build, enjoys dining out, social drinking & just plain fun. I'm looking for my princess, she's attractive, 19-35, fit, old fashioned, yet fun, for friendship first & exciting rides in my chariot of fire. EXT•7773.

HANDSOME, ATHLETIC & HUMOROUS white male professional, 30's, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, with European manners, seeks educated, attractive, honest, responsible yet crazy, open-minded, emotionally & physically fit, white female, 27-32, who is happy with herself, and seeks a caring friendship & a quality relationship. EXT•7696.

PAUL NEWMAN LOOKALIKE...HONESTLY! White male, 37, 5'11", 165 lbs, salt & pepper hair, deep blue eyes & a great smile. Looking for a woman who's as BEAUTIFUL on the inside as she is on the outside. Let's meet! EXT•7667.

ADDICTED TO LOVE! White male, 26, 6', 170 lbs, artistic, athletic, outgoing & reasonably attractive, seeks a female partner who knows what she want's out of life. She likes to laugh, love, dance, dine & explore new things togelher. No disappoinlments! Race & religion unimportant! EXT•7815.

PROFESSIONAL, WELL MANNERED, white male, 28, 5'10", brown hair & eyes, thoroughbred Italian, 100% American. Seeks female to enjoy blues, books, bikes, billiards, cooking, walking, talking, slight barhopping & photographic excursions during season changes. Open mind & sense of humor are prerequisites. Redheads a plus! EXT•7695.

RESCUE ME! Very handsome white male, 26, professional, caring, tired of the bar & club scene, enjoys movies, dining, Bruins games & quality time together. Seeks a white female who is intelligenl, honest & attractive. Metrowest area! EXT•7866.

A REAL MAN! Black male, 29, 6'3", 230 lbs, dark complexion. This handsome, humble, sincere, romantic, financially secure & very single man is awaiting your call! EXT•7775.

WHITE MALE, 28, seeks sharp, self-styled, seemly, counterpart. This adventure traveler, PR exec., loves tennis, creative dining, visual arts & new music. Ideal dale is a female, 23-30, with a taste for city & wondering conversation. EXT•7697.

ATHLETIC, ENERGETIC, humorous, sensitive, professional, divorced white male, 44, 5'8", blue eyed Sagittarian with a black lab, enjoys candlelight, oceans, travel, adventure, music, friendship & romance. Seeks an attractive companion, 30's, to make waves on a quiet pond or a raging ocean. EXT•7745.

HANDSOME WHITE MALE, 37, professionally self-employed, sincere, affectionate, romantic, secure & passionate. Seeks an attractive, intelligent, spontaneous, fun-loving woman for a monogamous relationship. The holiday season is here, let's spend it together. You won't be disappointed! EXT•7708.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7771.

WALTHAM! Healthy, happy, blue collar, down to earth guy, 41, 225 lbs, blue eyes, a real gentleman, self-employed & strictly monogamous. Seeks a slim, happy female, 25-41, for romance, weekends & possibly more. Must love kids! EXT•7810.

I LOVE KENNEDY (THE VEEJAY)!!! This attractive, intelligent, intense, zany, white male, 25, 5'7", dark hair & eyes, is into music, movies, adventure & more. Seeks a pretty, intelligent, fun girl, with glasses & lots of hair, for True Romance. If you fit the bill, call now! EXT•7863.

RECEPTIVE, ATTRACTIVE while male, 34, 5'9", 150 lbs, crealive, thoughtful, with a greal sense of humor (ok, ok...slighlly cynical) and a youthful (but not immature) outlook & disposition. Fascinated by expressive conversations with unpretentious people who are candid & open. Seeks attractive female who's casual, relaxed, sincere, insighttul & FUN! EXT•7747.

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR! Nice, honest, good-looking, handy, inlelligent while male, 36, 5'5", in great shape, loves the beach, tennis, travel, skiing, and anything else that's fun. Seeks a pretty, honest & sincere woman to share the good times with. EXT•7875.

SOUTH SHORE WHITE MALE, 33, 5'8", blue collar worker, enjoys antiques, sports & hanging out with someone special. Seeks that special female, 30-40. All calls answered! EXT•7858.

SENSITIVE, LAID-BACK, creative, Framingham white male, 39, 6'1", 215 athletic lbs, enjoys movies, WFNX, the MFA, concerts, keeping fit, quiet times & long romantic walks. Seeks a very slender, attractive, affectionate woman for a serious relationship. EXT•7855.

A RARE FIND! Intelligent, secure & caring, white male, 23, athletic, enjoys skiing, tennis & other sports. Seeks fit female, age & race unimportant, for ptaying together, occasional weekend getaways, theatre, dinner & many other exciting adventures. EXT•7664.

WARM, LOVING, YOUTHFUL, cute, fit & smart Jewish male, 44, emotionally available, eclectic interests, planning a run at law school. Seeks a cute, fit, smart & emotionally available Jewish female, 34+, to share life's adventures & raise cute, smart Jewish children. EXT•7774.

EXCEPTIONALLY ROMANTIC, handsome & alluring Jewish male, 30, very athletic, sophisticated & emotionally stable. Seeks female, 20-30, who is physically fit and feels happiness & passion in her heart. EXT•7688.

SINGLE FATHER OF ONE, white male, 25, seeks a mature female, 22-28, who loves kids, music, movies, and all other good things. If this is you please call! EXT•7896.

HARD BODY, FUNNY WHITE MALE, 36, 5'10", 180 lbs, personal weight trainer, very romantic, spiritual, passionate & sincere, enjoys long walks & a more. Seeks an athletic, black or Hispanic female, with a good sense of humor, for an honest friendship & possibly more. EXT•7856.

TALL BLACK MALE, 23, 6', 180 lbs, college student, seeks understanding, open-minded female, 20-25, who enjoys spending quality time with someone special, long walks & good conversation. She should have a good sense of humor, and not be afraid to be herself. Race unimportant! EXT•7711.

HANDSOME & ELIGIBLE! Black male, 33, 6'3", dark-skinned, black hair, brown eyes, Capricorn. Seeks a black female, 23-38, without dependents, who's interests include dining out, dancing, Rap, R&B & live Jazz. If you're seeking a monogamous relationship, call! EXT•7817.

THE ONE FOR YOU! Handsome Jewish male, 35, tall, slim, intelligent business professional with heart, soul, sensitivity, wit, playfulness, a great sense of humor & many interests. Seeks a classy & pretty Jewish female, 23-34, not overweight, who has style, intelligence, and is ready for a committed relationship. EXT•7860.

WHITE MALE, 27, 6', blond hair, blue eyes, loves to travel to places near & far, a good movie on a rainy night, and all sorts of animals. Seeks a bright, perceptive & honest lady, 25-30, with a good sense of humor, for a caring 1-1 relationship. EXT•7830.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7671.

CHIVALROUS, HANDSOME, solid quality, svelte, divorced white male, 48, 6'2", 190 lbs, into fitness, antiques, arts, bordeaux, fireplaces & romantic walks. Seeks an attractive & fit woman, 28-42, who wants quality. Boston Area! EXT•7729.

MARRIAGE MINDED, Good-looking, divorced white male, 40, 5'8", 150 lbs, professional, business owner, educated, warm, caring, humorous, a good friend, athletically inclined, many interests. Seeks an attractive white female, 28-38, who would enjoy spending time with a real down to earth man. No children please! EXT•7630.

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! White male, 36, 180 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks a fit lady of quality, 28-42, for an honest & monogamous relationship. I'm sincere, and happy in my work. If you enjoy music, movies, dining out & good conversation, give me a call! EXT•7615.

SIMPLY TERRIFIC! Attractive white male, 38, looking to meet a down to earth, cute white female, 28-35, who would enjoy an adorable, 5 month old yellow lab, Vermont foliage, hot cider, country inns, dungarees & romantic dinners. EXT•7629.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

ATTRACTIVE, GAY WHITE MALE, 21, non-smoker, non-drinker, wanting to meet a good friend in Boston, 18-21, to hang with on weekends. Call for more information! EXT•7683.

ATHLETIC, SPIRITED & HANDSOME white male, 37, 6', 180 lbs, black hair, green eyes, muscular, clean shaven, into running, lifting, biking & swimming. Seeks vicarious man for sweaty workouts, fun & perhaps intimacy. EXT•7752.

MASSAGE ACTION! I'm a 28yr old, clean-cut jock/bodybuilder with a tight, muscular body. I'm seeking another straight, athletic & clean-cut white male who could also use a relaxing massage after a long day. Straight, masculine only! EXT•7598.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER

NOV 24 - DEC 7, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST:

Sweetness end warmth from affectionate Vanus gats us through Thenksgiving okay, but by Seturdey night/Sunday morning, it's time to come off the sugar high. Vanus squaring starn Seturn strikes fear in tender, Butterbelled hearts like ours, makes the old folks turn e deaf eer, the lover turn e cold shoulder — we ara denied. And to ansura amotional end finenciel diseppointments, take on truly awasome proportions, wa'll heve the drama of the Gemini full-moon eclipse lete Sundey night. Plaad temporery insenity if you weke up contemplating a crime of passion; Venus conjuncts Pluto, the dark Overlord, on Mondey. Telk ebout being filled with vengaence, wanting vindication! So you'll cry e little, dia a little, end talk it out e lot — Mercury aspects Neptune, Uranus, Saturn and Pluto befora tha week is done. This constent chatter can hava far-reaching creative or therapeutic repercussions, therefore don't hold back for faar of exposing your soft underbelly. It's also possible that after Venus enters magnanimous, philosophicel Segittarius on the 2nd you'll no longer give e fig. Possible but not probable.

ARIES (MARCH 20-APRIL 19)

Friends end money, orgenizetion affilietion end dues, dasire end denial are the chief ingredients of a slightly stranga fortnight, but you don't have to parteke, if you so choosa. Beceuse your Mers ruler is in wise-old, wise-ass Sag, you can step beck from the spotlight, or in this case, moonlight, end wetch from a philosophical distence. But if you enjoy playing the far-sighted adviser, feel free to edd your two cents to e friend's argument or teke a stand on a union demand. And then take e bow.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20)

Bad day on Sundey when your Venus ruler runs across implacabla, intractabla Saturn. Don't ask because you won't receive; in fact tha rabuff can go beyond ruda. But until than, enjoy tha attention others are so intently paying. What's the secret? Is it your stuffing? No matter, the mystery will be reveeled before the week is done, befora you're done in by emotions spilling ell over tha place. On Monday as Venus meets pessionate Pluto in your merriage house, one phase of a relationship ends, enother begins.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20)

Slow down, don't run eround helter-skelter during the Gemini full-moon weekend. Becausa the moon is eclipsed in your sign, you mey feel compellad to fill everyone's empty spaces, evan their empty arms, to field questions thet need time and considerabla thought to enswer. But you will hava imeginetive, original suggestions on Monday, so meke appointments and calls, confer with e loan officer or job counselor, whatever fills your own needs. Because tha aclipsa is so powerful, take speciel cera of your health too.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22)

If en ordinery full moon has e merked effect on you, imegine what cen heppen during tha totel luner eclipse this weekend? Considar the possibilitias: Trensformetion into e beest, e certifieble speca cese or, this being the Gemini moon, multiple personelities. A little chenge is usuelly good for you, but because the eclipse hes a lasting effect — et leest three months — think twica before you meke e semi-permenent move end be sure all your feculties ere intect before you sey something serious.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22)

The Gemini full-moon eclipse emphasizes your mixed fealings ebout cereer end home, femily end feme. Something along those lines should pop up this weekend to tip the belence or give you enother option to consider. (Gamini mey not elweys heva the enswers, but it alweys offers interesting alternatives.) The usuel frustration with e stubborn partner, eged perent on Sundey, but you cen vent your emotions, cleer the eir end, es the week ends end loving Venus moves on to Sag, start ell over egain.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22)

Antsy? The Seg-Gemini sun-moon exis presses ell tha movament buttons at once. Even if there's nowhara to go, if you're where you want to ba, it'll be difficult to sit still and simply enjoy the peopla, the place, the circumstances you're in, to give, you know, thanks. Bleme it on tha mutable squara, that endlessly entertaining planatary configuration that makas you nervous, speedy end brilliant et tha same tima. Particularly so on Monday when your Mercury ruler hends you a fer- sighted, imaginativa idea or two.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22)

More ebout money — what's keeping it et bay, whare it hes to be spent first and how to separete it from heevy-duty emotional ties. Sounds simple but it ain't. Then thera's that full-moon eclipse urging you to roam eround, exercise your freedom, touch bese with mora then one ex-lovar/-teacher. And you thought all you hed to do wes eet to plaasa tha nuts at home! Anyway, once the week is over, you won't have to deal with the quegmire of emotions your financial scene has become, just tha paperwork.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21)

There's denial from e family member or your own sense of what's axpected, end then there's epiphany! What e week! What's left are explenetions, and you won't have to meke those until Mercury maets your Pluto co-ruler next weekend. So, between now and then you're frea to plummet through the bottomless pit of passion (Venus and Pluto merge eerly Monday morning, but this perticuler influenca parmaates the entire weekend.) Happy now? Isn't this what you wanted for your birthday?

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21)

You might hava e bed moment with e sibling or neighbor, but it's probebly ebout old — like from enother lifetime — businass end you shouldn't get bent out of shape by it. The situetion fixes itself when you confront your emotions or let go of an fixed ettitude or tha usual approech you teke with this person. Meenwhile, the full moon in Gemini beckons with the promise of variaty, excitement end intelligance from anothar reletionship entirely. A deel in tha works plus discussion of the peparwork thet precadas it.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 20)

A return to issues of friendship and money — your monay — this waek. Restrictions abound, and it's not that you're cheep, it's simply thet you want true velua for your outley. If it ware only about bucks, you wouldn't care, but effection and rebuffel play e big part in how much you anjoy tha holiday. Plus the full moon — eclipse and all — highlights your pleesures and the people you share them with, romantic love and a love of mankind in general. All this and pecen pia! Yum.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21-FEB. 18)

Stature is hardly ever the point of a holiday weekend, however, whan does Aquarius ever willingly conform to tradition? So while everyone else is busy feasting or fasting, you'll be working on your status in the community, your rank in the family, your place et the teble. This is in responsa to a challenge, not something you imagina, and you can resolve it by baing more obstinate, more passionate and sexier than your opponent. Good news on Monday — support for your particularly personal plans.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 19)

Lika Virgo, Gemini and Sag, you're pumped by the full-moon eclipsa this weakend, enargized like a wind-up toy that won't stop. This could be a lot of fun, eminantly intaresting or it could be exhausting if you don't connect with the right person, probably a Scorpio, who can ground you and give your experiences mora depth. Psychic communication, instant empathy, soul-mate stuff, interaction that puts the relationship on another level altogether. Give thanks.

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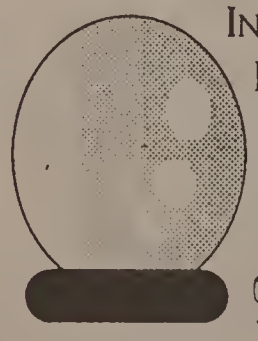
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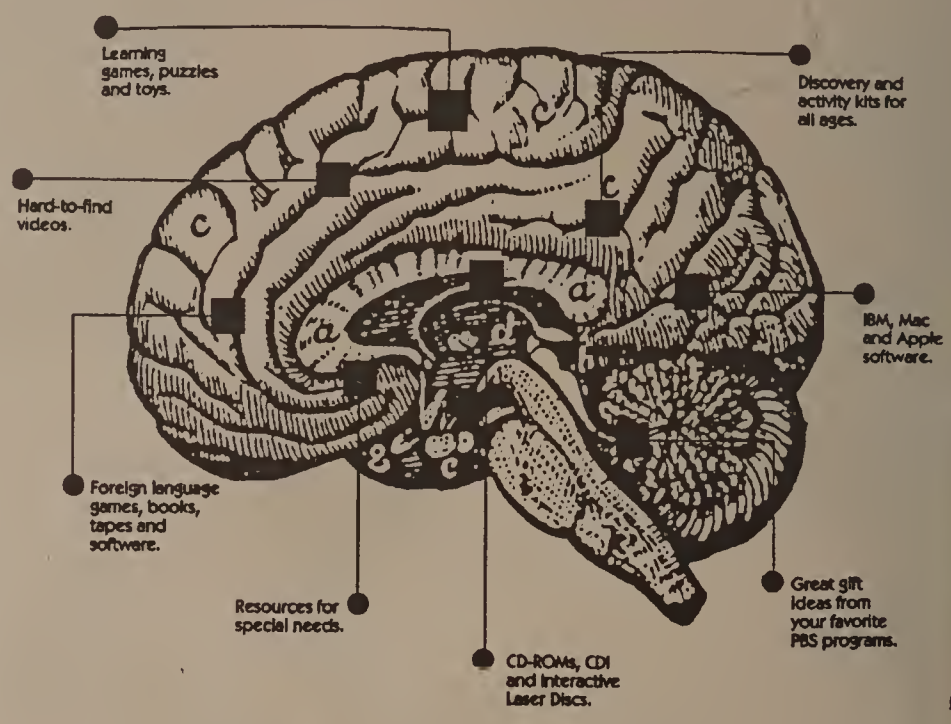
With his deep, drink-you-in, chocolate eyes, Marc Halberstadt is a good advertisement for himself. And this "himself" is a person whose alleged profession is the search for a wife, something he does with a sandwich board and a self-promotional book titled *What Do You Think of My Face? Call Marc Halberstadt 617-491-2085.* He's also the author of *Women's Feelings News (Men Too!)*, which is not a squishy emotionfest, but rather a riotous spoof on the vexed-and-whiny war between the sexes. The paper asks the question "If your feelings are so important, why aren't they in the newspaper?" Well, here they are, comically enshrined in newsprint. The front page shows four frames of people talking with the headline: "Woman's Hand Freezes in Mid-Gesture, Waiting for It to Dawn on This Guy That He's Interrupting." Another headline reads: "Most Vulnerable Man Contest to Consider Crying Competition." And "Boyfriend Hears Too Many Phrases Per Week Hinting at Commitment." As for his ideal wife, she should be an "intellectually brilliant, articulate, female professional writer, therapist, intellectual, or ideawoman." Halberstadt says that while his advertising campaign may work "against itself because it is long-winded and hides behind humor, [it] gives you, nevertheless, an honest impression of me, because that's the way I am, initially, in person." In the triple somersault of his ironic stance, Halberstadt is looking for a wife — but shucks, that would deprive him of his profession: yearning-for-marriage. Getting there, perhaps, is all the fun.



Marc Halberstadt
Wife Wanter
491-2085

Game for Knowledge

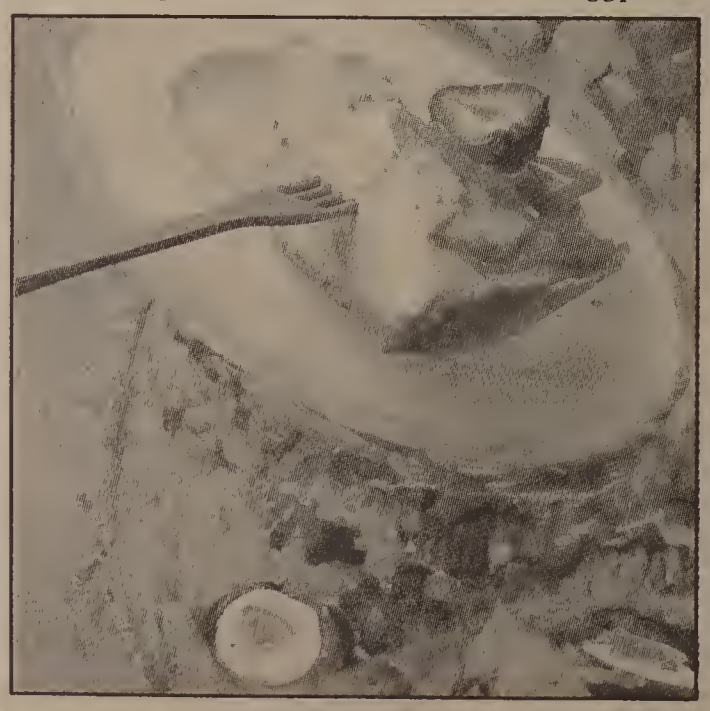
It's not that Learningsmith isn't a bookstore, because there are printed words between covers here, employing the simple technology we call "turning the pages." But, because the store focuses on learning, there is more in the way of videos, software, puzzles and games. WGBH has a hand in the store and receives royalties ('GBH members get a discount) so you'll find months of miniseries, Bill Moyers and Joseph Campbell recaptured in written-and-video form, and other shows of high-, low- and laughbrow (*Monty Python*, for instance). Upstairs (and mostly for kids, who are double-clicking away), there are try-it-out-here computer opportunities, which make a nice outing for parents, too. The store's IBMs, CD-ROMs and Macintoshes are loaded with software for numerous games of learning, adventure and puzzledom, which are, of course, also for sale. The educational fillip is reinforced by the nicknaming of certain store sections: Socrates' Sandbox, Brain Aerobics, 2+2, Quarks, Green Earth. Each corrals aspects of science, ecology and so forth, some of them packaged in game or kit form (the Volcano kit is a popular one). In the children's section, *Sesame Street* and Barney videos abound, and adjacent to them are yellow yards of *National Geographics* and blue *Novas*. One of the best sellers is a paperback on the passionate unleashing of the imagination. Titled *A Whack on the Side of the Head*, it's an appropriate book for the overall message of the store.



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Palette-able Pies

The expression "it looks good enough to eat" could apply in a new way to this cookbook devoted solely to pies. The looking-good in this case refers not only to the very delicious appearance of the pies; each one of which is photographed on its own two-page spread and accompanies several pages of illustrated recipes. The authors devised a novel, appetizing and sensual idea: to inspire an individual work of art upon which to pose the pies. And whatever the other visual ornamentations, each pie must appear on a painted plate. The paintings, overall, include such texturey media as plaster, watercolor, sawdust, acrylic, oil, broken glass, woodcut, oil and jellybeans. A picture of moody-yellow shadows underlies the figgy almond pie; a plate made of tiny, ripped pieces of paper shows off the maple sugar-and-cream pie; and a hearty, pink baby painted in oils hugs the green plate that holds the backyard-green-tomato pie, a wonderful, briefly seasonal pie that combines the tartness of these ripeness-withholders with some Granny Smith apples. Red rabbits leap, as if in a dream, across the pepper-sweet-potato pie that's made arresting with cayenne. And a flock of angels converges on the chocolate-caramel-hazelnut pie. The lemon-lime slice was shot with light that simulates direct desert sun. The cookbook is packed with unusually interesting pies, in combinations you've never thought of. You'll gaze and gaze at the pictures — a non-caloric pleasure to indulge in before the other kind.



The Artful Pie
by Lisa Cherkasky and Renée Comet
Chapters Publishers & Booksellers
Shelburne, Vermont

Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour.* Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian,* 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146



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North End Exposure

Mangial Cannoli, prosciutto, tiramisu — for centuries, the *cucina* of the North End has lured everyone from Benjamin Franklin, state governors and the plain-old hungry into its Old World-flavored streets. Here is our guide to its culinary secret delights.

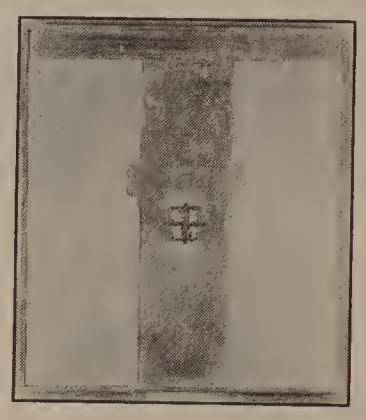
by Carmi Zona-Paris and Jay Paris



24
Showing its Age

The Bromfield Gallery turns 20 this year and it's throwing itself a retrospective to celebrate. Not only is the Bromfield the longest artist-run establishment in town, but many of its alumni have gone on to earn critical acclaim.

by Charles Giuliano



25
Bubble Trouble

The big-name-champagne companies had it all figured out. They bought grapes from the small growers, in exchange for allegiance and quality-control agreements. Then the little guys fought back. Champagne hasn't been the same since.

by Sandy Block



On the Cover

Proprietors Franco and Caroline Graceffa, two of the North End's culinary treasures. Photographed by Carmi Zona-Paris & Jay Paris

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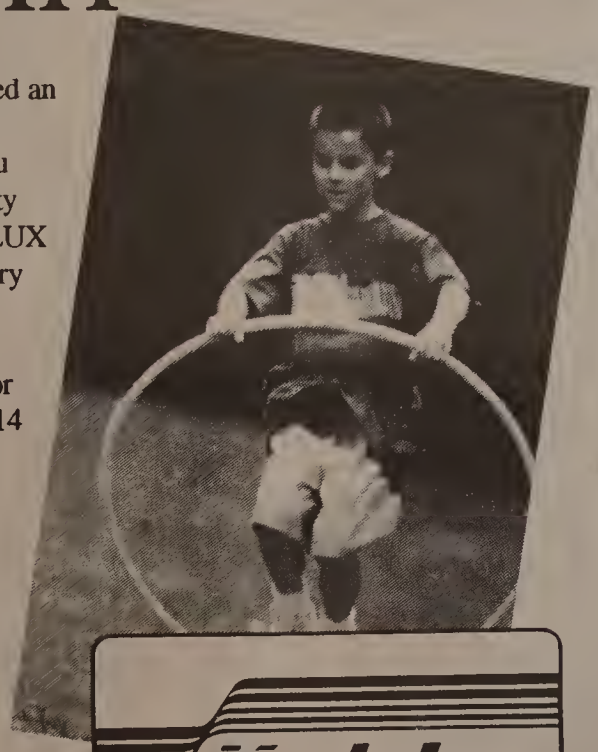
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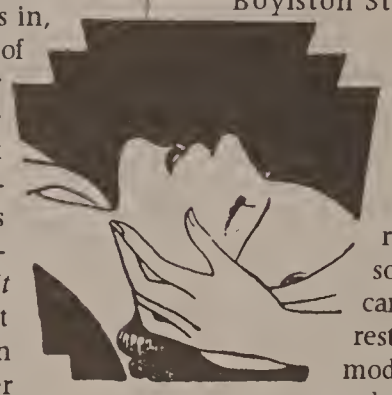
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BY JENNIFER KORNREICH

WHAT'S HOT IN BOSTON NOW

SKIN CARE



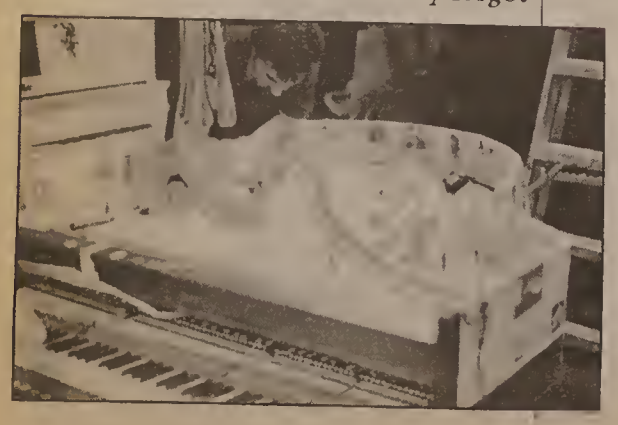
Once cold weather sinks in, some of us (*ahem*, not me, of course) allow Winter Waistline to settle in: those extra 10 to 20 pounds that accumulate between October and April. While it's easy to cover up your stomach and thighs, you *can't* hide your face. Ever. But two new beauty meccas in the area offer help for yer would-be gorgeous mug.

In Brookline Village, **Lavinia Borcau Skin Care** (29 Harvard St., 734-5523) is a wonderful combination of Old World and scientific approaches. Borcau and her assistants are all Newbury Street expatriates, and their lack of 'tude is reflected in their fledgling salon. Borcau was born and bred in Rumania, where, she claims, skin care is not a luxury; it's a priority, ranking right up there with regular dental cleanings. She individualizes skin treatments with high-tech products and time-proven folk methods. Yes, she's got the standard options in facials, aromatherapy and make-up instruction. But the atelier specializes in cutting-edge techniques that Borcau groups together in her **High-Performance Freeze-Dried Treatments**: including the only non-surgical **eye contour lift** around, a **DNA-hydration** method to tighten dilated pores, and a **pigmentation-lightening** treatment to balance uneven skin tone.

Then, at the newly expanded **Solus** (115 Newbury St., Suite 301, 236-1115), clients can relax Back Bay-style. The atmosphere is informal and unpretentious, but always classy. The staff reports that the hottest trends for both men and women are **all-natural-hair coloring** and **skin peels,** derived from the chemical-peel methods used by plastic surgeons. The peels build up collagen and elastin fibers, making your skin ever-so-springy, like a teen's on a warm summer night (sans pizza-face acne, 'course). If your head's spinning from all the biochemical jargon, don't think about it for too long — just get it done.

PIANO

During the Depression, downtown's Piano Row suffered such an enormous blow that Bostonians nearly forgot what made the 100-to-300 blocks of Boylston Street famous. But last month, **Premier Piano** (4 Park Plaza, 924-6400) installed its show room on the revitalized Piano Row. As Boston's first piano rebuilder, Premier deals solely with classic-American pianos, specializing in restoration and refinishing models by legendary names such as Chickering and Ivers & Pond. With its central-Boston location and two factory branches in Watertown, Premier is a must-see for music lovers, history buffs and aficionados of Americana.



DISABLED ART

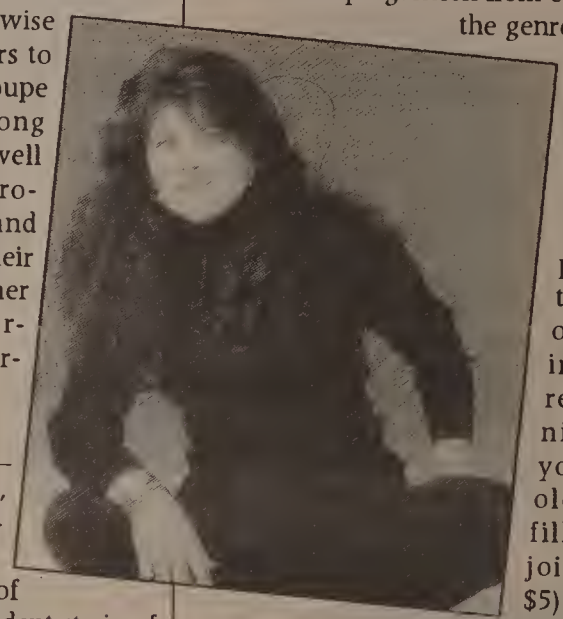
How do you react when you pass someone on the street in a wheelchair?



If your feelings include pity, you might learn a thing or two at the **Axis dis/Abled Dance Troupe**'s Boston premiere, Dec. 9-11 at the Boston Center for the Arts (539 Tremont St.). Consisting of four wheelchair-bound dancers and four "able" ones, Axis turns physical limitations into aesthetic assets. By incorporating the wheelchairs and other vehicular props (such as trapezes, of all things) into their repertoire, the group explores the dynamics of using manmade devices as natural extensions of the body. The members of Axis are *dancers*, in the true sense of the word. Presented Dec. 9-11 by Cambridge's own Dance Umbrella, one of the nation's largest non-profit promoters of contemporary dance. For tickets and info, call Dance Umbrella at 492-7578. An additional and FREE program is set for Sunday, Dec. 12 at 1 p.m., where, in lieu of an actual performance, the troupe will present a video lecture/demonstration at the MFA (267-9300, ext. 300).

While not yet focused on public performances, the *Theatrical Vision* program at **Double Edge Theatre** (5 St. Luke's Road, Allston) provides an outlet for blind and otherwise visually impaired actors to hone their craft.The troupe organizes weekend-long intensive seminars as well as six- and 12-week programs, in which blind and sighted artists exercise their improv skills and hammer out material for performances. For more information, call 254-4228.

BOOK



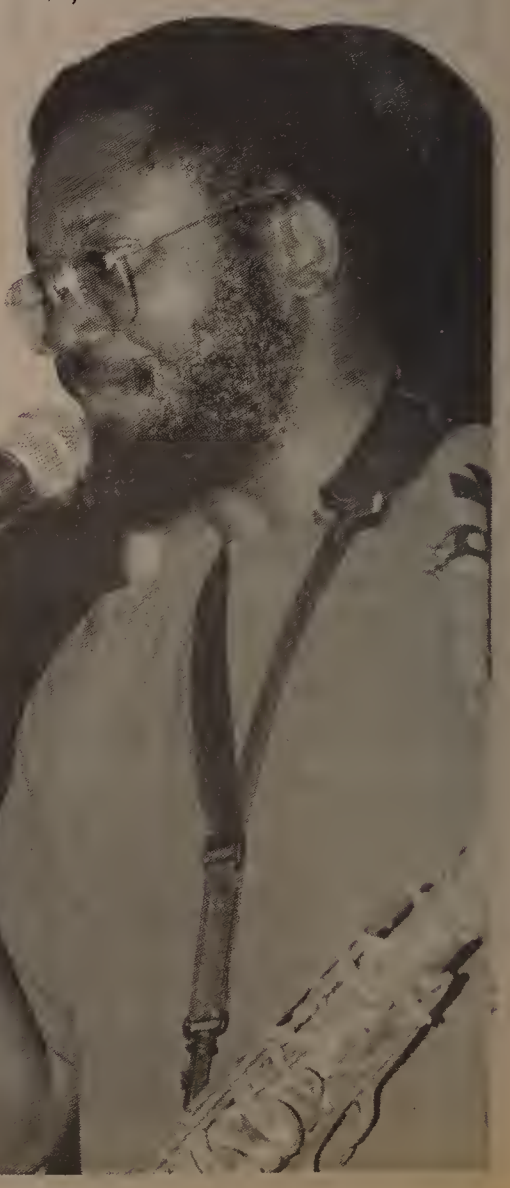
For all you freethinking, reasonably but not psychotically liberal people out there who are tired of the polluted-but-ever-strident strain of feminism that teaches women to (1) refuse *any* responsibility for their own problems and to (2) view men as the root of all evil: ***Fire With Fire*** (Random House) by **Naomi Wolf**. Wolf, activist and author of the best-seller *The Beauty Myth*, is sure to lose some fans with her unflinching critique of current factions in the women's movement. But Wolf's nononsense observations of feminism's descent into victimology, coupled with her prescriptions for the integration of females into the power culture, make for a much-needed articulation of something most women have been thinking about for quite a while.

BLUES

Just when you thought there was nothing left for local phenom **House of Blues** (96 Winthrop St., 491-BLUE) to do, the Cambridge institution has more tricks up its sleeve. H of B has added **three new weekly nights.** The Sunday series, is already well under way. Salim Washington and his eight-piece Roxbury Blues Aesthetic host *From Blues to Jazz*, an exploration of the progression from earlier forms of the genres to contemporary jazz and hip-hop. Budding musicians are invited to participate in the later half of the evening. H of B reps report a nice mix of younger and older people filling up the joint(9 p.m., $5).

Beginning Dec. 14, the H of B is taking Boston to Cajun country with its *Fat Tuesdays* series. Featuring the Boogaloo Swamis, the night encompasses all sorts of zydeco and New Orleans-style music, along with Mardi Gras beads, red beans, rice and crawfish (9:30 p.m., $5).

Finally, December heats up with the advent of the *Wednesday Night Blues Jams*. It's not just the allure of the free buffet from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. that'll pull you in: Local hipsters are additionally invited to showcase their talents in the evening's improvisation with Rick Russell and the Cadillac Horns. Just call Rick at 491-2100 on the Wednesday a full week before to audition (9:30 p.m., $5).



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BY LARA EWEN

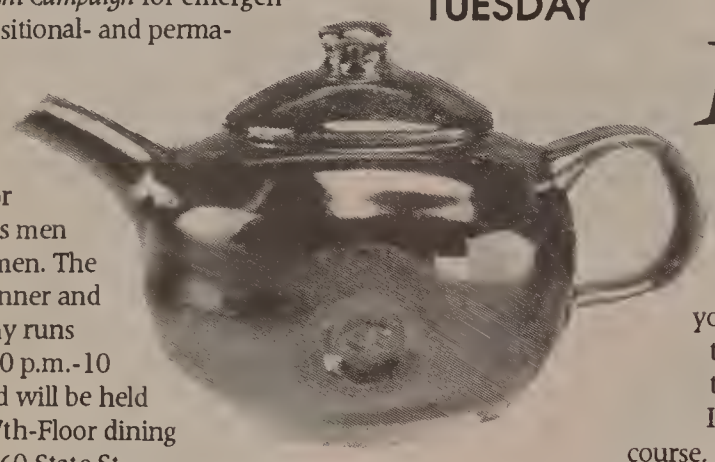
TWO WEEKS WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS

WEDNESDAY

8 Just in time for supper, the Boston University Wine Club presents master-chef Julia Child and wine-expert Kathleen Cornelia from 6-9 p.m., in Room 117 of 808 Comm. Ave. Ms. Child will be preparing recipes from the cookbook accompanying her new television series, *Cooking with Master Chefs*. Ms. Cornelia will discuss the Trefethen wines that complement the dishes. Scrumptious! Tuition is $90. Call 353-9852.

THURSDAY

9 The Pine Street Inn will be holding its fourth-annual holiday fund-raiser to benefit the *Good Night Campaign* for emergency-, transitional- and permanent-housing programs for homeless men and women. The buffet dinner and ceremony runs from 6:30 p.m.-10 p.m., and will be held in the 27th-Floor dining room of 60 State St., courtesy of Hale and Dorr. Admission is $50. Call 521-7606 for info.



POUR SHOWING: *Artist Joe Davis' personal teapot is only one of many items on sale at the Brookline Arts Center Crafts Showcase, Dec. 16-19.*

FRIDAY

10 Drama! Suspense! Intrigue! Join the American Red Cross and *The Phantom of the Auction* at the ninth-annual Holiday Auction tonight at the Days Inn Grove St., in Newton. The festivities begin at 6 p.m. and the live auction starts at 7:45 p.m. Maybe you will be the one to uncover the secret identity of the Phantom. Only 15 days till Christmas.... Tickets are $10. Call 527-6000.

SATURDAY

11 The Brookline Arts Center, 86 Monmouth St., has been busy with its 19th-annual Crafts Showcase. It continues Dec. 9-12 and Dec. 16-19, from 12-7 p.m. Shop till you drop with more than 70 artisans selling their original work, ranging from $2 to $2,000. Only 14 days till Christmas.... Admission is free. Call 566-5716.

SUNDAY

12 Traditional Christmas and instrumental music from a rather non-traditional source: La Donna Musicale presents music by baroque women composers at Lindsay Chapel, First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge, at 3 p.m. Admission: $8, $5 for students and low-income. Call 731-6869.

MONDAY

13 The Geminids are coming! The Geminids are coming! No, they're not a band, but they will rock the sky when they show up tonight. They are meteors, a shower of which is expected, starting at 7:10 p.m. The New England Science Center, 222 Harrington Way, Worcester, is hosting Sky Watch, where you can also see the Crab Nebula, which hasn't been around since last winter. Wine and cheese will be served. Admission is $10 for adults, $5 for children 12 and under. Call (508) 791-9211.

TUESDAY

14 Remember those classic Christmas stories that came around every year, letting you know that the season was truly upon us? I'm speaking, of course, of *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* and *Charlie Brown's Christmas Tree*. Both are showing tonight in a holiday double feature in the basement of Boston University's Marsh Chapel, 735 Comm. Ave., at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. Why not regress a bit? Call 353-3560.



BROTHERS IN ARMS: *The Flying Karamazov Brothers juggle a variety of feats at the Hasty Pudding Theater through Jan. 2.*



NORTHERN LIGHTS: *Children in* The Christmas Revels *perform at the Sanders Theater, through Dec. 29.*

WEDNESDAY

15 If you have to hear Handel's *Messiah* at least once this month, why not take in the Boston Baroque Orchestra and Chorus' performance of it? Tonight, this Grammy-award nominated group will be at the North Shore Music Theater's second-annual Holiday Gala and Benefit Concert. The evening begins at 6 with a reception, and the concert is at 8, with another reception to follow. Very civilized, indeed. Tickets for the whole shebang are $50, and the performance only is $22, one-half price for the under-18 set. Call (508) 922-8500.

THURSDAY

16 In the Grand Concourse of South Station, today at 12:15 p.m., the WBOS Music Festival for the Earth presents the Pousette-Dart Band — unplugged and free. Call 345-7460.

FRIDAY

17 The Handel & Haydn Society's opening program for its 1993-94 Chamber Series is tonight at Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 8 p.m. Titled *A Baroque Noel*, the program features "Magnificats" by Bach and Telemann, plus three a cappella motets by Schutz. Tickets are $16.50-$26.50. Call 931-ARTS.

SATURDAY

18 Tonight at 8, find out how the world was actually created out of a primeval omelette. Learn to celebrate the winter solstice in a decidedly Nordic fashion, as *The Christmas Revels* opens its 23rd season at Harvard's Sanders Theater, through Dec. 29. Tickets are $12-$25 for adults, $8-$20 for children. Call 931-ARTS for tickets, or 621-0505 for information.

SUNDAY

19 Why not spend this Sunday afternoon with a couple of lovebirds? Boston University's School for the Arts Theatre Arts Division presents Shakespeare's classic *Romeo and Juliet* today, 2 p.m. Suffolk University's Walsh Theater, 55 Temple St., Boston. General admission is $8 or $6, $4 for students and senior citizens, and free with a BU ID. Call 353-3345.

MONDAY

20 If you're the kind of person who thinks Fibonacci was an artist, this lecture, *Engineering Beauty*, part of a series focusing on art in science and science in art. The program begins at 5:30 p.m. Preregistration one week in advance is required. Call 253-8222.

TUESDAY

21 If you've been unsuccessfully trying to juggle a busy holiday schedule, why not take a break and watch someone else juggle instead? The rather astonishing *Flying Karamazov Brothers* are at the Hasty Pudding Theater (12 Holyoke St., Cambridge) tonight (for other nights, see our "Calendar") and show off their extraordinary talents. The show begins at 8 p.m., and tickets are $18-$30, with reduced rates for children under 14, students and senior citizens. Call 496-8400.

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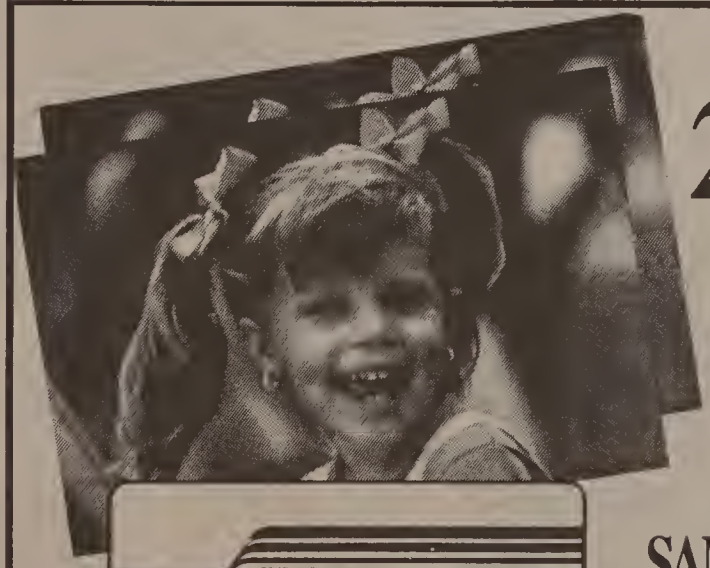
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North End Exposure

Uncovering the best-kept food secrets of the North End

Written and photographed by
Carmi Zona-Paris and Jay Paris

Just northeast of the lime-green girders of the Central Artery, 100 acres of gentrified, brick ghetto houses America's finest Italian-American neighborhood. A century ago, before it was settled by Italian immigrants, it was a Jewish enclave, and before that, a place for colonial sea captains and successful purveyors of the silver, printing and gold trades. Throughout the North End's many evolutions, it has been a stronghold for gastronomes. Paul Revere blamed his gout on the North End's taverns and sweet shops. Ben Franklin, who lived in the neighborhood as a child, attributed the early establishment of his girth to its considerable temptations.

There is hardly a governor — and more recently a president — who has not left the neighborhood with an Italianate stomach ache,

Paul Revere blamed his gout on the North End's taverns and sweet shops. Ben Franklin, who lived in the neighborhood as a child, attributed the early establishment of his girth to its considerable temptations.



TRAY GOOD: *The light, fresh turnovers at Manne's Bakery on Salem Street are one of the best bargains in the North End.*

the kind that comes when buffalo cheese, Barolo wine, calamari and antipasto soaked in crushed olives is topped with cannolis.

It's easy to do. The North End is a neighborhood of ristoranti, trattori, panetteria, mercati and caffe — in other words, of food, more fine food, and a beloved attitude toward it. Visit the North End in the morning. Eat there at lunch. It is a neighborhood of nuances that are best appreciated during the off-peak hours. After living around the corner from Old North Church for a couple of years, we grew used to waking up on Sunday morning to the ardent aromas of garlic and tomato wafting into our bedroom from the kitchens of neighboring grandmothers who usually host their children after Mass. We began a subtle discrimination. You learn to shop for bread based upon taste, texture and when the loaves can be bought warm. You learn whose olive oil is really from a first pressing and who serves the lightest tiramisu. You learn who is buying Jamaican instead of Colombian beans for their espresso. You learn to say you're from the "Naht End," and you answer most complaints with the expression, "Don' worry 'bout it," even though everybody worries about everything, or at least argues like they do.

To the traditional Italian, eating well is living well. The expression for it is *dolce vita*. It embodies the act of finding, arguing about, haggling over, cooking and, finally, eating food. There is a saying in the North End among the Sicilian restaurant owners that, roughly translated, means, "Always touch the food you serve and the money you make." In other words, supervise every dish served in your restaurant and handle every dollar you make. In fact, there are very few absentee owners of restaurants in the North End, which is why it's hard to get a bad meal or service.

Recently we decided to have an early dinner and beat the tourist rush. We started down Hanover Street from Government Center, heading for the Daily

There is a saying in the North End: "Always touch the food you serve and the money you make."

Catch, a small and infamous hole-in-the-wall restaurant known for serving fresh seafood with richly spiced pasta. At the top of Hanover, we passed the European Restaurant, which has the ambiance of a truck stop but serves great minestrone.

We happened to be opposite it, passing under a sign that announced the walk-up restaurant, Dolce Vita. At the door, a portly, mustachioed gentleman, was smiling appreciatively at us. We knew it wasn't our exercise decor that charmed him. "Buona serata," he said with a distinctly Italian accent. "My name is Franco Graceffa. Are you hungry? Why don't you come into my restaurant. I have a Sicilian chicken that is very nice tonight. I have beautiful sea food; I know, I select it myself everyday. Come in, come in. You won't be disappointed." Too many Friday nights of dickering at Hay Market made us hesitate, but here was a genuinely friendly man who was willing to stand on the street and stake his reputation on his kitchen and dining room.

Freshness rules Dolce Vita. Franco hand-inspects every tomato, and every piece of meat and fish that his purveyors bring around. For this reason, some of his most outstanding dishes, such as the seafood-plate special, won't be on the menu. They're made the way Franco's mother made them in Sicily with combinations of mussels, shrimp, scallops, lobster and very tender calamari, served over linguine with a fradiavolo salsa of Italian spices, scampi, garlic and wine. Indulge in a bottle of the house wine, a chablis with the brand name of Casa Burgundy, which is dry and full, and the house appetizer, antipasto salad, which is a delightful mix of sliced eggplant that has been doused in salt water, gently fried in extra-virgin olive oil, marinara sauce, garlic, pepper, cheese and fresh basil, all mixed with calamari. End your meal with tiramisu (which means "pull me up" in Italian), a layered sponge cake soaked in espresso and rum. Like any great Italian meal, this one may arouse your olfactory sense before it reaches your mouth, this is one of the pleasures of the North End. After many tests, Dolce Vita has consistently exceeded our expectations, largely because Franco Graceffa is a man who touches his food, his money and his guests.

Further down Hanover Street, near Dolce Vita, is Pomodoro, another eatery that has recently emerged as one of the country's best Italian restaurants. If you ask the younger, more hip residents of the North End where to dine, Pomodoro often gets the most votes.

Pomodoro is a mere storefront with an open kitchen facing the street. The decor, however, is high camp and changes every few months to suit the whim of its owner, Scivhon Carew, an ambitious former waitress at the nearby Daily Catch who had her own ideas about Italian food, in spite of her Irish upbringing. Open for two years, Pomodoro has prospered for all the classic reasons.

Its chef, Richard Hanson, is Italian, worldly and adamant about the freshness of his ingredients. His ever-changing menu has new appetizers and entrees that he creates each day. He describes his offerings as "regional Italian" but we might qualify this and add: semi-nouveau regional with a traditional base, or more simply put, fully original. Most of his meats and fruits are organically raised and grown. He smokes his game and fish in a corner of the kitchen (Hanson is considered to be the best chef of wild game in the North End, offering venison, rabbit, wild boar, blue marlin and water fowl as it becomes available).

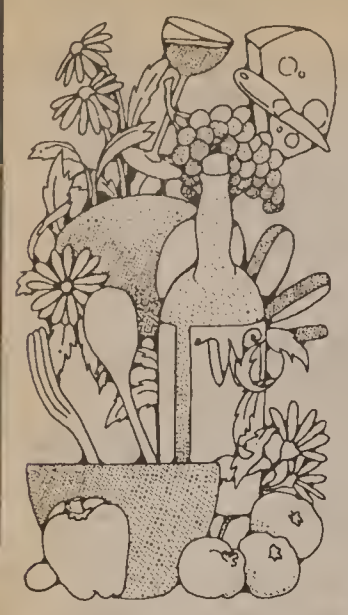
Ms. Carew takes just as much care in selecting wines, which are mostly the best, lesser-priced reds being imported from Europe. With its lyrical menu and a wine list long on value, Pomodoro has a distinctive, fresh energy that encourages anyone who has eaten at one of its mere 12 tables to return. Considering its regular accomplishments against the competition, it has become a North End standout, still relatively undiscovered.

Not far from Pomodoro, on Prince Street, is an even newer establishment named Artu. The culinary signature of Artu is the half-dozen chickens roasting on spits in the window above tempting plates of the day's specially prepared



LA DOLCE VITA: *The North End's Continental legacy has bequeathed young and old the belief that eating well — equated with living well — comprises the act of finding, arguing about, haggling over, cooking and, finally, eating food.*

Continued on next page



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BREAD OF LIFE: *At A. Parziale & Sons Bakery on Prince Street, the family has been making 1,000 loaves a day for 70 years. Drivers from Boston's best restaurants arrive early to load heaping shopping bags of Italian loaves into their trunks and back seats.*

vegetables. Artu offers sandwiches throughout the day and does a big takeout business, but its greatest strength, unknown to much of the world, is that this unsuspecting restaurant serves world-class southern Italian dishes.

It happens at the hands of Donato Frattaroli, the owner and chef who works his miracles on a single large stove, also visible from the sidewalk. Donato is the son of Lucia, the owner and one-time chef of Lucia's Restaurant, a well-known establishment around the corner, where he perfected his craft.

Artu is a place of modesty with very little about its ambiance or decor that indicates its amazing culinary delivery. The only hint is Donato himself, fully visible to all diners, mixing, peeling, pouring and flipping the ingredients of his delectable servings. True craftsmen engaged in their art often seem to accomplish their work effortlessly. It is true for fine painters, violin makers and photographers, and it is the way Donato cooks.

Ristoranti, trattori, panetteria, mercati and caffe — in other words, food, more fine food, and a beloved attitude toward it.

His meals arrive in stages. Shrimp and calamari, briefly seared in very high heat, are softened like butter. An antipasto includes delicately roasted potatoes so fresh as to seem sugar sweetened. They are followed by bruscutti pane, his version with diced tomatoes, garlic and onions in a light oil served on oven-browned Italian bread. Then comes the pasta — the best we have ever had — in a sauce of white wine, fresh basil, tomatoes and garlic. The ingredients are hardly original but that is the magic of Donato's cooking, worth many times, we think, the 7 dollars he charges.

To be certain that our first visit to Artu's was not a lucky accident, we have returned to consume its *polo* Artu (chicken sautéed with olives, mushrooms and Marsala wine), and roast lamb served with marinated eggplant and roasted peppers. Desserts aren't on the menu but Donato will make his own version of tiramisu, which is sinfully topped with cream that he hand-whips before serving.

For all of the North End's late-night dining, much of its best food is available in the morning when its streets fill with errand boys running loaves of bread from bakeries to restaurants and suppliers compete with passers-by to unload their goods on sidewalks. One of the best ways to begin a Sunday-morning foray into the neighborhood is to have brunch at the Oasis Cafe, located at 176 Endicott St., only 100 yards from Regina's Pizza.

The Oasis is precisely that: an old-fashioned, stylized dining room that serves only American home cooking in an all-Italian neighborhood. Renowned for its palm-tree logo in the window, the interior of the cafe has a 1930s motif with pink walls and art-deco touches.

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Mellow songs by Billy Holiday and Duke Ellington fill the room as vegetable omelets, homemade apple fritters, pancakes, waffles, cornbread and fresh juices are served. Dinners are equally iconoclastic. Meat loaf Wellington is offered with Oasis mashed potatoes, dripping in butter. Everything is made from scratch and sometimes owner-and-chef Jill Rodgers will extend the menu to include baked half-chicken with cranberry sauce, poached salmon and barbecued baby-back ribs. And if you enjoy a thick-but-lean hamburger (with or without cheese), you'll do no better than the Oasis.

On the lower streets of the North End — Endicott, Prince, Thatcher and Salem — you'll find the original Italian markets where the eccentric characters of the city's safest neighborhood become visible. You'll learn that Italian women who run shops in the North End are tough, humorous and kind. You'll note that the North End accent is more akin to Brooklyn and Hoboken than New England. You'll sense the tremendous family bonds that continue through several generations, even though the affection is expressed by considerable confrontation and yelling.

If you seek bread, go to A. Parziale & Sons Bakery on Prince Street next to Bova's 24-hour Bakery. The family has been making 1,000 loaves a day for 70 years. A fresh loaf of wheat bread, still warm at 9 a.m., is $1.15. Out front,



CORNER ON THE MARKET: *At the Cozy Corner Restaurant, just down from the Old North Church, there is no pretense, but the food is homemade and the pasta* frigiole *for $2.50 a bowl is the best in the city.*

Continued on next page

If you don't think your tastes change, let's think back to that haircut senior year.





Dewar's

Dewar's "White Label". 1993 Schieffelin & Somerset Co., NY, NY · Blended Scotch Whisky · 40% ALC/VOL (80 Proof)

Continued from preceeding page

cars dispensed from restaurants all over Boston arrive to load heaping shopping bags of Italian loaves into their trunks and back seats.

For the best selection of original Italian cheeses, we recommend the Purity Cheese Co. on 55 Endicott St., where Peter Cucchiara, who has been making and packaging mozzarella and ricotta since 1938, demonstrates his cheese-making skills every Saturday. Purchasing pastries is also a selective pursuit. In our opinion, the best biscottis and cannoli shells reside at Modern Pastry at 257 Hanover. The best Italian cookies, lobster tails and elaborate cakes are at Mike's Pastry on Hanover. The best rum cake is at Mattola's Pastry Shop at 95 Salem St., although lately Armando Mattola's high prices seem better suited for Newbury Street than the North End. For the best prices on light, fresh turnovers (70 to 75 cents apiece, depending on who is behind the counter) visit Manne's Bakery on Salem.

And while on Salem Street, if you seek a fine neighborhood dinner that is very inexpensive, visit the Cozy Corner Restaurant, just down from the Old North Church. There is no pretense, but the food is homemade and the pasta *frigiole* for $2.50 a bowl is the best in the city.



When wandering through the North End, you will not only eat well but you will also see the unfolding of a traditional way of life that is poised to disappear. One day the grandmothers who sit in tight circles on the sidewalk, chatting away in dialect, will pass on, and the children of the men who speak Italian at the cafes on Hanover Street will move to Saugus and Newton. These changes seem inevitable, but in the meantime, Bostonians who visit the neighborhood are the benefactors of the Italian cucina that continues to flourish.❑

Carmi Zona-Paris and Jay Paris, freelance writers and photojournalists, are the authors of Walking Nova Scotia, *the hosts of the "WHDH Travel Guide," and the publishers of* The Outbound Traveler, *an international magazine.*

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PROPER BOSTONIANS

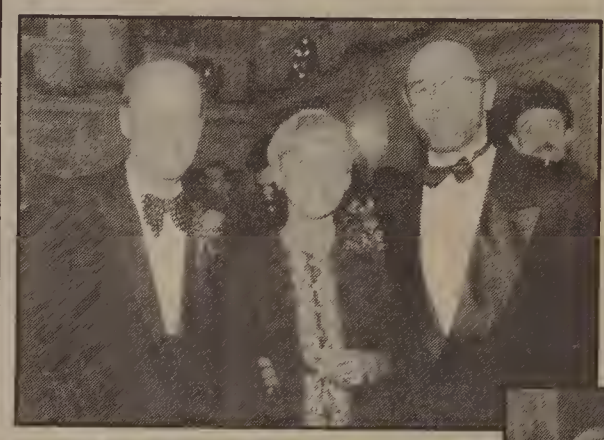
PHOTOS BY ROGER FARRINGTON

POINTE OF HONOR

The holiday season kicked off to a traditional start at the Wang Center Dec. 2 when the Boston Ballet danced its first 1993 *The Nutcracker*. Dancers and ballet lovers heralded the event with an opening-night gala following the performance.



PLUM ROLES: *The Nutcracker himself stops to chat with Jennifer Gelfand, who starred as the Sugarplum Fairy, and her Cavalier, Paul Thrussell.*



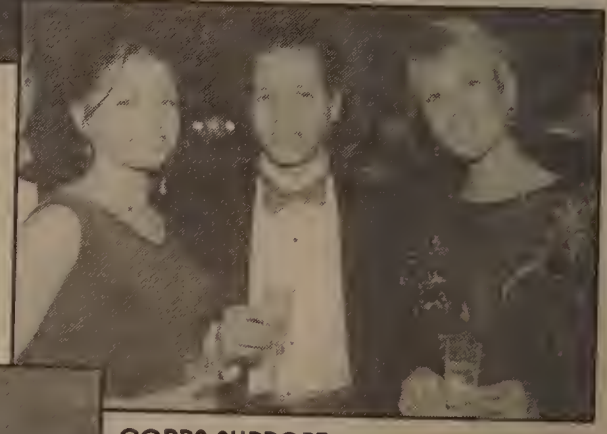
LEAD ROLES: *Boston Ballet Artistic Director Bruce Marks, right, celebrates the premiere of the annual Christmas tradition with the gala benefit's co-chairs Debbie and Dick Swenson.*



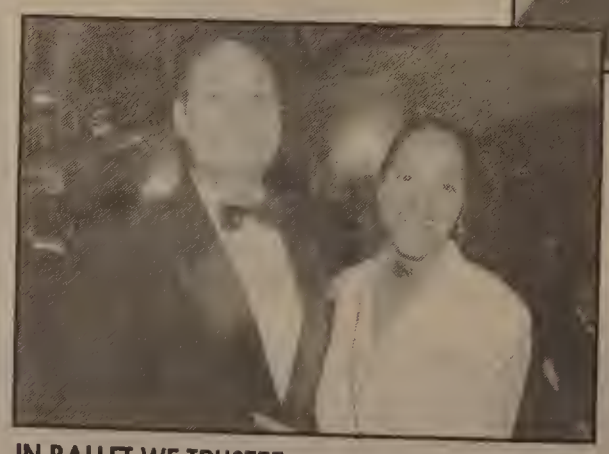
SUGAR HIGH: *"Candy Canes" Alexandra Jordan, Sarah Lewis and Allison Krongel (left to right) bask in the glow of opening-night glory.*



TUTU MUCH FUN: *Kicking up their heels for the ballet are 15-year subscriber Marianne Scott and her guest, Jim Bohlman.*



CORPS SUPPORT: *BB company-member Natasha Fielding, right, celebrates the evening with Jeff Rubinstein, technical director of First Night, and The Nutcracker Ball hostess Hannah Eaves, left.*



IN BALLET WE TRUSTEE: *BB Trustee (and former state director of transportation) Richard L. Taylor and his wife, Kathy, dance.*

PROFILES

PHOTOS BY PAUL PILCHER

Leon Merian
Horn of Plenty

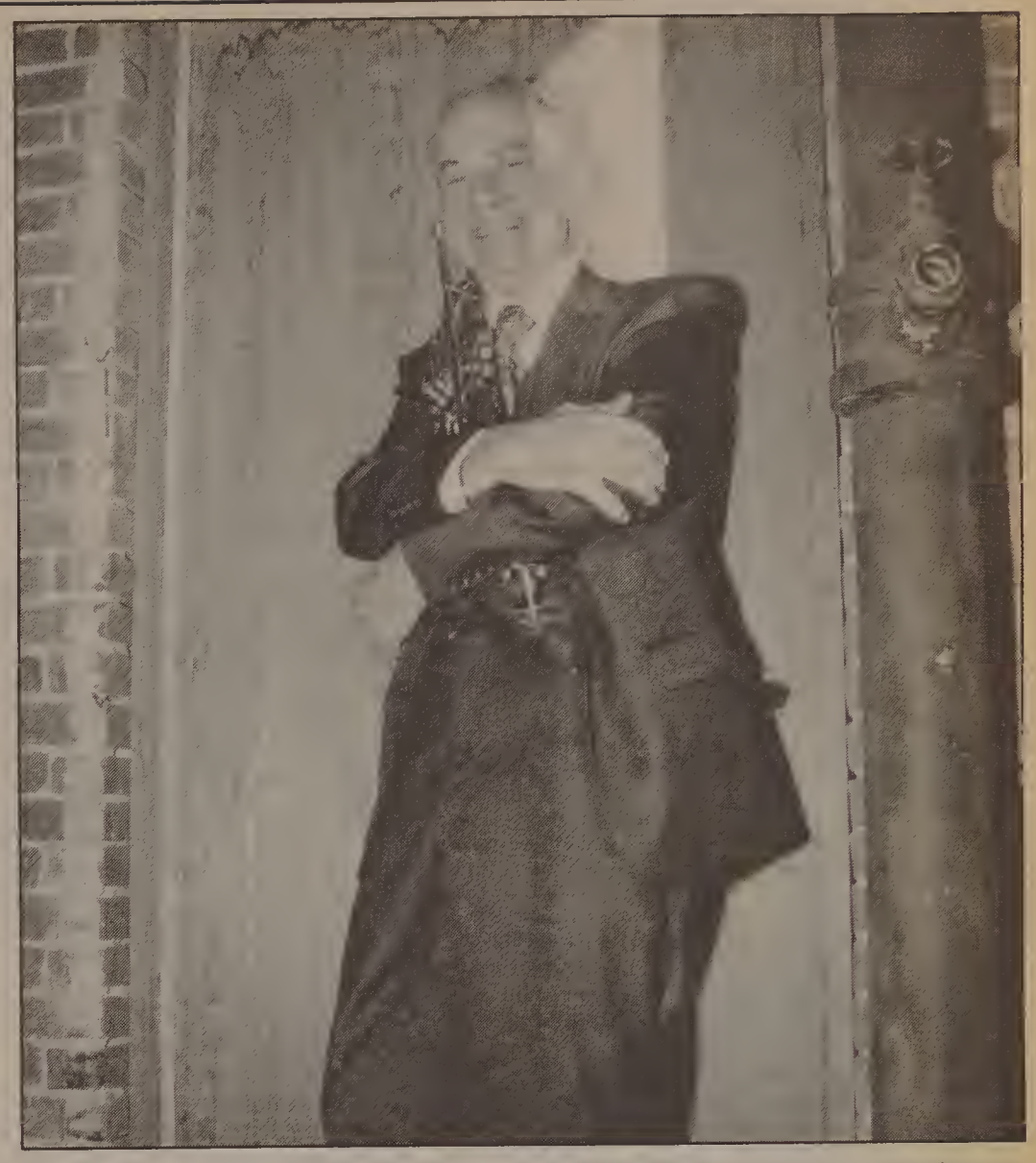
By Megan Gilmartin

When the call comes for the trumpeter to announce the Second Coming, chances are the famed Leon Merian will be hand-picked to do the job. For more than half a century, this trumpet virtuoso has been producing dynamic sounds from his magic horn. His trumpet is not just an instrument for him, it's a philosophy. Merian hopes his talents allow audiences to experience emotion and transcend life's banalities. "When I play a chorus of jazz," he says, "I'm telling a story, the same as a poet." For him, music is the purest form of language because "it cannot be defined or limited .... You don't have to know vocabulary or grammatical structure or anyone's culture or background to be able to communicate with music," explains the 70-year-old jazz man. "All you have to do is touch that inner ear, touch a person's soul."

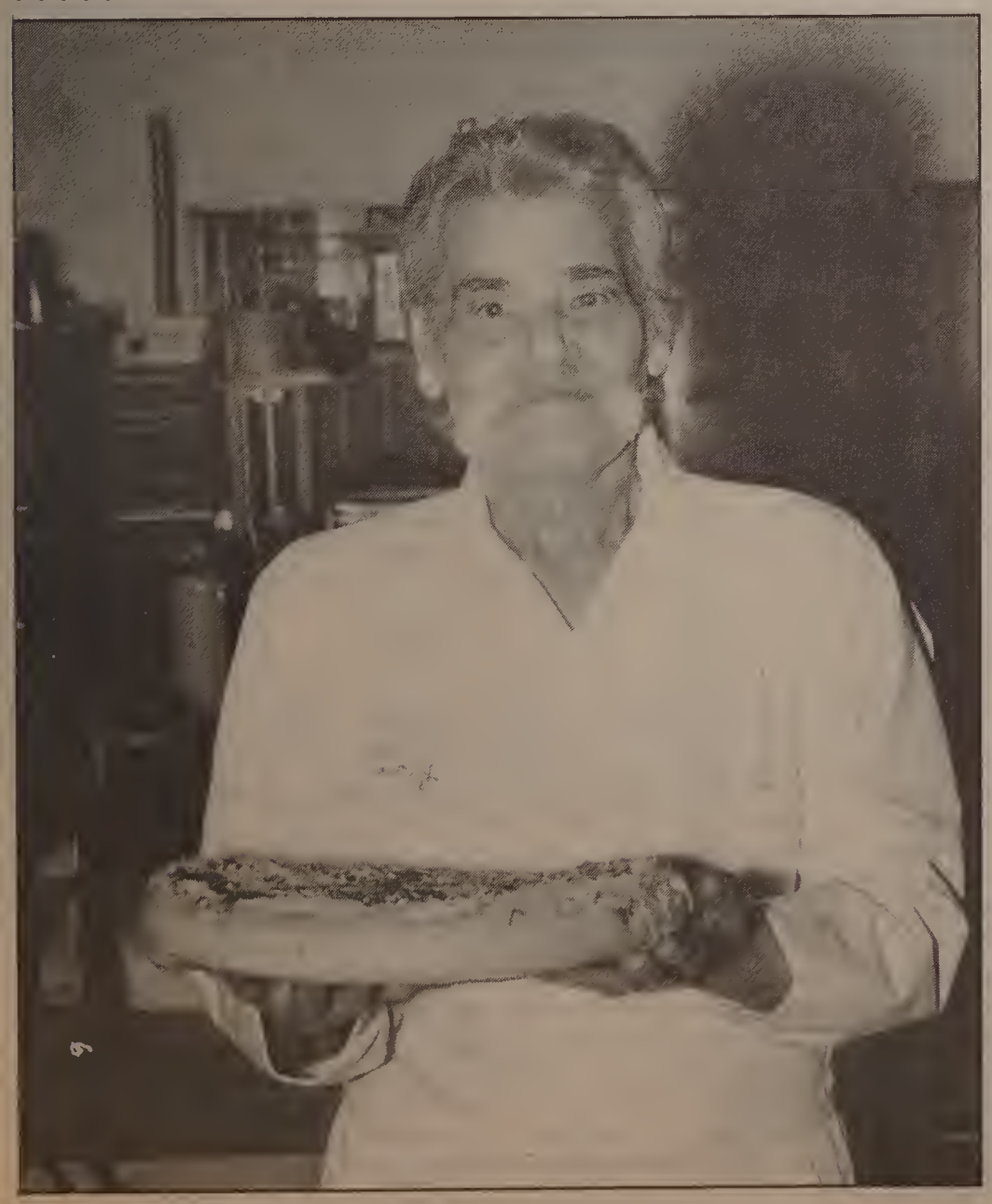
Legendary in the world of jazz, Merian's list of performance credits is eclectic and impressive. He performed on Broadway with the *Judy Garland Show*, played lead with such artists as Ella Fitzgerald, Elvis Presley, Sarah Vaughn and Tony Bennett, and provided the background trumpet solo for the film *Ben Hur*. Merian's sound prompted Dizzy Gillespie to describe it as "one of the most beautiful you'll ever hear." With a career as illustrious as his, it is hard to believe that this jazz master performed his first concert on a set of water glasses at the family dinner table. "I was just playing around and whacking the different glasses," Merian says, "and I noticed that each glass had a different tonality." Within minutes, the young musician found himself tapping out "Down by the Old Mill Stream" for a group of neighbors.

Recognizing her son's musical abilities, Mrs. Merian whisked Leon to a performance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and told him to point out the instrument he would like to play. "When I saw the trumpet players out there blowing those trumpets," Merian rasps, "Man, it turned me right on." It wasn't long before he turned himself into an accomplished musician who was earning more money than his father by playing for nickel-and-dime tips in Boston's jazz-and-burlesque club scene — at the ripe age of 15.

Merian's enthusiasm for jazz has not waned over the years. In addition to being a very active clinician, he has recently published an acclaimed book, *Trumpet Isometrics*. Dedicated to the art of playing live jazz, Merian has held steadfast to his credo: "If I didn't play it to the best of my ability, I wouldn't play it at all."



JAZZ MAN: *'I'm telling a story, the same as a poet,' says reknowned trumpeter Leon Merian.*



FLOUR POWER: *Fresh pasta is a family passion for Genevieve and Tony Trio of Trio's Pizza .*

Genevieve and Tony Trio
Get Fresh

By Sandra Miller

People Who Know swear up and down that the pizza at Trio's at the tip of Hanover Street is the best. Try one topped with homemade tortellini, ravioli and pesto, dripping with a spicy house sauce, all atop a flaky inch-high crust, and you'll know why Trio's is a popular lunch stop among the locals and business crowd.

But Genevieve Trio, co-owner with Tony, her husband of 56 years this month, would rather concentrate the business on what they do best — homemade ravioli and pasta. "I've seen pizza shops come and go," she says. "Area shops try to make fresh pasta. Good luck to them — I saw five go down the drain in one month."

With a reputation built on 37 years in the business, Trio's Ravioli Shoppe, at 222 Hanover St., is now represented in thousands of supermarkets' fresh-pasta bins across the country. But you can't beat the real thing, rolled and stuffed on the premises every morning.

The Trio couple are a team of industriousness borne of creating their own breaks. The Trios supported their two children with factory-and-coal-mine work until their labor of love was born during a Sunday dinner when teen-age son Louis suggested they sell Genevieve's homemade raviolis. "I'd like to hit him today," she says.

With $40 in their pocket, they set up shop in Cambridge. By word of mouth, the business grew, and they moved to Hanover Street. "We never had to advertise," Genevieve says. Eight years ago, a wholesaler sold versions of their pasta to thousands of supermarkets. But their storefront business still does it the old-fashioned way — by hand and by family.

Standard cheese raviolis are $3.75 a dozen, and a pint of Trio's red sauce is $2.90. Or try ravioli stuffed with lobster, pumpkin, goat cheese, fresh spinach or ricotta. Flavored pastas include egg, carrot, lemon and squid-ink; gnocchi fans can choose among potato, cheese and spinach. Sauces by the Trios' daughter, Catherine, who runs an Italian-gourmet shop in Cambridge with her daughter, Toni, include Newburg, ginger vermouth, spinach nut, gorgonzola and lemon alfredo.

Although their seven-days-a week, 6 a.m.-to-6 p.m. pacing is frantic, neither Tony nor Genevieve entertain retirement plans. "I don't want to have the time to think about my aches and pains," she says. Besides, she's proud. "We have no competition. I see most of the pasta out there and say, 'No way.'"

Seating is limited to stools along the thin counter underlining dozens of fan letters, news clippings and family photos; peer to your right to watch the family working in the kitchen. "We don't hide from our customers," Tony says. Or order ahead and double-park.

FLICKS IN A FLASH

KEY	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

COMBINATION PLATTER
★★

Asian filmmaker Tony Chan makes his directorial debut with this little production about Chinese immigrants trying to keep up with the fast-paced life of New York City. The film revolves around Robert (Jeff Lau) who works as a waiter with several other men in a Queens Chinese restaurant. As illegal aliens are deported all around him, Robert desperately seeks a green card and a wife. We also see a lighter side as the waiters poke fun at unreasonable and insensitive customers by cursing at them politely in Chinese. *Combination Platter* looks like a film-festival piece; it has that dull, documentary feel and sense of realism difficult to achieve in a polished Hollywood production.

M.R. D'ENTREMONT

MAN'S BEST FRIEND
★★★

This laugh-and-shriek romp shows us what happens when you cross a huge dog with a tiger, a bear, an owl and other assorted wildlife. When a reporter (Ally Sheedy) rescues experimental-dog Max from the cruel lab, she unsuspectingly makes a pet out of him. The tension builds as Max terrorizes and munches on the neighbors. The premise — a genetically engineered guard dog goes astray — is a good one, but the suspense and viewers' attention both sag two-thirds of the way through the movie, as does credulity as Max displays increasingly farfetched powers.

M.R. D'ENTREMONT

MRS. DOUBTFIRE
★★★

I've seen *Tootsie*, and believe me, it's no *Tootsie*. Even more than most of Robin Williams' films, this contrived farce alternately soars and plummets on his manic flights of fancy. Without his singular comic genius, the film would be a pile of John Hughesian mush about how divorcing parents must not hurt their kids. Williams plays a father who can only see his kids by going undercover as an elderly British nanny because his ex-wife (Sally Fields in a thankless role), detests his childishness. The repeated transformations grow old quickly and the cooking disasters are cliches, but Williams' irrepressible need to bust your gut is hard to deny. His riffs in the guise of a hip-hop grandmotherly Mr. Rogers-in-drag are often great fun, even if it all feels fairly insincere.

J.W. HALL

MY LIFE
★★

If you blubbered through *Ghost*, Bruce Joel Rubin's previous film, his latest film about death should get to you again. Michael Keaton has cancer (symptomatic of repressed anger, it's suggested), and fears dying before his wife, Nicole Kidman (who's really preggers), gives birth. For the child, Keaton starts videotaping his guarded life, forcing him to reconnect with his blue-collar family, of which he's always been ashamed. There's also the requisite mystical stuff as Keaton reluctantly turns to a faith healer (Haing Ngor). Those who disliked *Ghost* may feel a similar retreat from tougher moments, as the journey to death becomes a fantasy release of anger and fear and a parade of cute moments to make us feel better. Well made, but not a surprising moment in it.

J.W. HALL

THE PIANO
★★★★

New Zealand director Jane Campion's urgent-and-stunning film presents a mute woman (exquisitely played by Holly Hunter) who journeys to New Zealand to meet and marry Stewart (Sam Neill). When her piano is stranded on the beach, she makes a deal with Baines (Harvey Keitel), an illiterate, tattooed settler gone "native," to acquire it back key by key. The three play out a complicated, sometimes humorous, and savage sexual triangle. The land and seascape are breathtaking and elemental. The line between the civilized and the savage, the life-sustaining and the murderous, the conscious and the unconscious shifts and blurs. Ada's and Baines' passion is played out within the framework of 19th-century romanticism, but Ada is nonetheless a modern heroine.

K. WILSON

RUBY IN PARADISE
★★★

This rather slight film captures the ennui of off-season life in a Florida beach town like few other films. Ruby (the beautiful Ashley Judd) is a rudderless twentysomething, seeking both questions and answers as she bumbles along on her own as a clerk in a souvenir shop. Over the course of the very leisurely paced film, she learns a few things about her ambitions and needs; for example, she could do without the men she meets. Director Victor Nuñez shows that some male directors can capture the female sensibility.

J.W. HALL

SHORT CUTS
★★★★★

Arguably the best film of the '90s, so good that it even survives an inadequate, less-than-earthshaking ending. The Robert Altman of *Nashville* still lives, thank God, re-energized by the collapsed moral center of middle-class Los Angeles. Altman weaves together several Raymond Carver short stories about couples fighting, falling apart and screwing around. It's a scathing, pornographic tragicomedy on the level of *Last Tango in Paris*, a film that takes chances and asks hard questions about what it means to be human. Breathtaking acting from Tim Robbins, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Jack Lemmon and Chris Penn, among a huge, great cast. Discussion groups ought to be mandatory afterward: so many emotions are stirred up, a release is needed.

J.W. HALL

THE THREE MUSKETEERS
★★

Charlie Sheen, Kiefer Sutherland, Chris (*Scent of a Woman*) O'Donnell. Pretty boys? OK. Musketeers? Never. Not only is *The Three Musketeers* badly cast and blandly scripted, it has Disney written all over it. Although the young actors bring energy to their swashbuckling antics, the film's physical humor is unoriginal and sometimes poorly timed. The original Alexandre Dumas plot has all but disappeared; in fact, only the picturesque scenery is noteworthy — that and the fact that Charlie Sheen sounds like his father in *Badlands*.

C.L. DONCHESS

THE WAR ROOM
★★★

Directors D.A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedus planned to do a documentary on running for president, but Bush and Perot turned them down and Clinton volunteered his staff as the subject. The directors lucked out. The camera loves campaign-strategist James Carville. With his lanky frame, high cheekbones, beady eyes and demonic grin, he's fun to watch, but it's what animates him that fascinates us. He's a political animal, goddamnit, and proud of it. His ferocious energy, razor-sharp intelligence and down-home wit are all in the service of his profession. The film starts out slowly with TV footage of the New Hampshire primary and the Flowers scandal, but it kicks into high gear and stays there when at last we enter the War Room, Clinton's campaign headquarters in Little Rock, and spend time with Carville.

K. WILSON

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

IM-*PERFECT WORLD*

"... *A Perfect World* is a 'sort of' movie: it's sort of a road picture, sort of a comedy, sort of a drama, sort of an action picture..."

"I do like Tater Tots," drawls Clint Eastwood as Texas Ranger Red Garnett in *A Perfect World*, Eastwood's latest effort behind and in front of the camera. While the line is no "Go ahead: Make my day," it does capture the spirit of this rambling, self-consciously oddball movie set in Texas in 1963 just before JFK's assassination. Red and a motley crew of law-enforcement types are in not-so-hot pursuit of an escaped convict and his 8-year-old hostage when their state of-the-art police vehicle (a wired-up, tin-can mobile home on loan from the governor's office) decouples from the red pickup truck that's hauling it. Stranded and hungry, they raid the governor's freezer and steal his steaks and Tater Tots.

In spite of all their credentials, experience, theories and interfering, Red and company don't accomplish a whole hell of a lot. The drama — the relationship between escaped-con Butch Haynes (Kevin Costner) and 8-year-old Phillip (T.J. Lowther) — runs its course mostly without them (just as history will run its course in Dallas). Predictably, Butch and the kid bond. The boy has no father, and Butch, who had a hellish childhood, decides to play dad. The father/son business gets maudlin at times but manages to recover. Butch, after all, is no Ward Cleaver. He's tough and edgy; we're never quite sure if he's an eccentric or a lunatic.

A Perfect World is a "sort of" movie: it's sort of a road picture, sort of a comedy, sort of a drama, sort of an action picture. Eastwood is a musician (one of his compositions is featured in the movie) and there's something about the direction that feels musical, as if he was playing around with rhythm and tempo. The film meanders, then speeds up for a minute, then slows down again. It's like a paragraph that doesn't have much punctuation and what punctuation it has is in the wrong place. Eastwood plays with your expectations, which is often appealing and always disconcerting. The opening prison-breakout scene is utterly lacking in suspense, partly because it's so dark that we can't see what's going on. The sadistic lunatic with whom Haynes breaks out of prison (Keith Szarabajka) is such a goon that it's hard to take him seriously. Chase scenes don't go anywhere.

The movie finally takes a scary, nasty turn, but reverses itself and becomes cheerful and even funny at the damndest time. Some viewers may find themselves hungry for a traditional payoff.



CLINT'S STINT: *Actor/director Clint Eastwood wants it both ways — a little film and big ideas, in his new film,* A Perfect World.

IF YOU GO

A PERFECT WORLD
★★★
DIRECTED BY: Clint Eastwood
WRITTEN BY: John Lee Hancock
PLAYING AT: Loews Cheri, Showcase Cinemas Circle

The main problem, though, with *A Perfect World* is that Eastwood wants it both ways: he wants to make a quirky little film with "important" themes. A true quirky film may be "important" but through no fault of its own. Eastwood is too big a star to do quirky. Kevin Costner probably is, too. The film can't help but be self-referential even if Eastwood had wisely resisted making references to his and Costner's films. Running almost two-and-a-half hours, the film is half an hour too long because Eastwood overdoes it and/or repeats himself to make sure we get the point. Only the first shot of Phillip in his Casper the Friendly Ghost Halloween costume (a fantasy denied by his Jehovah's Witness mother) is weird, humorous and surreal against the sunny, quiet Central Texas countryside. And Eastwood's female foils (this one in the form of criminologist Sally Gerber, played by Laura Dern in her second dreadful role this year) are becoming annoying.

There's no perfect world, but there are perfect moments such as when Butch and Phillip get out of the car and the sun is shining and the only sounds are the insects buzzing in the grass. The soundtrack is terrific (Lennie Niehaus wrote the score) and Central Texas is a wonder. And there's a sexy scene with Costner and a roadhouse waitress (we've been waiting for one since *Bull Durham*). Props include ketchup and a pickle. And, hey, who doesn't like Tater Tots? ❑

Independent Films / Gerald Peary

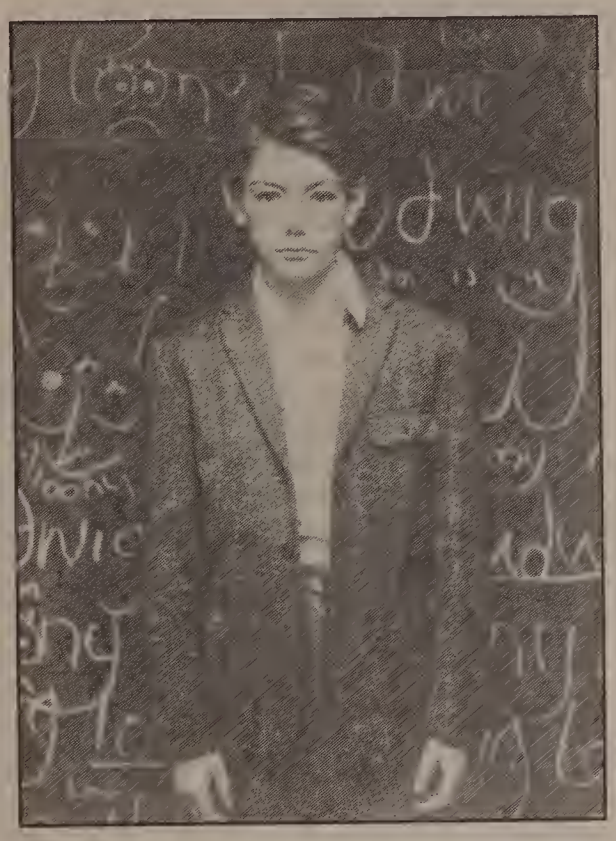
Mind, Bawdy & Soul

"...*Wittgenstein*, a minimalist, 75-minute, home-movie biography, is a sublime gift from the dying filmmaker, a miraculous little chamber movie..."

For the last few years, British film-director Derek Jarman (*Caravaggio, Edward II*) has been battling a crippling AIDS virus by going public in his art about his disease. He's published his angry, intense, personal journals; pushing for time, he's made a series of valiant movies that are, among other things, tough-minded philosophical dialogues with himself about his impending fate.

The Garden, released several years ago, ended with Jarman's imagining (sadly) his demise, a spirit united with the cosmos, floating above the verdant earth. *Blue*, his very recent film, is 75 minutes of one monochromatic image, a shade of blue, mirroring Jarman's loss of sight in real life: death from AIDS seems imminent.

Directly before *Blue* came *Wittgenstein*, which Jarman somehow pulled himself together to write and direct in 1992. It's a sublime gift from the dying filmmaker, a miraculous little chamber movie. Produced low-budget on a sound stage, using many of Jarman's intimate, acting friends (look for *Orlando* star Tilda Swinson, who has been in almost all Jarman movies), *Wittgenstein* is a minimalist, 75-minute, home-movie biography of the great logical positivist philosopher.



ELEGY: *Clancy Chassay plays the young philosopher in Director Derek Jarman's miraculous film.*

Wittgenstein, like Jarman, was London-based and homosexual. Far more important to Jarman, the philosopher died desperately frustrated, succumbing to prostate cancer. At 63, Wittgenstein believed he was at last doing his breakthrough work in philosophy. All earlier was a preface.

Who can doubt that Wittgenstein on his deathbed at the film's end, so pale and numbed, is Derek Jarman courageously looking at himself? A spirit standing by his corpse. But I said that *Wittgenstein* is miraculous: that's because the tone of the film is rarely self-pitying. In fact, Jarman's elegy is witty, sprightly, inventive, a consistently imaginative-and-entertaining string of sketches, piano interludes and blackouts.

Also, Wittgenstein is more than Jarman's onscreen shadow. As played nervously, neurotically, yet with enormous empathy by Karl Johnson, this Wittgenstein has his own twitchy, explosive flesh-and-blood integrity. It's incredibly interesting to watch Wittgenstein's famous love/hate relationship with philosophy. At times in his life, he decided to escape his metaphysical calling (and his teaching at haughty Cambridge) by instead becoming a "human being." He fought at the front in World War I; he attempted (disastrously) to be a humble grammar-school teacher. He lived in solitary self-exile in Norway and Ireland. He went to Stalin's Russia to volunteer as a manual laborer. He tried — with such guilt! — to have a sex life.

Most often, he put down his books and went to the movies. He loved westerns and musicals, Betty Hutton and Carmen Miranda. But nothing ultimately worked to keep his tortured mind free of philosophical worries. "He begins every morning in hope," a friend described Wittgenstein, "and he ends each evening in despair." So it was back to the blackboard and to the treatises, although he stubbornly refused to read Aristotle and, out of hand, dismissed Hegel. In person, he argued brusquely for decades with his philosopher mentor, Bertrand Russell, until they became estranged because of Russell's homophobia.

IF YOU GO

WITTGENSTEIN

★★★★

Directed by: Derek Jarman
Written by: Jarman, Terry Eagleton and Kevin Butler
Playing at: Harvard Film Archive, Dec. 3-12

There are juicy scenes in Wittgenstein of the Bloomsbury Group: "Berty" Russell lounging about barefoot on his bed, economist John Maynard Keynes smooching with his male lover. But even neater are the interludes featuring Wittgenstein, the boy. Bespectacled actor Clancy Chassay is charming as the quizzical young Ludwig, and there's no more-enchanting scenes in *Wittgenstein* than those in which Ludwig argues philosophy with a green-bodied Martian dwarf. It's *Sesame Street* with delectable Wonderland dialogue: Alice vs. the Caterpillar, or the Cheshire Cat.

What don't we get in *Wittgenstein*? Although there are noble attempts here to explain some elementary Wittgensteinian concepts, the philosopher's infamously difficult thinking remains impenetrable to non-experts.

A quibble. *Wittgenstein* is among the finest films of 1993, a mini-masterwork from Derek Jarman, who so deserves an off-screen miracle. ❑

Notice to all Readers and Advertisers:

The December 23 issue of the Improper Bostonian is our annual double-holiday issue which will be available for four weeks.

Publication of the Improper Bostonian will resumes its normal bi-weekly schedule with the January 19 issue.

Our offices will be closed from December 23 to January 3.

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So Still Watching Movies on Videotape? Hmmm...

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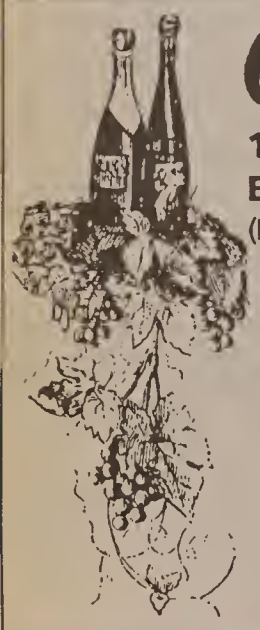
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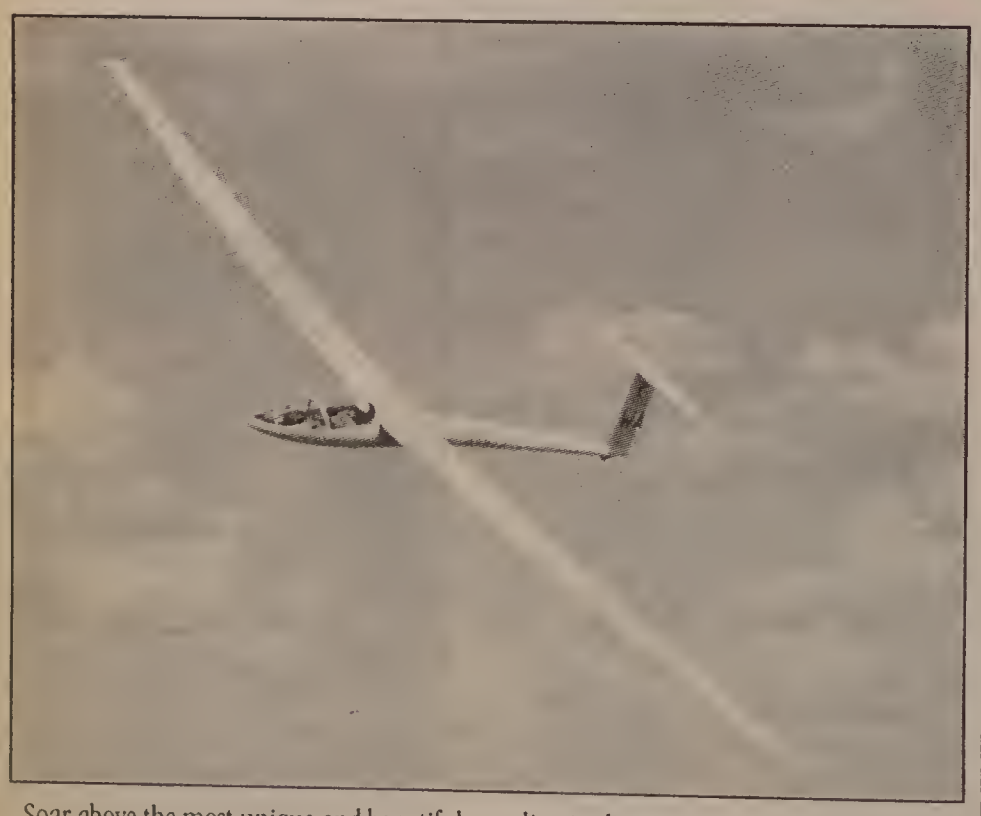


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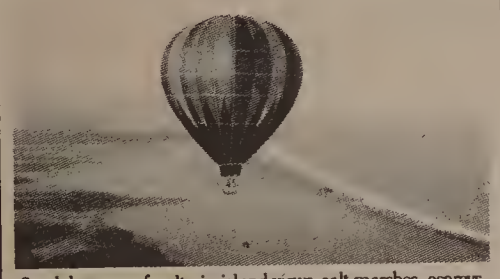
THE WORLD GIFT FEST, the largest holiday festival in New England will be held at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, December 11 and 12 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. both days. Arts and crafts, music, dance, theater and food from around the world will be featured, as the largest international holiday festival in New England celebrates Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, the Winter Solstice, and other holidays! The international extravaganza of entertainment will also feature special children's events. Parking is available in the Prudential Center and the Auditorium garage. Look for discount coupons with $2 off the $5 admisssion, available throughout the Prudential Center Mall, Back Bay stores, most Buck-A-Book shops and in the Improper Bostonian. Children under 12 enter free. Call 424-8585.

Thomas Neforas
PHOTOGRAPHY 207 Newbury Street



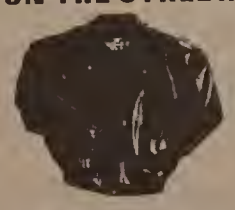
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BOSTON IMPROPER



Points of Interest

1. Boston Garden
2. CambridgeSide Galleria
3. Charlestown Navy Yard
4. Cheers
5. Children's Museum
6. City Hall
7. Copley Place
8. Custom House
9. Faneuil Hall
10. Fenway Park
11. Hatch Memorial Shell
12. Institute of Contemporary Art
13. John B. Hynes Auditorium
14. J.F.K. Building
15. Museum of Fine Art
16. Museum of Science
17. New England Sports Museum
18. New England Aquarium
19. Old City Hall
20. Old North Church
21. Old South Meeting House
22. Old State House
23. Paul Revere House
24. Prudential Center
25. Quincy Market
26. State House
27. U.S.S. Constitution & Museum
28. World Trade Center

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Arts Review / Charles Giuliano

SHOWING ITS AGE

"...To celebrate its 20th birthday, Bromfield, Boston's longest-running, artist-operated gallery, is offering a retrospective and celebration..."

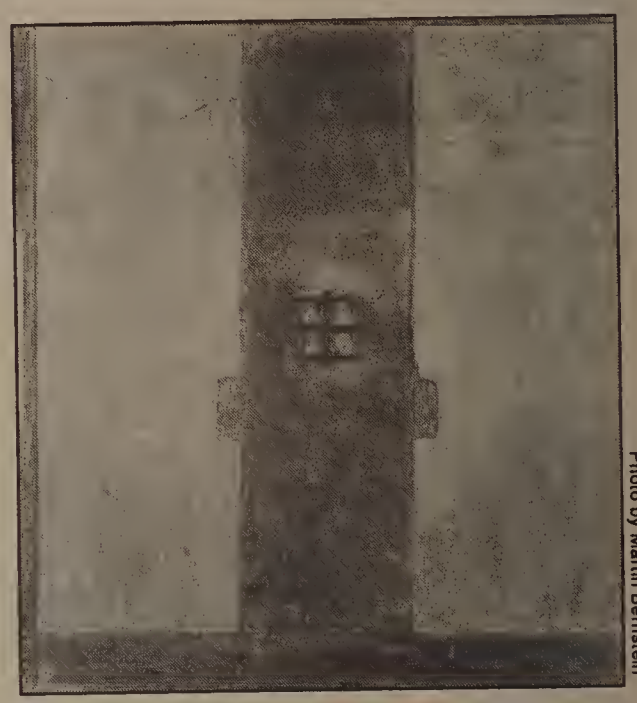


Photo by Martin Bernstein

DOUG BELL: Francis, *acrylic, oil and mixed media on wood, is by one of Bromfield's featured artists.*

The good news this season has been the revitalization of Boston's traditional gallery row along Newbury Street. After the bloodletting of the past few years, which saw closings and retrenchment, dealers are guardedly optimistic. But running a successful gallery has always been a risky business. Even in the best of times, such as the high-flying 1980s, it has always been tough for emerging artists to break into the field. Back in 1973, a group of artists with studios in Boston's downtown jewelry district took matters into their own hands and started the cooperative, Bromfield Gallery, on what was then a wish and a prayer.

For the next two months, Boston's longest-running, artist-run gallery is offering a two-part retrospective and celebration. Current director Christina Lanzl has organized *Beyond Dreams: 20 Years of the Bromfield Gallery in Boston* through Dec. 30. "Part One: The Retrospective," will be followed by "Part Two: Current Members," which runs from Jan. 4 to Jan. 29. The historical component of the survey will travel to the Attleboro Museum in early winter upon completion of its current renovation and expansion.

This ambitious series of exhibitions focuses on the artists' ongoing struggle to exhibit their work. While this is an occasion for celebration and a time to dwell on past accomplishments, the challenge for contemporary artists is basically no different today than when the idea of having their own gallery was but a dream. Lanzl's concept of *Beyond Dreams* also implies that the more things change the more they remain the same. In the past few years the erosion of state-and-federal support for the arts has put arts organizations such as the Bromfield Gallery smack-dab where they were 20 years ago.

IF YOU GO

BROMFIELD GALLERY

BEYOND DREAMS: 20 Years of the Bromfield Gallery in Boston; Part One: "The Retrospective," through Dec. 30; "Current Members," Jan. 4-29
107 SOUTH ST.
451-3605

The two exhibitions clearly demonstrate why ventures such as these are so deserving of support. The retrospective offers rich evidence of past accomplishments while the much anticipated second half will provide tantalizing glimpses of the future.

Selecting from the many artists who have been involved with the gallery in the past 20 years was a tough job for the jurors. While commercial galleries represent the taste and vision of a single individual, Bromfield has evolved and changed with its voting membership over the years. The resulting exhibition is an eclectic mix of abstraction and realism with a representation of media from painting and sculpture to photography and works-on-paper.

After much tough deliberation, a five-person jury chose works by Doug Bell, Jerry Berndt, Polly Brown, Elli Crocker, Maryjean Viano Crowe, John Devaney, Gretchen Ewert, Mary Good, Robert Goss, Pier Gustafson, D.K. Hall, Jeff Hull, Paul Laffoley, Peter Plamondom, John Powell, Ron Rizzi, Jane Smaldone, Gail Smuda, Candace Walters and Tabitha Vevers.

While there is no Bromfield look or prevailing style, this is a list of artists of a uniformly high quality, from which any gallery would draw justifiable pride. Especially when one considers that many on this who's-who list of Boston artists had their first professional exposure through the artist-run gallery. Many are now represented by major commercial galleries and have a track record of museum exhibitions.

Over the years Bromfield has had its high and low points. There was a fire of "mysterious origin" that forced it out of its first of several locations. Most recently, it has had to endure the relocation of many other galleries from the South Street area due to panic over the impending disruption of the Big Dig.

But you won't have trouble spotting its building at 107 South St., which has been turned into the giant, conceptual-art *Christmas Tree* by lighting-artist John Powell. From now through the New Year, just enjoy. Let Bromfield and Powell light up your life. Peace. ❑

Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

BUBBLE TROUBLE

"...The Grandes Marques companies responsible for cultivating champagne's global image have lost their controlling position to no-name brands..."

Champagne evokes strong emotions. Partisans adore it so fervently they will pop bottles open on the flimsiest pretext, while detractors stereotype it as a beverage reserved for showoffs and parasites. On one point a consensus has formed: champagne comprises its own category, essentially different than wine.



TOIL AND TROUBLE: *Under threat from lesser-quality newcomers, big-name champagnes, adhering to time-honored production methods, taste better than ever.*

This is a misconception. Champagne may originate in a particular area of northern France, its bubbles produced according to exacting standards, but its nature is first and foremost that of a wine: a reflection of climate and soil. In fact, it is the single wine name whose authentic quality over the years has entitled it to the highest consumer trust. Until recently.

Monumental changes have transformed champagne since 1990. For decades a few-dozen prestigious companies had guided the district's fortunes. The significant capital investment these famous brand names, or Grandes Marques, made helped perfect the production process and establish the region's quality reputation. Throughout the world, Moet et Chandon, Mumm, Taittinger and the rest, each promoting its own house style, created a devoted following. Few of the companies, however, controlled sufficient vineyard acreage to supply production requirements, relying instead on arrangements to buy grapes from numerous small growers.

Champagne's prosperity depended on the mutual interests shared among landowners and the companies that made and marketed the wine. Although power ultimately remained with the mercantile aristocracy, everyone benefited. The relationship between the groups formalized in 1959 in a general contract, renewable annually, encouraged growers to plant additional vines, assured them a stable price, and allocated supplies according to each company's requirements.

This system broke down in 1990. Growers felt they were not achieving a satisfactory return. In asserting independence from the Grandes Marques, they sought to reverse the area's long-standing power relationships. The result, according to Bollinger's Christian Bizot, has been an "erosion of the market." Every grape buyer now negotiates separately with the growers, rather than working from industrywide regulated price formulas. The companies responsible for cultivating champagne's global image have consequently lost their controlling position.

New lower-priced champagnes, without ongoing reputations to uphold, have arisen and seized market share. These so-called generic champagnes avoid high promotional expenses and allegedly take numerous short cuts instead of pursuing the costly quality-enhancement measures the Grandes Marques traditionally follow. The champagne houses fear that, as a result, consumers will grow confused about what champagne is supposed to be and that faith in its excellence will diminish.

Are these concerns justified? Why, after all, should consumers pay a premium for the well-known names rather than switch to the no-name competitors? What actually distinguishes them? To clarify these issues, the Association of Grandes Marques has enacted a set of internal rules to govern their production practices. The intent is to specify what constitutes a Grande Marque and to publicize why alternatives are no bargain.

The central points involve: buying grapes from superior vineyards; assuming full responsibility for making the wine rather than simply appending a label to finished bottles; blending in specified quantities of reserve wines that lend character; and practicing lengthier aging regimes than required by law. All of these measures (better raw materials, higher quality control, financing the stocks until maturity) inevitably increase the price, but should also make a finer wine.

As always, the proof is in the bottle. In my experience, many Grandes Marques are performing better now than ever. An opportunity to enjoy some Pol Roger Brut N.V. last week halted conversation in its tracks. The wine's structure, stylistic precision and wave of overlapping flavors invited comment and applause. Champagne aficionados, who have always rewarded quality, should take note not to compromise now with overnight labels. Their best guarantee remains a company with a reputation to defend. As Philippe Court of Taittinger recently told me with pride, "We don't know how to make the inferior wines. We don't have the technology for it." ❑

Alisan Arnett, Bastan Globe

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Restaurant Listings

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A Steak in the Neighborhood
39 Dalton St., Boston, in the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, 262-1822.
Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve in a relaxed style, add music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'til 1a.m. daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer or a 12-oz,New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

Akbar India Restaurant
1248 Cambridge St.,Cambridge, 497-6548.
Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting.Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials complementing a menu that offers various Indian dishes including thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on an all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music Thursday through Saturday nights(no cover). Akbar also offers a full bar. If you're not in the mood to dine in, you can call for take-out or delivery. Free parking is available. Open daily 12 to 11 p.m.

Anthony's Pier 4
140 Northern Ave., Boston, 482-6262.
Boston's world-renowned seafood restaurant, Anthony's Pier 4 is bustling with international, national and local clientele. Besides offering one of the finest views of Boston Harbor and the skyline, the restaurant has received numerous awards such as first place in Sales and Marketing magazine's Business Executives Dining Award for 14 years. Specialties are the freshest harvest from the sea, including New England lobster, Boston scrod, as well as a variety of fine meats.

Bennett St. Cafe
The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.
Chef Peter Davis, formerly of the Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA, has created a totally new menu, including new rotisserie specialties, tasty fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit our fabulous Sunday Brunch Buffet, known for its raw bar, omelets made to order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are! Open 6:30 a.m.-11 a.m. for breakfast, lunch 11 a.m. -3 p.m., and dinner 3-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 11 p.m.

Bennino's Restaurant
1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Day's Inn. Adjacent to the Charles River, Brighton, 254-4336.
Major credit cards accepted.
A moderately priced authentic Italian restaurant featuring home style specialties including seafood verdicchio, chicken, broccoli & ziti, and pasta fiesta with up to 70 combinations of different pastas, sauces, and toppings. You'll always find the food to be freshly prepared and everything homemade. There is live entertainment in the lounge Tuesday through Saturday starting at 8:00 p.m. Lunch served from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Thursday from 4:30 to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4:30-10 p.m.

Blue Wave
142 Berkeley St., Boston, 424-6711.
The Blue Wave concept is based on a healthy and innovative West Coast style, stressing fresh, clean food, generous portions, creative open spaces, and prompt and friendly service. The reasonably priced menu features rotisserie chicken, grilled foods, simple pastas, and sautés. All items are available for take-out. Blue Wave offers a full bar and intriguing wine and beer selections. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Blue Wave's Sunday brunch is served from 11 a.m.to 5 p.m., and is one of Boston's best. Open daily 11:30 a.m.- 11 p.m.

Cafe Rubino
226 Newbury Street, Boston, 247-2080.
Mastercard and Visa accepted.
At Cafe Rubino, Newbury Street's only pasta bar, there is something for everyone. A favorite is the New Orleans Italian sandwich, the muffelatta, as well as authentic pasta dishes. Stop in for morning coffee or afternoon espresso, and try the delicious cakes and tortes. Take out available. Hours are Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Canestaro Pizzeria
16 Peterborough St., Boston, 266-8997.
Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so drop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer 30 different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, and sun-dried tomatoes, just to name a few. Also featured are pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. Free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

Captain's Wharf
356 Harvard St., Brookline, 566-5590.
The best seafood restaurant in town, Captain's Wharf has the freshest seafood you'll find anywhere outside the ocean itself! Captain's Wharf always offers large portions at great prices-delicious dinner specials like one pound lobsters for $9.95, shrimp and garlic fettucine for $9.95, and Cajun catfish for $7.25. There's an extensive seafood menu sure to thrill the taste buds. Terrific lunch specials are served from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., for the low price of $4.75-$5.95. Beer and wine are always available, as is a raw bar. You can't beat the food, the prices, or the service, so stop by today! Conveniently located on Harvard St. next to the Coolidge Corner T-stop. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Free parking available.

Cityside at the Circle
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining, weather permitting. Serving Sunday-Wednesday until 10 p.m., Thursday-Saturday until 10:30 p.m.

Commonwealth Brewing Company
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.
Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, BBQ, and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. The atmosphere is a casual brewery, big and bold with copper everything—brewing kettles, tabletops, bar, and ventilation ducts. The English-style ales are robust, unpasteurized, hand-pumped, and brewed right on the premises. Live music every Friday and Saturday night. Open Sundays from noon to 10 p.m., Monday- Thursday 11:30 a.m. to midnight,and Friday and Saturday until 1 a.m.

Cornucopia on the Wharf
100 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-0300.
New American-New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are spectacular-Cornucopia won the Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for "Tastiest Dessert. Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar" in Boston. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised. Open for lunch Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner Monday-Thursday 5:30-10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 10:30p.m.

Daily Catch Restaurants
323 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 523-8567.
215 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville, 623-0375.
261 Northern Ave., Boston's Fish District, 338-3093, 441 Harvard St., Brookline 734-5696.
This original 20-year-old Sicilian-style seafood & pasta restaurant is best known for its specialty-classic calamari. The menu is based on traditional Sicilian recipes—synonymous with healthy eating. "For those of us who suffer from a clear addiction to shellfish and squid, the existence of the Daily Catch has been a source of comfort for many years," Robert Levey, The Boston Globe, December 1989.

Davio's
269 Newbury St., 262-4810. Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810
202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
Davio's in Boston captures the flavor of Newbury Street. Experience the finest in Northern Italian dining in a cozy, friendly setting where uniquely prepared homemade pasta, veal and seafood dishes are specialties. The Brookline location is in the heart of quaint Brookline Village, and the Cambridge restaurant overlooks the Charles River. Wherever you are in the Boston area, one of Davio's three distinctive restaurants is only minutes away.

Dick's Last Resort
55 Huntington Ave., Boston, 267-8080.
Major credit cards accepted – Dick loves cash.
A restaurant (of sorts), Dick's has the kind of food that is not particularly fashionable and definitely not spa cuisine–buckets of messy ribs, chicken, catfish, shrimp, lobster and crab legs, served on butcher paper. There are also 74 kinds of beer for the novice or serious sudsman. Dick's has obnoxious live classic rock, rhythm & blues and Dixieland jazz seven nights a week, no cover charge, no dress code and certainly no class. On Sunday, Dick got religion and hired some gospel singers for a surprisingly good brunch from 10am to 3pm. A buffet full of goodies such as salads, hot entrées, omelet station, waffles, desserts and make-your-own sundae station. Dick's Last Resort is billed as "The shame of Boston's Back Bay" and an embarrassment to any neighborhood. Dick says, "Although the food is good and there's plenty of it, places with great food are a dime a dozen." It's the restaurant's style (or lack of it), loud music, wisecracking service people, bullyish doormen, and insulting promotional attitudes that raise eyebrows. Open Monday-Saturday from 11 a.m.-2 a.m., 10 a.m.-2 a.m. Sunday. Free parking after 5 p.m.

Dolce Vita
237 Hanover St., Boston, 720-0422.
Located in the heart of the North End-come and experience the hustle and bustle of little Italy. Specializing in Northern and Southern Italian cuisine, with lots of seafood. Special dishes include seafood Alexander, gnocchi, quattro-fromaggi, veal Grand Marnier, and chicken Sicilian. Open seven days from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

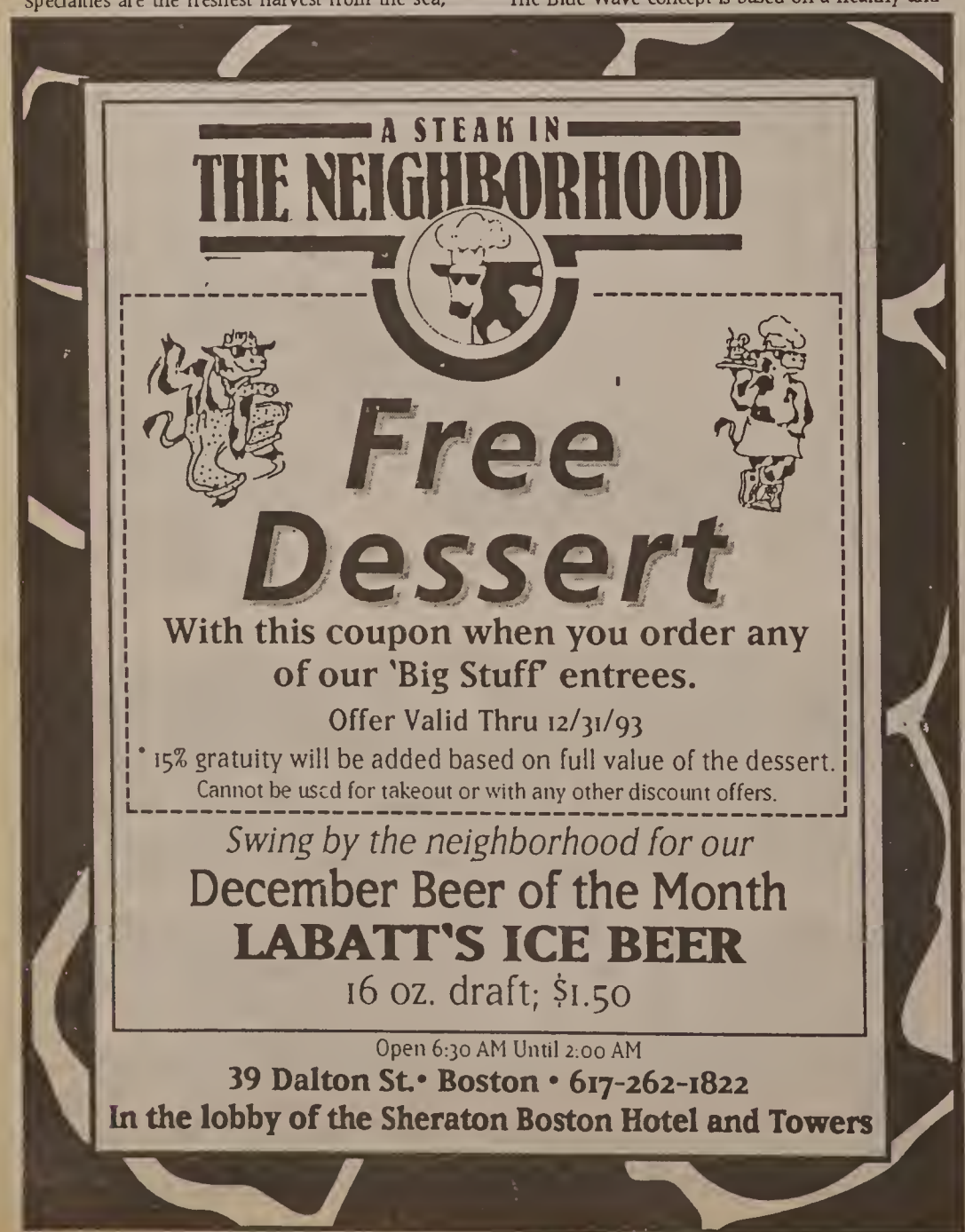
The Fishery
718 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 868-8800.
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Dock yourself at The Fishery's hand-crafted, boat-shaped raw bar or enjoy dinner in its casual, nautical dining room. The Fishery's own pan-fried crab cakes rival Maryland's best. "Delicious pan-fried crab cakes." The Boston Herald.. The Boston Phoenix calls The Fishery "a local gem," and The Fishery Calamari "irresistibly addictive." The Fishery is proud to serve only the freshest, quality seafood. Specialties include: sour cream and mustard catfish, lemongrass mussels, southwestern shrimp, and a variety of grilled seafood. Open Monday-Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m, and 12 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The Fish Pier
667 East Broadway, South Boston, 269-2111.
The largest selection of fresh, fried, baked, and broiled seafood and the friendliest service in South Boston characterize the Fish Pier restaurant. The menu also includes a multitude of chicken dishes, prime and BBQ ribs, sandwiches, salads, appetizers, chowders, and other hearty American fare. The ample portions of sea scallops, fresh fish, prime rib, and other house specialties come at a price that will please your accountant. (The Boston Globe's Cheap Eats reviewers rave about the Fish Pier). Mention the Improper Bostonian and enjoy a free appetizer with your dinner! Come to South Boston's neighborhood mecca for fresh seafood or call up for delivery anywhere in Boston. Open for lunch and dinner: Monday and Tuesday 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday 10: 30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 12-9 p.m.

Gandhi Restaurant
704 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 491-1104.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy a fresh and healthy, light and spicy menu that offers a plenitude of vegetable, seafood, chicken and lamb entrees. For vegi lovers-baingen bartha, eggplant cooked with peas and tomatoes, and bhindi bhuna, fresh okra roasted with onion, ginger and garlic are exotic treats. Gandhi offers tender chicken and lamb dishes cooked in curry sauces or with vegetables. Shrimp Nargassi, shrimp cooked with spinach, and fish vindaloo, spicy fresh curry mix with potato, are other light and healthy alternatives. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week, lunch 12-3 p.m., dinner 3-11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

Geoffrey's Café - Bar
651 Boylston St., Boston, 437-6400.
578 Tremont St., Boston, 266-1122.
With two convenient locations, in the heart of the Back Bay and in the South End Geoffrey's Cafe - Bar has become a favorite for many of the locals. Geoffrey's serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner and decadent desserts 7 days a week. Geoffrey's prides itself with serving the healthiest portions of the freshest food at extremely reasonable prices and was the Improper Bostonian's winner for "Best Waitress" and "Best Brunch." Stop by one of their two locations today. Open Monday-Thursday 7:30

Continued on Page 28



Movable Feasts/ By R.E. Brunson

BRAVO, ENZO'S

"... In a nutshell, the food was great, the service was excellent and the ambiance, magical..."

Enzo's Ristorante d'Italia sits on Harvard Street in the Coolidge Corner neighborhood of Brookline. The owner, Enzo Raggiani, oversees the restaurant and brings his own touch to its operation; he can be found seating guests, checking on preparation in the kitchen, or chatting with the regular customers. The dishes on the menu come from the many regions of Italy and show influences from the country's northern neighbors, Switzerland and France. The Friday evening after Thanksgiving, our party was tired of turkey and anxious for a meal with origins outside of the continental United States. The restaurant looks plain on the outside, but inside, the dining room is skillfully painted. On the right, the large stones of an ancient building cover the wall, and on the left, a painted railing borders a vista of Italian countryside. We felt as if we were dining on a terrace.

What followed was a wonderful time, one in which all the elements that make up a total dining experience came together. In a nutshell, the food was great, the service was excellent and the ambiance, magical.

It all started with the Aperol, an Italian aperitif similar to Campari. It appeared at the table and seduced us, mixed with grapefruit and orange juice, a touch of grenadine and topped with slices of citrus fruits and a strawberry. With such a summery look and flavor, we were transported (remember that famous madeleine?) from bleak Boston to the sunny hills of Italy. All around us were the signs, even the bird painted on the wall seemed to break into song. Thankfully, Ed, our waiter, was there to guide us, making several recommendations that were winning. The service was attentive but not intrusive, and before we could even look up, our needs were taken care of.

Food, yes, there was food. And it began, as most meals do, with bread. The bread was a foccacia, homemade; it was light and chewy and soaked with rosemary olive oil. Our group also used it to soak up the delicious sauces that surrounded most of the food.

And then there were the appetizers, of which we ordered several. The first was a special of grilled polenta with porcini mushrooms. I can see it now, a thin strip of polenta marked by the heat of the grill and covered with chopped porcini mushrooms. The porcini flavor was intense in the sauce; we suspected that a reduction of the cooking liquid supplied the flavor. We loved it. In fact, most of the sauces we sampled had intensified flavors. It all comes back to me now. The second appetizer we ordered was the antipasto Enzo. The plate arrived in a portion for two, and so spectacular in appearance was it — with its garnish of radicchio and grilled endive — that initially we didn't want to touch it. Among the antipasti, featured items included imported prosciutto over cantaloupe, roasted peppers and buffalo mozzarella covered with olive oil and pesto sauce. For an unusual touch, we tried smoked salmon over sliced fennel and fresh chicken-liver paté on crostini. Not a scrap remained on our plate. And as far as the next appetizer is concerned, the gamberi Alexandra, it was as wonderful as the rest. Enough said.

So what else did we have?, you may ask. Well, appetizers alone have never been enough to satisfy our party, so it was on to the big plates and larger portions of the entrees. (If *you* are already filled by the appetizers, skip ahead to the desserts.)

The first entree was a special called Marco Polo. It contained tender bay scallops and jumbo shrimp (a little overdone) in a flavorful white-wine sauce with red peppers and parsley. Molded rice with parsley filled the center of the plate. The dish was very pleasing, both to the taste buds and to the eye. Our pasta choice was the seafood raviolis. The pasta had the velvety touch of fresh, homemade pasta, and the seafood filling went well with the light tomato sauce. It was garnished with open clams. And the most unusual dish was the *pollo alla contadina*, a chicken breast pounded to the thickness of a tortilla, covered in a dark, spicy tomato sauce, and filled with red-and-yellow peppers and spicy sausage. Sliced string beans and onions arranged in a radicchio leaf garnished the side of the plate. My memory gets better (and salivation starts) with the revisiting of every bite. And for your information, we discovered that the kitchen is happy to accommodate special requests.

Now, as far as dessert is concerned, we have a pact. Even if a member of our party has no desire for dessert, they still have to order one so that we can sample it. Two of our favorites were the zabaglione and the tiramisu. The zabaglione came in a goblet; was warm, light and foamy (from the whipped egg yolks); and had a sharp bite that came from the marsala wine. Pieces of tart kiwi fruit were mixed in. This dessert was a winner.

The tiramisu had the usual components, ladyfingers, cocoa and espresso, but with the addition of zabaglione to the mascarpone cheese, the filling became light as a cloud. It disappeared as soon as it touched our tongues.

After finishing our desserts, we discovered that we had lingered past the closing time. And if they hadn't bid us good night, we might never have left. ❑

IF YOU GO

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Green Briar Restaurant
304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.
Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, steaks, salads and burgers at this Brighton Irish restaurant. Daily lunch and dinner specials. Brunch every Sunday 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Casual, relaxed atmosphere. Private function room available. Open from 11 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days a week.

Grendel's Restaurant and Bar
89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160.
Major credit cards accepted.
Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, curries, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Hours for the restaurant are Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

Harvard Street Grill
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.
Major credit cards accepted.
Contemporary international cuisine is prepared personally by chef John Vyhnanek is a casually elegant Euro-style storefront restaurant. The ever-changing menu may include: grilled salmon with shiitake, spinach, bean sprouts, ginger, and tamari; smoked chicken and tart cherry pate, or the house specialty: grilled rack of lamb with hoisin sauce and desserts such as chocolate ganache flan with warm caramel sauce, lemon buttermilk tart with blueberry coulis, or homemade fruit ice. 1993 Wine Spectator award of excellence, 1993 Ivy award. Open Tuesday-Thursday 5:30-9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10:30 p.m. Reservations suggested. Parking in rear.

House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free monday-Saturday,12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

Icarus
3 Appleton Street, Boston, 426-1790.
Major credit cards accepted.
Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades from critics and fans alike, including "Best Reastaurant" from the Improper Bostonian.. Chef-owner Chris Dougalss' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent menu highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeno sorbet, juniper and pepper-crusted venison, and a wellfleet littleneck clam roast with tomatoes, basil, and zucchini. A sumptuous list of homemade desserts, a full bar and an extensive and well-rounded wine list complement this exciting cuisine. The mahogany trimmed, bi-level dining room features soft lighting, mismatched period pieces and spacious seating. Dinner nightly from 6-10 p.m., until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Monday-Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

India Pavilion
17 Central Square(on Western Ave), Cambridge, 547-7463.
Major Credit cards accepted.
Savor royal recipes, preserved from the time of the mughalsi India Pavilion offers delicious Indian cuisine, cooked in traditional Indian style. From a host of entrees select lamb entrees such as lamb pasanda, or chicken entrees such as chicken kandhari; chicken cooked in a cream sauce with cashews, and chicken masala; chicken cooked in a thick curry sauce. The menu offers other meat dishes such as beef shahjhani and shahjahni biryani, as well as popular vegetable enrees like malai kofta, vegetable balls fried and cooked in a delicious sauce. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime, and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week. Lunch12-3 p.m., dinner 3- 11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, 776-2004.
Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and now it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around, and it's healthy to boot. Natural free-range, antibiotic-free beef, chicken, eggs, and more. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna with Jamaican relish, and homemade pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. The atmosphere is unpretentious and casual, and prices are reasonable. In October, enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., brunch is served Saturday and Sunday 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Located on the red line.

Jose's Mexican Food
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, 354-0335.
For the feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. Jose's has been serving up authentic Mexican food for 10 years. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into the burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. lunch specials Monday-Friday 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., Saturday 12-4 p.m. Dinner Monday-Thursday 4-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 -11 p.m., Sunday 4 -9 p.m.Handicapped accessible,

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
Looking for a great place to take yourself or the family for delicious food that won't hurt your wallet? The Kells of Boston is the place for you. With an authentic Irish atmosphere and menu sure to please all. After starting the meal with appetizers like potato skins or shrimp cocktail, the posibilities are endless. Meat lovers are sure to be thrilled with the large New York sirloin steak or teriyaki steak tips, while dishes from the sea include baked stuffed shrimp, New England broiled scrod, scallops, and more. Childrens portions are also available. This is more than just another Irish pub and restaurant; The Kells prides itself on great food, prices, and service. Food specials all day. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. for cocktails. Parties and functions welcome.

Legal Seafood
Park Plaza Hotel: Restaurant & Café 35 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-4444. Statler Office Building: 27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566. Kendall Square: 5 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, 864-3400. Chestnut Hill: 43 Boylston St., Rt 9, 277-7300. Copley Place: 100 Huntington Ave. Boston, 266-7775. Prudential Center: 800 Boylston St., Boston, 266-6800.
Rightly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Sea Foods has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by his motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the seafood casserole - a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp, and scrod.

Lucia Ristorante
415 Hanover St., North End, Boston, 367-2353.
Since 1877 Lucia Ristorante has followed a basic philosophy: to present authentic cucina Italiana as well as innovative dishes with a pledge toward freshness and quality. Lucia's sets the stage in a unique and interesting atmosphere. At Lucia's you will always have something new to discover about Italy's culinary tradition. Open Monday-Thursday 4 to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Sunday 1 to 11 p.m.

Magnolias Southern Cuisine
1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971.
Major credit cards accepted.
Formerly The Cajun Yankee. Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings the best the south has to offer. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep fried cheese, home smoked salmon and goat cheese, and blackened scallops. Entrees include Maryland soft shell crabs, grilled pork loin with corn relish and hot pepper jelly, blackened prime rib, and sautéed shrimp with pineapple and cherry tomatoes with southern cilantro pesto, and pan-seared tuna Belle Watlings' style. The dining room has been completely renovated for your dining comfort. Open Tuesday-Saturday 6-10 p.m.

Maison Robert
45 School St., Boston, 227-3370.
Two restaurants and café bar. Elegant formal dining rooms and unique private party rooms for meetings and parties. Cosy intimate café with private party rooms like the "vault". A nice place to gather with friends is the newly renovated café bar entered through the terrace. This sunny space makes you feel like the warm waters of the Mediterranean are just outside. The new bar menu offers tastes of the Mediterranean with your favorite drink. Prix fixe complete dinner in the café at $15 and $22. Serving lunch, cocktails and dinner.

Mamma Maria
3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code.
If you're looking for an evening of refined dining pleasure, set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, look no further. Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Cholce Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's "Best of the Best", offers five separate dining rooms, a picturesque glass terrace with quaint street views, and a room just for two. Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes succulent offerings such as boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu, and daily baked bread. Be sure to save room for offerings created by their own pastry chef. Open 7 nights a week Monday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 5-10 p.m.; Lunch: Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959.
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

Restaurant Listings, cont.

master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel, serves mouth-watering dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Very close to North Station T stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront
85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.
Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom raviolis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. When you're choosing your beverage, keep in mind that Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in the Improper Bostonian 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sunday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features extensive continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes such as Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave, Boston, 536-1904
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here; they do it differently than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 7 days a week from 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

La Piccola Venezia
63 Salem Street, Boston, 523-9802.
No credit cards accepted.
Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, polenta, tripe, scungilli, baked caratelli, veal scallopini, and traditional pasta favorites. Hours 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Poppa & Goose
69 First St., Cambridge, 497-6772.
Created by several Harvard, MIT, and Tufts alumni, Poppa & Goose's main mission is to serve as the link between the local community and Cambridge's greatest resource: the country's largest and most diverse international student population. The theme of the restaurant and market is to promote cultural awareness through culinary tradition. The menu attests to this theme, with its ever-growing variety of authentic international dishes contributed by students. The "Poppa & Goose Community Kitchen" is dedicated to cooking classes conducted by volunteering international students. Come and be chef for an evening; relax in the cheerful dining room and enjoy scrumptious food at reasonable prices; or take a Poppa & Goose kit home and effortlessly prepare an exotic dish in your own kitchen. Whether you are in the mood to eat, cook, or participate in cultural exchange, Poppa & Goose's door is open. Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dinner 5:30-10 p.m. daily.

Positano
93 Salem St., North End, 367-4878.
Major credit cards accepted.
At Positano, you will experience the flavor and warmth of the Mediterranean Amalfi Coast right in Boston's North End. Within Positano's friendly, casual decor, ample portions of authentic, carefully crafted recipes are served up at everyday prices. Start your meal with their fresh antipasto, a medley of grilled eggplant, shiitake mushrooms, zucchini, and roasted Belgian peppers; or a salad of homemade mozzarella, plum tomatoes, and fresh basil. Enjoy linguini tossed with swordfish in a fresh basil sauce for a mere $9.95, or chicken saltimbocca layered with fontina cheese, and Parma prosciutto in a cream sauce for $10.95. All of the prices are this reasonable! Come in any time of day for Positano's truly home-style Italian cooking. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.

The Red Terrier Grille
1096 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 566-4144.
One of the few restaurants in Boston where breakfast is served all day everyday. Owners Carol Tringali and Robert DeFilippo serve home-cooked meals. They boast huge portions and exceptional value. Dinner prices range from $5 to $6. Try hot home-cooked dinners with real mashed potatoes, the roast beef dinner, stuffed roast pork, or corned beef and cabbage, just to name a few. Open Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday - Friday 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Ristorante Rosina
379 Hanover St., Boston, 523-8481
Located on one of the most famous streets of the North End, Ristorante Rosina specializes in Italian cuisine, featuring seafood, veal, chicken. Ask about the grilled-pizza special, which changes daily. The cathedral ceilings add to the airy, romantic atmosphere. Open Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday 12-10 p.m., dinner menu only.

Ristorante Schifano
21 Broad St. in the Courtyard, Boston, 523-0590.
Ristorante Schifano provides a sophisticated but affordable venue for lovers of fine Italian cuisine. Ristorante Schifano will satisfy even the most refined tastes with nouveau and traditional Italian dishes—all prepared to perfection. Menu highlights include unusual pastas with unique sauces, grilled specialties, fresh meat and seafood entrees, and wonderful desserts made fresh daily. Ristorante Schifano also offers Boston's best affordable wine list to enhance each dish. Take out and corporate catering available. Large parties welcome. Open Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday 5-9 p.m. Closed Sunday.

Rosie's Italian Kitchen
95 North Washington St., Boston, 523-8769.
American Express and cash only.
Rosie has been cooking in her Italian kitchen for 18 years. This open-kitchen restaurant located in the North End is not to be missed. Some of Rosie's creations include her famous veal franchese, veal parmigiana, and many shrimp, chicken, and pasta dishes. The atmosphere is warm and cozy,and the prices are very reasonable. Imported beer and wine. Open Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7 days a week from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Tuesday 5-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday until 11 p.m.

Taj Mahal at Kenmore
484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving all traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. If you're especially hungry for Indian food, and conscious of your wallet, try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3-11 p.m. Take out and delivery is always available.

Third & Charles Bar & Grill
202 Third St.,Cambridge; Kendall Square, 547-9310.
Major credit cards accepted.
Don't let the name fool you; the T&C is a bit of Mexico moved to Cambridge. Featuring food "mild, hot, or insane," the menu includes everything from traditional tacos to the house specialty T&C pollo—a chicken breast with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a light sour cream sauce. To rinse it all down, try a brew from the extensive beer list, or a margarita in an exotic flavor like melon or black raspberry. Moderately priced with an extensive bar. For an atmosphere that is as lively and colorful as the food, stop by the T&C. Take out available. Serving food Monday-Wednesday from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; until 11 p.m. Thursday-Sunday. Bar closes at 12:30 a.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring fresh seafood, poultry, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas made to order, and great hamburgers. The Sunday brunch offers made to order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest, and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities available, free parking. Just one-fourth of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

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1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston-Boston, 232-4242.
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include chile poblano relleno, roast chicken enchiladas, fajitas, Brunch Chili, Louisiana Lost Bread and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sunday 12-3 p.m.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600.
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. You can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an a la carte menu from traditional Eggs Benedict to sizzling fajitas. Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Arrive early and enjoy brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225.
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-7440.
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine indigenous to our American southwest brings to you wonderful brunch items such as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays, too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Boston, 426-1790.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Red line.776-2004.
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual, low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. "One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"- Boston Globe. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30 p.m.Cajun dancing every Monday 8 p.m. with Krewe de Roux, and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30 p.m. Great food- Why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

THE KELLS
161 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub and restaurant features one of the best brunch offerings in the area. Sundays at The Kells means all you can eat brunch for just $6.95! Some of the many delectable items from which you can select include steamship roast beef, honey baked ham, chicken curry, rice pilaf, scrambled eggs, a variety of salads and much more. Great lunch and dinner menus also available, with special children's portions—all at Kells' low prices. Food specials available all day, every day. Brunch hours are Sunday 11:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Open 7 nights until 2 a.m.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049.
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995.
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates, hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.



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What Ales You

"...Harpoon Brewery is hosting a holiday bash, with the profits to benefit Rosie's Place, a center for homeless women..."

Brew You

Harpoon Brewery is hosting a holiday bash on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 3 to 11 p.m. with the profits to benefit Rosie's Place, a center for homeless women. The proceeds will be used to buy food during the holiday season. There will be complimentary fare from restaurants such as Olive's, Providence, Anago Bistro and the Blue Room. Live entertainment will continue throughout the evening, and drawings for ski-lift tickets will be held. Cash bars will be stocked with a full array of Harpoon beers, including the Harpoon Winter Warmer, a spiced dark ale. The brewery is located at 306 Northern Ave. in Boston. Tickets will only be sold at the door on the night of the party, and the number is limited. Call the brewery at 574-9551 for more information.

Juicy Details

Trattoria Pulcinelli will open next week in the old Chez Nous spot on 147 Huron Ave. in Cambridge. It will feature moderately priced Italian food and a chef from Italy. Best of luck. A Thanksgiving thank you to Chef **Christopher Moos** and the staff at the **Cafe Suisse** in the Swissôtel. Our party of nine had a wonderful time and was treated royally at the Thanksgiving Day luncheon. **Charlotte Bogardus** is making a move to the marketing department at the Coffee Connection. Look for **Anago Bistro** to be featured in the "Best New Restaurant" article in the January edition of *Bon Appetit*. **St. Cloud** on Tremont Street in the South End is starting a late-night dessert buffet on Friday and Saturday nights from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. Who says there aren't any places to go for late-night food and fun?

More Juicy Details

Union Square Bistro in Somerville is offering what it calls "personalized preparation" in both the cafe downstairs and in the restaurant. Diners can build their own meals with items from the menu. If you don't like that broccoli, away it goes. Congratulations to **Community Servings** on the success of its "Pie in the Sky" fund-raiser. In it, restaurants donated pies whose profits went to furnishing meals for homebound AIDS patients and their families. Community Servings now needs 200 people for its next project, which is to coordinate holiday baskets that will be delivered on Christmas Day to homebound families. For info or to volunteer, call Robbie at 287-1605. **Buonicconti's** restaurant in Cambridge has a new grazing menu, with appetizers such as telephone-wire risotto, roasted rounds of risotto filled with fontina cheese and grilled focaccia with goat cheese. They are inexpensive and are also served at the bar. ❑



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BAR & CLUB LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

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COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.
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DANCING

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5 Boylston Place, Boston, 423-3832.
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EUROPA INTERNATIONAL BAR & CLUB
51 Stuart St. in Boston's theatre district, 482-6440.
If you're looking for a Friday night party, come dance for free at Europa, but don't forget your blue Improper Bostonian Europa/Roxy coupon from the October 27 and November 10 issues. Fridays are Club Classics Nights with DJ Tony Z, a buffet by Jacob Wirth from 8:30-10 p.m., and live performances in the lounge and piano bar, 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturdays and Wednesdays are International Night, 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Sundays: Brazilian Night, 9:30 p.m.-2a.m. Mondays: Ebony Night Out, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Thursdays: Asian Night, 11 p.m.-2 a.m. Call for live music info. Proper attire required.

ROXY
279 Tremont St. in the Tremont House, 227-7699.
Come dance and mingle in Boston's most elegant nightclub. FREE ADMISSION to the Roxy on Saturday nights with the blue Roxy/Europa pass from the Improper Bostonian's October 27 and November 10 issues.

GENERAL

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IRISH

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THE GREEN DRAGON TAVERN
11 Marshall Street, Boston, 367-0055.
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The Green Dragon was called "Headquarters Of The Revolution." Originally founded in 1657, this was the original site for the planning of the Boston Tea Party and the meeting place for important patriot groups. The Sons of Liberty and the Boston Society of Mechanics met here regularly. The Green Dragon Tavern is open daily 11a.m. to 2 a.m. with entertainment nightly. The Tavern serves lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch with daily lobster specials and 13 beers on draft.

THE HARP AT THE GARDEN
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About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

T.G.I. FLED

"...Things were looking grim. I was trapped at the bar at Friday's with men who sold probes to proctologists. What did I do to deserve this?..."

You want to know who goes to T.G.I. Friday's? (Thank God It's Friday's. Hah.) Well, I'll tell you. Tourists and airline stewardesses. Sure, there's a smattering of obnoxious suburbanites with kids having birthdays who come for the "cute" uniforms and the raucous hurrah that accompanies every birthday cake; there are also a few random Bostonians who have dazedly stumbled in for a drink before passing on to other venues. But for the most part, it's out-of-towners and air hostesses. And I'll tell you why. You can go to a Friday's in any part of the country and expect and receive the same mediocrity in fare and atmosphere. Now that's something to be proud of. All across the nation, Friday's is the standard-bearer of the bland.

For the unadventurous or the slowwitted, it's perfect. Why try something daring and different when you can slouch into Friday's and know exactly what you are getting yourself into? For the lonely businessman or airport jetsam, Friday's on Newbury Street offers the unique qualities of being close to all the major hotels and the company of kindred souls also drowning in their drinks.

I can understand the comfort of the familiar. I can understand that Friday's is right in the heart of the Back Bay, making it easily accessible, and I can even understand (although only barely) thinking that the *faux* -saloon decor and the wait staff wearing those goober buttons that say things such as "Kiss me — I'm a waiter" are charming. But I cannot even begin to comprehend waiting interminably in line to get into someplace that's about as exciting as Kmart on a red-dot day. I mean, people are piling up in line out front, on a perfectly good weekend night. "Huh, ayuh, goin' to Friday's, it's pissa!"

Now Boston may not compare to New York when it comes to nightlife options. But please! Surely you can do better than this!

I know that I am undoubtedly upsetting some die-hard Friday's fans right now. To its credit, Friday's does have a couple of good points, which I will list immediately, in the interest of peace: 1) They make the best Texas tea in town and 2) The wait staff does tend to be generally helpful (and friendly to the point of nausea).

Despite these accolades on Friday's behalf, the only way I personally can tolerate the place is with an I.V. solution of that Texas tea tapped directly into a main vein. This tends to dull my sensibilities sufficiently enough that I can even create the semblance of a good time. I admit, I would be a liar if I said that I have never had a fun evening at Friday's; but the recollection is so dim, I find it hard to remember exactly what took place. I do believe that I started making eyes at one of the businessmen who was making moves on one of the stewardesses, and things went downhill from there.

On the other side of me were some guys from Waltham who thought that Friday's was the end-all and be-all of Boston bars. I remember thinking "T.G.I.F." (Thank God I Fled from the suburbs) as I stumbled into that adds-so-much-to-the-atmosphere phone booth Friday's has in the middle of the restaurant, whereupon I promptly got locked in.

After trying vainly to make my escape, I resigned myself to my fate and called everyone I knew who lives more than 100 miles away, collect. I couldn't believe that more of my "friends" weren't happier to hear from a slightly intoxicated me at 1:30 in the morning.

When some kind soul finally let me out of my prison and I returned to the bar, the Walthamites had departed, leaving me in the company of leering medical-equipment salesmen who were staying at the Lenox Hotel. Things were looking grim. I was trapped at the bar at Friday's with men who sold probes to proctologists. What did I do to deserve this? All I could think was "Forget about Friday; give me Monday, any day of the week.. ❑

The views expressed in this column are those of Lauren Dare and not necessarily those of The Improper Bostonian.

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234 Friend Street,Boston, at the Boston Garden, 742-6618.
Do you remember The Irish Embassy Pub in Falmouth? Of course you do! Now we are also at The Boston Garden. Come down and enjoy a great crowd in a fun, casual atmosphere. Sundays there are acoustic jams in the afternoon and a D.J. at night. Monday nights come down and beat the winter blues with our blues jam. Tuesdays: Eoin Woods. Wednesdays: Best original music. Thursdays: College cover bands. Fridays: Alternative music. Saturdays: Classic hits.

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KINVARA PUB
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400.
If you are looking for a lively pub with an Irish flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wednesday thru Sunday. Sunday night: DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guinness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2 a.m., with ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
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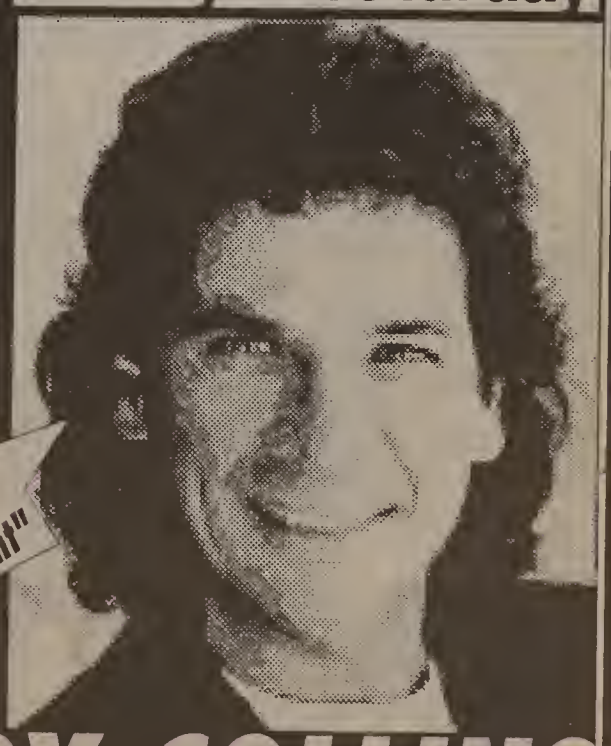


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XMAS IS HEAR

"...The most obvious (and expensive) gift is a boxed set, and record companies have made sure there's a lot from which to choose..."

Where did December come from so suddenly? Guess I was too busy listening to music. But at least I have ideas on what to buy the music fan on your holiday gift list.

The most obvious (and expensive) gift is a boxed set, and record companies have made sure there's a lot from which to choose. You can get everything the Police ever recorded (including rough, early singles) on *Message in a Box*, or dig into the magic of soulman Otis Redding on a new, definitive boxed set that includes an all-live CD for the effect of one concert. Both of those are four-CD sets, but boxes range from all of Led Zeppelin's albums on 10 discs to great two-CD packs that summarize the work of Dr. John, Los Lobos and John Coltrane.


Bjork

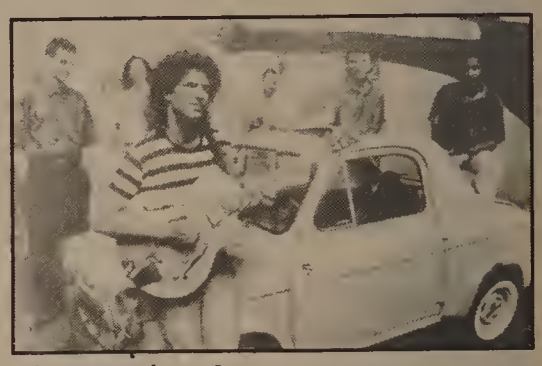
However, my favorite boxes are by King Crimson and Ella Fitzgerald. The casual fan of '70s progressive rock might fare better with *The Return of the Manticore*, the four-CD set of Emerson, Lake & Palmer. But prog-rock fans who truly want an intense venture should tap into Crimson's *The Great Deceiver*, a live four-CD chunk of shows from 1973-'74 — a cross between heavy metal and free-form jazz. Ella Fitzgerald's three-CD *First Lady of Song* is a testament to her peerless vocal gift, featuring many live rarities (from a duet with Louis Armstrong to usual favorites such as "Summertime").


Col. Bruce Hampton and the Aquarium Rescue Unit

The ultimate gift for the metal fan is possibly Metallica's *Live Sh*t: Binge and Purge*, which boasts three CDs and two videotapes. But you can't find a more dynamic, in-your-face band than veteran AC/DC in concert-video *Live at Donington*. A prize for country-folk fans might be the video version of Nanci Griffith's *Other Voices, Other Rooms*, a two-night Texas concert with Emmylou Harris, Iris DeMent, Jerry Jeff Walker, Odetta, Jimmie Dale Gilmore and others. And for rap fans, consider videos by Arrested Development (whose *Eyes as Hard as a Million Tombstones* mixes videos with concert-and-interview footage) and Public Enemy, whose *The Enemy Strikes Live* is a concert package that also includes controversial videos such as "By the Time I Get to Arizona."


Aimee Mann

As for individual CDs, you're right to be concerned that someone might already have the new Pearl Jam. But there are lots of others. Imagine a whimsical cross between Chrissie Hynde and Neil Young's Crazy Horse and you've got Bettie Serveert's *Palomine*. While Urge Overkill's punk-pop *Saturation* rocks, you can stretch soul-rock horizons beyond Prince with Terence Trent D'Arby's *Symphony or Damn*. Country-rock fans might taste Swinging Steaks' *Southside of the Sky*, while eclectic types could dive into Col. Bruce Hampton & the Aquarium Rescue Unit's psycho-bluegrass fusion on *Mirrors of Embarrassment*. You're not likely to find a better '60s-influenced pop record than Aimee Mann's *Whatever*, and Bjork's *Debut* is an innovative mix of atmospherics and dance beats.


The Pat Metheny Group

Among jazz CDs, cast any eye to Joe Henderson's *So Near, So Far (Musings for Miles)* — a Davis tribute with John Scofield, Dave Holland and Al Foster — or the first two albums from new tenor-sax sensation Joshua Redman (the newer *Wish* with Pat Metheny). And the Metheny Group's live *The Road to You* may be its best yet. Blues fans should dig deep-soul singer Mighty Sam McClain's *Give It Up to Love*. For a left-field choice, consider the sophisticated new tango sounds of Astor Piazolla on a new CD rerelease of *Tango: Zero Hour*; it's hard to find music more gripping and passionate.

Contemporary-folk fans should zero in on the latest from two local veterans. Bill Morrissey's creaky, poignant wit is intact on *Night Train*, while Patty Larkin's sublime *Angels Running* gives those other female singer-songwriters a run for their money.

On the ticket front, give a trip to the Harvard Winter Folk Festival (including local stars Greg Greenway and Ellis Paul, and Indiana's Carrie Newcomer) at Somerville Theater Feb. 26. It should be a great concert that's on sale now. ❑

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Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

SECOND FIDDLE

"...On the alleged 350th anniversary of composer Marc-Antoine Charpentier's birth, we mainly know what his jealous, career-long arch-rival Lully poison-penned about him..."

Some people are celebrating the 350th anniversary of Marc-Antoine Charpentier's birth. Some people are not. The date is uncertain. The most fascinating aspect of Charpentier's biography is the complete lack of detail, as he was thwarted at every turn by a vicious rival. Like a fossil, the imprint of Charpentier's life is recorded only in negative, impressed upon history through the maneuvers of those who sought to destroy his career and stifle his music. In this (projected) anniversary year, it's worth a look at Charpentier's life, and recordings new and old of his music, which with its ravishing melodies and bizarre harmonies, still preserves the clearest portrait of its elusive composer.

The young Charpentier — whomever he may have been — spent three years in Italy (although we don't know which years), working with Carissimi, master of Roman vocal music. Though Charpentier's ear for a lilting melody may have been French, his cunning use of choirs set against one another and his daring harmonies were largely Italian. An Erato release (45822-2) earlier this year provides several good examples of this: In the vigorous, little oratorio about the deaths of Saul and Jonathan, for example, choral battle rages in the background as Saul bellows ineffectual orders and prepares for his suicide; in another piece, unfortunately fragmentary, heaven resounds as Satan's armies clash stridently and harmonically with the Archangel Michael's.

Charpentier's life, after he returned from Italy, is a complete blank for some years. We know intimate details, however, of the movements of his arch-rival Lully (b. 11/28/1632), who came from Italy as a circus boy, quickly drew attention (by posing nude in the King's cousin's garden) and became an intimate of Louis XIV.

Charpentier's bold innovations went unnoticed, while Lully's rather dull, if danceable, court music drew the attention of press and peer alike. Lully collaborated with the comic-playwright Moliere, producing some passable sit-com music for lyric interludes. When Lully and Moliere fell out, Charpentier brilliantly filled Lully's post.

It was at this point that the vicious Lully began maneuvering. He convinced the king to issue an edict putting him in charge of all operatic endeavors in France. No one could sing in public without Lully's express permission. There was opposition. One of his opponents was paid off; another fled to England, where his valet received a fee to cut his throat.

Charpentier and Moliere were hard-hit by Lully's brutal edicts. Charpentier had to keep revising his scores as Lully demanded he use ever smaller orchestras. In the middle of a production of *Le Malade Imaginaire* — (*The Hypochondriac*, Harmonia Mundi 901336) — Moliere collapsed and quickly died (he wasn't faking it). Lully grabbed their theater, where, amid royal applause, he began to stage his interminable opera monopoly.

Because of Lully, Charpentier's work was largely confined to writing church music, so he made his church music as operatic and emotional as possible. His sets of Tenebrae responsories — florid images of the destruction of cities and the desecration of temples — provide a good example (e.g. *Lecons de Tenebre*, Virgin 59295, released earlier this year), although perhaps his most striking pieces are his dramatic oratorios; try, for example, William Christie's recording of *Cecilia, Virgin, and Martyr*, with its angelic arias, its choked, final death scene, and its howling choral lament (HM 90066).

By producing work for various churches, Charpentier eluded Lully's vicious machinations. Lully, meanwhile, was writing pompous and much-applauded music, living a scandalously bisexual lifestyle, and working on eliminating rivals. When a soprano confided that she was pregnant and would be unable to sing, he scowled, backed up a few paces, and kicked her solidly in the stomach. After the miscarriage, the opera's run continued quite successfully.

Several of Lully's friends were exiled, and others burned at the stake, but Lully knew enough about the chief of police's son — who defaced crucifixes and tortured whores — that he himself was hardly ever implicated in their crimes.

There had been an attempt to poison Lully's snuff, which had failed miserably. His final fate was fitting: he assembled one of the largest choirs and orchestras France had ever seen, to honor the king in a massive *Te Deum*, which he conducted by banging a pole on the ground. During the performance, he hit his foot with the pole, contracted gangrene and died.

Now was Charpentier's chance. The operatic monopoly was over. He produced two lyric tragedies, both of them masterpieces of frustration: *David et Jonathas* (Erato 45162-2) and *Medee* (HM 901139.41).

A few enlightened critics saw in Charpentier a new and vital fusion of the French and Italian styles. But most people complained that his music wasn't enough like Lully's. His opera flopped.

He died, we think, in 1704.

Let others celebrate the anniversaries of Monteverdi, Byrd and Grieg. We'd like to tip our hats to poor, forgotten Charpentier.

Whoever he was. ❑

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THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY LARA EWEN

S • M • T • W • T • F • S

			8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21				

SPECIAL EVENTS

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
Boston Park Plaza Hotel
457-2281
Have breakfast with Santa and his friends on Dec. 12, 18-19, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The kids can play with Museum of Science exhibits, meet guest hosts from FOX-25's Kids Club, and pose with Santa and help hotel chefs decorate holiday cookies. If you're feeling too old for that, there will be a delicious holiday breakfast buffet. All proceeds benefit the American Lung Association of Massachusetts, the Christmas Seal People. Tickets are $16 for big people and $12.50 for small ones.

AMERICAN RED CROSS HOLIDAY AUCTION
The Days Inn, 399 Grove St., Newton
527-6000
Drama! Suspense! Intrigue! Join the American Red Cross and *The Phantom of the Auction* at the ninth Annual Holiday Auction, Dec. 10. The festivities begin at 6 p.m., and the live auction starts at 7:45 p.m. Auction items include trips, tickets to sporting events, gift certificates, and more! Tickets are $10.

BRISTOL STUDIOS GLOBE SANTA BENEFIT
169 Mass. Ave., Boston
247-8689
On Sat., Dec. 11, Bristol Studios will host a night of live entertainment by some of the area's top singers. Money Bailey, Sharman Cree and others will perform some of their favorite Christmas carols their own way to help raise money for Globe Santa. Spearheaded by the *Boston Globe*, this charity event purchases toys for needy children in New England. The $5-admission fee will support this. Festivities begin at 9 p.m., and beer, wine, champagne and munchies will be offered. Call to reserve your seat!

BROOKLINE ARTS CENTER CRAFTS SHOWCASE
86 Monmouth St., Brookline
566-5716
The Brookline Arts Center has been busy with its 19th annual Crafts Showcase. It continues Dec. 9-12, and Dec. 16-19, from 12-7 p.m. Shop till you drop with more than 70 craftspeople selling their original work for $2 to $2,000. Admission is free.

HOLLY FAIR
Cambridge Center for Adult Education
42 & 56 Brattle St., Cambridge
547-6789
Cambridge's oldest traditional crafts fair will be celebrating its 40th anniversary, and you are invited eat, drink, shop and be merry! Enjoy such treats as a dip into their traditional wassail bowl, live llamas, a visit from Santa (of course!), and for the first time , a special Winter Wonderland for the children. And for you bargain hunters out there (and this season, that's pretty much everyone) there will be the famous White Elephant Sale, featuring an eclectic collection of found treasures. Open Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Dec. 12, 12-5 p.m. Admission is free, and proceeds are going to benefit CCAE's Scholarship Fund.

JAMAICA PLAIN ARTS COUNCIL
659 Centre St., Jamaica Plain
547-3816
Shop the world in Jamaica Plain as the Jamaica Plain Arts Council hosts their sixth-annual Crafts and Imports fair! In addition to the original handmade crafts and the exotic global imports, there will be a Christmas Tree sale in front of the Arts Center, sponsored by St. John's Church, with proceeds going to benefit the church and its ongoing programs at the Arts Center. Admission is free. Open Sat. and Sun., Dec. 11-12, and Dec. 18-19.

KWANZAA CELEBRATION
Dillaway-Thomas House
Roxbury Heritage State Park
183 Roxbury St., Roxbury
445-3399
On Sat., Dec. 18, the Dillaway-Thomas House will be hosting a Kwanzaa celebration, beginning at 3 p.m. This year's theme will be *Living Principles Throughout the Year*. The celebration, which will include live entertainment, will also help support the Ujima Treasure Trove Toy Drive for children infected and affected by AIDS. Please bring a non-violent toy for infants to teens. Your $3 donation will also benefit the children.

LONGFELLOW HOUSE HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
105 Brattle St., Cambridge
876-4491
The Longfellow National Historic Site celebrates the season with an open house on Dec. 14, from 6-9 p.m. This is the very place where poet Henry Wadsworth wrote many of his popular poems. Special tours will be offered throughout the evening, and there will be music and refreshments. Admission is free, but advance reservations are requested.

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY
580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge
864-9646
There will be a candle-lighting ceremony on Tues., Dec. 21, from 3:30- 4:30 p.m., to honor the lives of those who have gone before us, led by Rev. Robert Tobin. Candles will be made available at cost for those who wish to participate in this lovely remembrance ceremony.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS SCHOOL SALE
230 The Fenway, Boston
267-6100
The 13th annual Exhibition and Sale for the School of the Museum of Fine Arts will take place from Dec. 8-12, with a reception on Dec. 8 from 6-8 p.m. This is a rare opportunity to purchase work by some of the esteemed members of the Museum School's extended family, including staff, faculty, students and alumni. Prices start at just $5, so everyone can avail themselves of this chance to own some real, officially certified ART. And don't forget that 50 percent of the sale's proceeds will be donated to the School's Scholarship Fund. Free admission. Hours are: Dec. 8, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Dec. 9-10, 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Dec. 11-12, 12 p.m. -5 p.m.

PINE STREET INN BENEFIT
60 State St., Boston
521-7606
The Pine Street Inn will be holding its 4th-annual holiday fund-raiser on Dec. 9, to benefit the *Good Night Campaign* for emergency, transitional, and permanent housing programs for homeless men and women. The buffet dinner and ceremony runs from 6:30 p.m.-10 p.m., and will be held in the 27th Floor dining room courtesy of Hale and Dorr. Humanitarian awards will be presented fro exceptional contributions to Pine Street's Efforts to provide solutions to homelessness. Admission is $50.

PRESERVATION ACT II
Middle East Restaurant
480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
492-5162
Now that *Tommy*'s in town, everybody wants to get into the rock-opera act. At the Middle East for two nights and two nights only (Dec. 10-11), this is the authorized stage version of The Kinks ' 1974 rock opera, written and recorded by Ray Davies. Actually, Mr. Davies has seen *this very* production and pronounced it good. Following the show, there will be a festive '70s fashion show featuring clothing from the very coolest alternative stores in Boston. Doors open at 8:30 p.m., and the fun starts at 9. Tickets are $10.

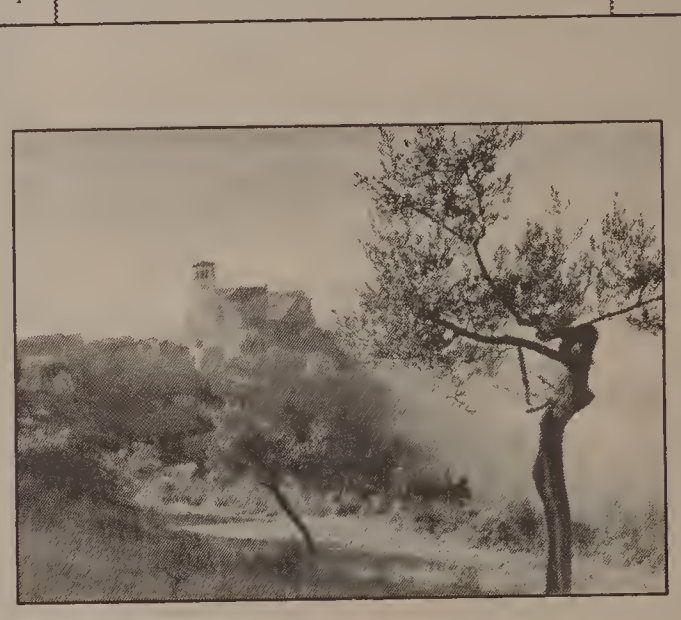
ROXY'S RED HOT SNOW BALL
279 Tremont St., Boston
277-ROXY
Celebrate the holidays with this out-of-control, zany holiday bash! Your $15-admission ticket will gain you entrance to two clubs, the Roxy and the NYC Jukebox, on Dec. 21, from 8 p.m.-2 a.m. It will also help support the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans. So party for a good cause, and don't forget to dress festive!

WALDENBOOKS BENEFIT SALE
Statewide at all Waldenbooks Stores
From 9-11 a.m. on Sat., Dec. 11, Waldenbooks will be donating 20 percent of all purchases made to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Customers must identify themselves as being there for the MSPCC bookfair. Call your local Waldenbooks for details.

WILD AND WOOLY HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
Jake Ivory's
1 Lansdowne St., Boston
(800) 966-0444
On Dec. 9, from 8 p.m.-2 a.m., dueling piano players will entertain you AND help support the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at the same time. The $10-admission price includes hors d'oeuvres, a raffle, a silent auction and more than a few surprises! All proceeds go to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Festive attire, please!

WINTER WONDERLAND
Boston Common, Boston
(800) 8-WONDER
If you happen to be in the downtown area, why not take a stroll through *Winter Wonderland* on the Boston Common? Through Dec. 26, the Common will be transformed into a holiday paradise, with a petting zoo, sleigh rides, gingerbread houses and even Frosty himself on hand! Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m. -7 p.m., and Sunday, noon-7 p.m. Tickets are $4 for children 4-12 and senior citizens, and $6 for adults. Children under 4 get in free.

WORLD GIFT FEST
Hynes Convention Center
Boston
(800) THE-FEST
Celebrate Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, the Winter Solstice, and anything else you can think of when the largest international holiday festival in New England comes to Boston Dec. 11-12, from 10 a.m.- 8 p.m. both days. There will be food, entertainment, arts, crafts, Vietnamese-woodsculpting demonstrations, and more cultures than you could shake a stick at. Moreover, World Gift Fest will be donating a portion of the proceeds to Cultural Survival, which seeks to secure human rights and social and economic justice for indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities. And if that's still not enough, there's a coupon in this paper for $2 off the $5-admission fee (children under 12 get in for free.)



IMPROPER PICK

You may be stuck in Boston for the winter, but you can travel to Italy through the beautiful photographs of Elio Ciol, who will be exhibiting pictures of his native Friuli at the Black and White Gallery, 334 Newbury St., 266-2641.

DANCE

BOSTON BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
931-ARTS
You mean to say you STILL haven't purchased tickets? That perennial holiday favorite, *The Nutcracker* will run at the Wang Center from Nov. 26 to Jan. 2. Tickets are $18-$52.

DANCE UMBRELLA
Boston Center for the Arts
539 Tremont St., Boston
931-ARTS (tickets)
492-7578 (information)
This is utterly unlike anything you've ever seen before. Dance Umbrella presents AXIS dis/Abled Dance Troupe, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m., and Dec. 10-11 at 8 p.m. The company comprises 8 dancers - four in wheelchairs and four who are not. Tickets are $18. Wheelchair-accessible (of course.)

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
547-8300
The first production of the ART's season will be Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Parts I & II*. Performances of *Part I* will begin Friday, Nov. 26, and run through Saturday, Jan. 1, and performances of *Part II* will begin Friday, Dec. 3 and run through Sunday, Jan. 2. While linked, the two plays are independent, and audiences should feel free to see either or both. Tickets are $18-$42.

BACK ALLEY THEATER
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge
628-8428
The improv-theater troupe Renegade Duck performs every Sunday at 1 p.m. until the end of the year. Tickets are $10, $5 for students with ID.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS
Suffolk University's Walsh Theater
55 Temple St., Boston.
353-3345.
Boston University's School for the Arts Theatre Arts Division will be presenting Shakespeare's classic *Romeo and Juliet* from Dec. 14 through Dec. 18, at 8 p.m., and Dec. 19 at 2 p.m., General admission is $8 or $6, $4 for students and senior citizens, and free with a BU ID.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY
Hasty Pudding Theater
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
496-8400.
If you've been unsuccessfully trying to juggle a busy holiday schedule, why not take a break and watch someone else juggle instead? The rather astonishing *Flying Karamazov Brothers* are at the Hasty Pudding Theater (12 Holyoke St., Cambridge) through Jan. 2. The show begins at 8 p.m., and tickets are $18 - $30, with reduced rates for children under 14, students, and senior citizens.
Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St., Boston
426-5225 (Shear Madness)
426-6912 (Charlie Brown)
•Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve a murder mystery. Tickets are $20-$26. Special holiday prices may apply.
•Happiness is going to see the Peanuts' *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* gang perform its 26th-anniversary production through Jan. 2, 1994. It's a family musical, but fun for hipsters, as well. Tickets are $22.50-$32.50. Senior-and-student discounts. available.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston ·
931-ARTS
Talkin' 'bout my generation ... the Who's *Tommy* has arrived in Boston, and if you haven't had the chance to see it, well, that's what weekends are for. Considered by many to be the first real rock musical on Broadway, the show, with an original score by Pete Townshend, will be here until Dec. 26. Tickets are $15-$60.

HUNTINGTON THEATER
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
266-0800
This year is the 150th anniversary of that Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*. If you are so inclined, you should go see it here, because Emmy Award-winning director Larry Carpenter will be returning to do his widely lauded adaptation, through Dec. 31. The cast, the scenery, the ghosts and the Victorian carols should transform even the worst scrooge into a happy-and-gracious bundle of good cheer. Tickets are $22-$39, with discounts for children 17 and under.

LYRIC STAGE
140 Clarendon St., Boston
437-7172
In its 18th season at the Lyric Stage is the classic *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, based on the Dylan Thomas short story. Running through Dec. 23, tickets are $15-$26.

NEW REPERTORY THEATRE
54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands
332-1646
Bursting with music and nostalgia, *Holiday Memories* recalls Thanksgiving-and-Christmas celebrations as seen through the eyes of a child in the Depression-era South. These two classic American short stories by Truman Capote are re-enacted on stage through Dec. 12.

PARK PLAZA HOTEL
Arlington and Columbus Sts., Boston
357-8384
Forever Plaid, the musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, continues its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Legal Seafood dinner-show packages are $52 and $49.

RIVERSIDE REPERTORY COMPANY
French's Opera House
45 Fairmont St., Hyde Park
361-7024
Not feeling in the mood for all the inevitable holiday cheer? Resisting the constant urge to say bah, humbug? Then go see *Scrooge*, the Dickens classic-cum-movie musical, now being performed as a fully staged production. From the pen of James Leisy, the show runs Nov. 26 -Jan. 2. Tickets are $12-$8.

SANDERS THEATER
Corner of Quincy and Cambridge Sts., Cambridge.
931-ARTS (tickets)
621-0505 (information)
Songs, folk tales and carols from Sweden , Norway, Denmark, and Finland will abound as *The*

Christmas Revels opens its 23rd season., Dec. 17-Dec. 29. Tickets are $12-$25 for adults, $8-$20 for children. Please bring a can of non-perishable food along to donate to the Cambridge Food Pantry Network.

Theatre Lobby
216 Hanover St., Boston
227-9872 or (800) 382-8080.
Those zany nuns from *Nunsense* have taken up residence at the Theatre Lobby in Boston's North End. Special restaurant-theater packages with the European Restaurant are available. Call for more information about dinner packages.

MUSEUMS

Computer Museum
300 Congress St., Boston
423-6758
Cartoonist Rich Tennant is the brains behind the first cartoon show to capture the fun foibles of life in the Information Age. The display of more than 50 drawings is based on the syndicated *5th Wave* cartoon series featured in *Computerworld* magazine. While you're there, don't forget to enjoy the more than 100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer.

Harvard University Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
495-9400
The Busch-Reisinger Museum (Northern and Central European art), the Fogg Art Museum (European and American art) and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum (ancient and Asian art) constitute Harvard's art museums. To counter MFA's prestigious *The Age of Rubens* exhibit, the Fogg hosts *An Offbeat Collection of Dutch and Flemish Paintings* through Jan. 9, 1994.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston
266-5151
Free admission Thursdays, 5-9 p.m.
•Along with the exhibit, *A Day Without Art*, which addresses the issue of local artists whose work has been touched by AIDS in some way, the ICA will be sponsoring presentations and lectures throughout the month of December on the subject of AIDS.
•Also, there will be gallery talks on Dec. 8 and 15, meant to coincide with the museum's *Commodity Image* exhibit, which deals with artists who have, through photographs, either intentionally or not, reinforced the commercialization of certain images or topics.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston
566-1401
Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. On special exhibition through March 13, *Passionate Acts in Greek Art and Myth*, featuring 22 objects from the museum's collection, the MFA and private lenders, all of which will serve to illustrate just some of the stories from Greek mythology. In addition to visual art, the museum also hosts regular concerts. Call 734-1359 for concert information.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
267-9300
•Through Jan. 2, *The Age of Rubens* is the first major survey of Flemish baroque painting ever mounted in the United States and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe.
•Its companion exhibit is *Rubens, Bellange, Rembrandt: European Graphic Art, 1580-1660*, a collection of 90 prints, drawings and illustrated books; through Feb. 6.
•MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2.
•Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific.
•The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27.
•MFA presents *Deities, Saints and Allegories*, full-length images and busts of classic mythological figures, through March 6.
•American homes, from squatters' encampments to fancy Manhattan penthouses, will be examined in *In and Out of Place: Contemporary Art and the American Social Landscape* through Jan. 23, 1994.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
723-2500
The dinosaurs — including the ferocious velociraptor — from *Jurassic Park* have stormed into New England, but you better get advanced tickets if you want to see them. Also, there's *It's All in Your Head*, where you can walk through a giant (9-foot) brain replica and explore the wonders of the mind. Through May 15, 1994, see the *Mysteries of the Bog* exhibit, where you can scoop cranberries and learn about this misunderstood ecosystem, including the myth of the "Bog-ey Man." Lots of fun stuff to play with, including the Omni Theater and the Charles Hayden Planetarium., no matter what age you are. In addition, there will be a sign-language translation for a wide variety of programs, on Dec. 11, and regularly on the second Saturday of each month. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
973-5200
Get the dirt on Boston Harbor with the New England Aquarium's new *Go With the Flow* exhibit, which introduces and explains the problems that plague the harbor and the ways that they can be remedied. The *Terrific Thursdays* program, which provides free admission to all visitors from 3-7:30 p.m., will not be valid on Dec. 16.

Nichols House Museum
55 Mt. Vernon St., Beacon Hill
227-4392
On Dec. 10, the museum will open its doors and invite the public in for an enchanting look at Christmas long past, with *Miss Rose's Beacon Hill Christmas*. Open for three days, the exhibit will be full of flowers and times gone by. Tickets are $8, $4 for children.

GALLERIES

Absinth Gallery
215 Hanover St., Floor 2, Boston
248-6962
ABC: The Artist's Benefit for the Children is an art auction to benefit the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Both functional and fine art will be available at this Dec. 11 event. A preview with continental breakfast begins at 10 a.m., and the live auction with a light buffet begins at 4 p.m. A $10 donation is requested. Call to reserve advanced seating.

Artists Foundation
8 Park Plaza, Boston
The Artists Foundation presents *Sitting at the Same Table: Artists Collaborating With Their Children*, an exhibition in all media by nine artists. In the gallery on the first floor of the State Transportation Building, through Dec. 18.

Boston Public Library
Copley Sq., Boston
536-5400
In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the publication of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (1843), the BPL is mounting a two-month exhibition of *The Works of Charles Dickens*. Running through Jan. 31, the exhibit will draw from the Library's Rare Books and Manuscripts collection and will include most of his 14 important novels in their first editions, or their first American editions. Open to the public Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston
353-3329
The University Gallery will be showing *European Avant-Garde Posters 1918-1939* through Dec. 19. The exhibit, which explores the interaction of avant-garde aesthetics and the poster medium, features work from more than 20 European artists. Hours: Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat.-Sun., 1-5 p.m.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
42 Brattle St., Cambridge
547-6789
Watercolors of New England and Boston architecture by Gillis Murray will be on display in the gallery of the center, through Jan. 26.

Cornwall Gallery
57 Cornwall St., Jamaica Plain
524-8156
The gallery's eighth group show, a mixed-media membership exhibition, will be on view from Dec. 4 -Jan. 2. The opening reception is Dec. 4, 7-9 p.m. Free.

de Havilland
39 Newbury St., Boston
859-3880
•Debra Dumas will be showing her abstract landscapes in acrylic canvases in her exhibit, *The Soul of the Dog*. It opens Dec. 3 with a reception, from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. Through Jan. 15.
•Also, there will be a multimedia holiday group show featuring 19 artists. Titled *Expressions*, the exhibit will open on Fri., Dec. 10 with a reception from 5:30- 7:30 p.m. Through Jan. 15.

First Expressions
81 Arlington St., Boston
695-2808
This non-profit gallery for student art will be showing a juried exhibit and sale of works by MIT students through Jan. 8. Net proceeds from the show will be donated to Pediatric AIDS Programs. Gallery hours are Tues.- Sat., 12-6 p.m.

Gallery Naga
67 Newbury St., Boston
267-9060
Home Is Where You Hang Your Hat is a community-participation installation in honor of World AIDS day. It opened as a split exhibit (part of it was at the MFA) on Dec. 1, but will appear as one unified installation from Dec. 7-Dec. 23 here, with a reception on Dec. 10 from 6-8 p.m.

Howard Yezerski
11 Newbury St.
in participation with various gallery locations in the Boston area; 442-8800 x204 (information)
In honor of World AIDS Awareness Day., the local art community presents *Paper Prayers*, based on the Japanese tradition of offering painted prayers as wishes for good health. In its fifth year, this event will benefit the Boston Pediatric AIDS Project by having artists anonymously donate 12 -by-4 inch artwork, the size of a traditional Japanese *prayer*, running through Dec. 30.

Jameson and Thompson Picture Framers
15 Greenview Ave., Jamaica Plain
524-1805
Jameson and Thompson are holding their annual art exhibition from Dec. 18 -Jan. 15, with an opening reception on Dec. 18, from 8-10 p.m. Both the gallery and the reception are free and open to the public. Hours: Tues.- Fri., 9 a.m.- 6 p.m., and Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kingston Gallery
129 Kingston St., Boston
423-4113
Through Dec. 30, a collaborative installation in various media by the artist members of the gallery, titled *Random*. This exhibit will explore the issues concerning the psychology of sense and sensibility through an introduction to the random.

MIT Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St.., Cambridge
253-4680
Through Dec. 19:
The Anxious Salon: Narrative Content in Recent Figurative Painting examines the work of five contemporary artist working in the Old Master style. An interesting contrast to the MFA's *Rubens* exhibit. Open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 12-6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 12-8 p.m., and weekends, 1-5 p.m. Closed holidays. Free, unless otherwise noted.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston
542-7416
Showing until Dec. 23 is *Terminal House*, a multimedia installation by Meredith Davis, with additional sound by Ean White that explores the concept of home and the role of the traditional housewife. The opening reception is Dec. 11, from 3-5 p.m., with a gallery talk by the artist at 4 p.m. Free, but donations are gratefully accepted.
•On Dec. 10-11 the 34th annual *Works in Progress* performance-art show will run, with performances culminating in an audience-feedback session. At 8 p.m. Tickets are $5.

NOBO
Wendover Woodworks
39 Liberty St., Newburyport
(508) 463-7623
NOBO is a group show featuring a collaboration of 20 nationally recognized artists from the North of Boston, in a three-day exhibit and sale to benefit Ploughshares, the North Shore Shelter Organization. Prices for the artwork will range from $5-$5000, but parking and admission are free. Hours: Dec. 10, 7-10 p.m., Dec. 11, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Dec. 12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Nostalgia Factory
336 Newbury St., Boston
236-8754
Come see *The Graphic Santa*, an exhibition of original-and-old advertising featuring Mr. Christmas himself. Gallery hours are Mon.-Sat, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Rolly-Michaux
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
536-9898
Rolly-Michaux presents *Joan Miro: A Centennial Celebration* through Dec. 31. In its tribute to the Catalan surrealist (1893-1993), R-M presents the gallery's collection of important aquatint etchings and early lithographs.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston
262-1223
Through Jan. 20: Photographer Duane Michals will be exhibiting his work, with more than 75 black-and-white images, including his famous sequences and portraits. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Free.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Grad-student Ellen Shea traveled to Egypt to document the lifestyle of Egyptian peasants; the result is the 54-photo exhibit *The Faces of Egypt*. On view in the Compton Gallery, Nov. 18-Dec. 31.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston
Other Africas, a joint show of three photographers, goes against the grain of both historical representations of colonial Africa and contemporary photojournalistic documents representing Africa as a continent defined by dependence and chaos. These photos show urban and rural Africans as citizens who share concerns and aspirations with their contemporaries everywhere; on exhibit until Dec. 19.

FILM

Boston University
Marsh Chapel, Basement
735 Comm. Ave., Boston
353-3560
Remember those classic Christmas stories that came around every year, letting you know that the season was truly upon us? I'm speaking, of course, of *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* and *Charlie*

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BY KIMBERLY CAVINESS AND MEGAN GILMARTIN

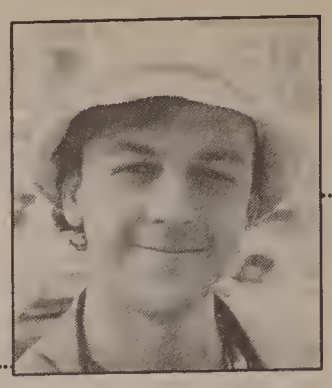
If Bill & Hillary Clinton were coming for dinner, what would you cook?



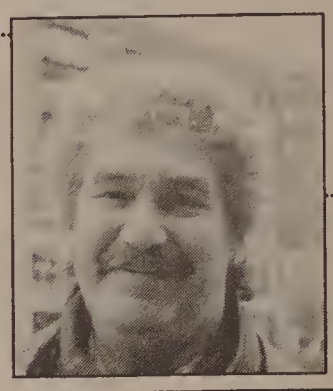
Connie, 49, Boston
"Coquille St. Jacques, a fettuccine course, tenderloin with béarnaise, caesar salad, creamed spinach ... And Grand Marnier soufflé."



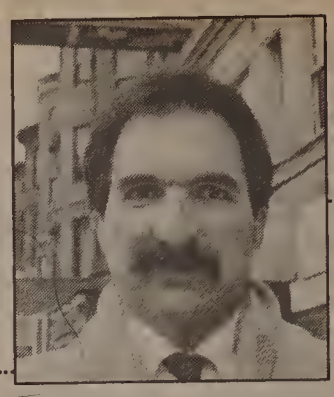
Regina, 29, Lynn
"I wouldn't open the door."



Adam, 21, Newburyport
"Spaghetti — it's the only thing I know how to cook."

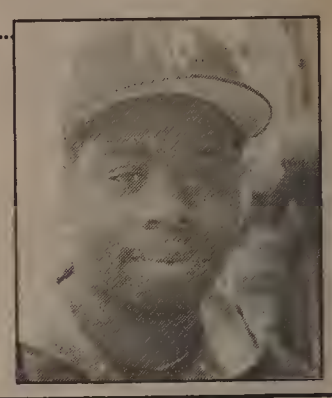


Donald, 59, Boston
"Broccoli-cheese soup, shrimp scampi and Charlotte Russe."



Sheldon, 30-50, Canton
"I'd order a large cheese pizza, with onions, peppers — well, I like peppers. My wife likes mushrooms. We'd order whatever kind they like."

Spooky, 21, Lynn
"I eat out — all day, every day. So Bill, you, me and the First Lady are going out."



Brown's Christmas Tree. Both films will be showing on Tues., Dec. 14, in a holiday double feature at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free, and there'll be free popcorn and Christmas cookies, too.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
267-9300 x300
Most people don't think of this place as a place to see movies, but most people think Chateau Briand is a wine. In addition to a world-premiere movie, *Out of Sight*, about the real-life world of a 34-year-old cowgirl (Dec. 11 at 2:30), there is a new African film festival running throughout the month of December. Most tickets are $6.50, $5.50 for Friends of Film and MFA members, students and senior citizens. Call for details.

FASHION

FASHION LUNCHEON SERIES
Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
424-7000
Indulge your eyes before your ears on Friday-Symphony-matinee dates. Some of Boston's finest designers will present the season's fashions, during informal pre-symphony modeling sessions in the Cafe Promenade. The next date is Dec. 10, with Revillon at Saks Fifth Avenue. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. and the fashions show at 11:45. Reservations are suggested.

FASHIONABLE LUNCHEONS
Four Seasons Hotel
200 Boylston St., Boston
451-1392
Each Wednesday from noon to 1:30 p.m., the Aujourd'hui restaurant hosts an informal modeling session and luncheon. Upcoming designers represented will be: In-Wear Matinique, on Dec. 14, and Escada, on Dec. 21. The fixed-price luncheon is $26, and an a-la-carte menu is also available. Reservations are recommended.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

THE FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
266-4351
L'Heure Bleue, the French Library's monthly meeting of informal group conversation *in French*, will take place on Dec. 9, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Recommended minimum level of French is intermediate. Admission is $6, $4 for members, students and senior citizens.

MIT
MIT Faculty Club
50 Memorial Dr., Cambridge
253-8222
If you're the kind of person that thinks Fibonacci was an artist, then this lecture is for you. *Engineering Beauty* is the third in a series of five lectures that focus on art in science and science in art. Presented by Dr. Woodie C. Flowers, the former host of the PBS television series *Scientific American Frontiers*, the program begins with cocktails at 5:30 p.m., and continues with dinner at 6:15, with the presentation following. The cost is $25 to MIT Club of Boston members, and $30 for everyone else. Pre-registration one week in advance is required.

MUSIC

BANK OF BOSTON CELEBRITY SERIES
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston
Symphony Hall, Boston
482-2595 (information), 482-6661 (tickets)
• The Vienna Choir Boys will join forces with the Chorus Viennensis and the Brandenburg Collegium, in a special concert devoted to the works of Bach and Mozart. Tickets are $25-$32. At Symphony Hall.
• The Beaux Arts Trio will be performing the second concert in a three-part series of the complete Beethoven Piano Trios, Sun., Dec. 12, 3 p.m., at Jordan Hall. Tickets are $25-$27.

BOSTON CONSERVATORY
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston
Boston Conservatory Theater, 31 Hemenway St., Boston, 536-6340 (for information)
• The Women's Choir, with Sharon Brown directing, will perform Vaughan Williams, Britten, Schubert and Presichetti on Wed., Dec. 8, in Seully
• The Boston Conservatory Orchestra and Festival Chorus, with Allen Lannom conducting, will perform Mozart and Handel, on Dec. 15, at 8 p.m. Seully Hall. Free.

BOSTON SYMPHONY HALL
Symphony Hall, Boston
266-2378 (CONCERT)
• British conductor Roger Norrington will be leading the Orchestra of St. Luke's in a special guest appearance on Friday, Dec. 10, at 1:30 p.m. The program will be Berloiz's *L'Enfance du Christ*, with mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, John Oliver conducting. Tickets are $20-$57.
• The Boston Pops: John Williams will be making his final appearances as Boston Pops conductor on Dec. 15, 16, 18 and 20. Tickets are $14.50 -$45, and they are going fast, so get yours NOW.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY
Tsai Performance Center
685 Comm. Ave., Boston
353-3345
• Alea III, BU's contemporary music ensemble in residence, will present *Music International*, featuring works by composers from Greece, France, Germany, the United States, Mexico, and the United Kingdom, among others. The performance is scheduled for Wed., Dec. 8, at 8 p.m. Tickets are $6, $3 for senior citizens and students, and free with a BU ID.
• BU's Muir String Quartet will continue *The Beethoven Cycle* on Sat., Dec. 11, at 8 p.m. The concert will feature Beethoven's Op. 18, No. 3; Op. 133, *Grosse Fuge*; and Op. 59, No.1. Admission is $10, $5 for senior citizens, students, and alumni, and free with a BU ID.
• The Boston University Symphony Orchestra will perform on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. The orchestra, led by guest conductor Lukas Foss, will perform works by Shostakovich, Bernstein and others. Free.

FRENCH LIBRARY
53 Marlborough St., Boston
266-4351
Jazz pianist Dave McKenna will play on Wed. Dec. 8, at 7 p.m. Tonight's concert will be the first of three jazz concerts to be held at the library during the 93/94 season. Admission is $10 for non-members, $8 for members, students, and senior citizens. Complimentary refreshments will be served. Pre-paid reservations are required.

HANDEL & HAYDN SOCIETY
Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
931-ARTS.
The Handel & Haydn Society's opening program for their 1993-94 Chamber Series is Dec. 17, at 8 p.m. Entitled *A Baroque Noel*, the program will feature two Magnificats by Bach and Telemann, plus three a capella motets by Schutz. The same program is also playing on Dec. 20 at the Sanders Theater. Tickets are $16.50-$26.50.

LA DONNA MUSICALE
Lindsay Chapel, First Congregational Church
11 Garden St., Cambridge
731-6869
Traditional Christmas and instrumental music from a rather non-traditional source: La Donna Musicale presents music by baroque women composers on Dec. 12, 3 p.m. This is a rare opportunity to hear the music of three women who lived during the time of Louis XIV. Admission $8, $5 for students and low income.

LONGY SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
876-0956
• The Longy Chamber Singers will be performing the works of Rachmaninoff, Vaughan Williams and others at their concert on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 8 p.m. $5 is the suggested donation.
• The Young Performers of Longy Special Alumni Concert will take place on Saturday, Dec. 18, at 8 p.m. Admission is $10, $7 for students and senior citizens.

MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 84 Mass Ave., Cambridge
253-2906
• The Chamber Orchestra, Steven McDonald, director, will perform Mozart, Vaughan Williams and Haydn on Dec. 10 at 8 p.m. Free.
• The MIT Symphony with David Deveau, piano soloist, will perform Rachmaninoff and Schubert on Dec. 11, at 8:30 p.m. Admission is $1 at the door.
• Also, on Dec. 16, there will be a concert in honor of Beethoven's birthday, at 8 p.m. Free.
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
253-2906
• On Dec. 9, the chapel concert series at noon will present *Northern Harmony*, with medieval, renaissance and contemporary choral music for the Christmas season. Free.
• The noontime series will continue on Dec. 16, with *Holiday Revelry and Song With the Three of Cups*. Deborah Claar, Kelly Demers and Ann-Marie Messbauer in a Christmas program. Free.
• The MIT Women's Chorale 1993 Holiday concert, presenting works by Handel, Mendelssohn, Thompson, and others, on Dec. 12, at 3 p.m. Christmas-carol sing-along concludes the concert. Refreshments follow. Free.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY
Jordan Hall and Brown Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston
536-2412 (tickets), 262-1120 x700 (information)
•On Dec. 11, the Youth Philharmonic Orchestra will perform Mozart's *Symphony No. 35 in D*, and Mahler's *Symphony No. 4 in G* with soprano Jayne West. Benjamin Zander conducts. Jordan Hall at 4 p.m. Tickets are $10, $5 for students and seniors.
•On Dec. 13, the NEC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Richard Hoenich, will perform Dvorak, Tchaikovsky and Elgar's *Concerto for Cello and Orchestra*, with soloist Roberta Janzen, a winner of the 1993 NEC Concerto Competition. Jordan Hall, at 8 p.m. Free.

NEWTON MUSIC SCHOOL
321 Chestnut St., West Newton
527-4553
The Muir String Quartet will perform in a benefit concert for the All Newton Music School on Sun., Dec. 12, at 4 p.m. The program will be Dvorak and Beethoven. Admission is $15, $10 for students and senior citizens.

The IB*'s "Calendar" is published twice a month. If you wish to be listed in the Dec. 22 issue's "Calendar," you MUST get the information to us by Dec. 13.*

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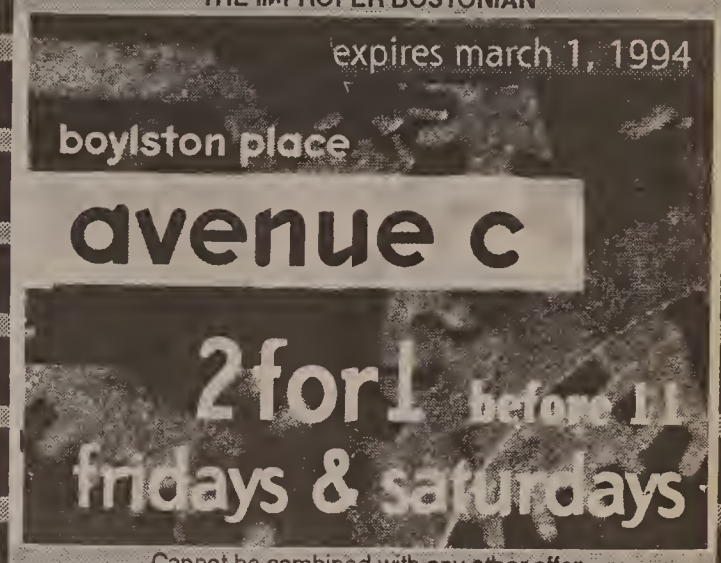


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REGULATIONS: All Ad copy is subject to approval before publication. Any Ad deemed obscene will be either edited or removed. The Improper Bostonian shall be under no liability for failure to insert an advertisement. Any errors that do not affect the material value of the Ad will not be credited. Errors must be reported within the first week of publication. All ads must be prepaid.

CIRCULATION: The Improper Bostonian reaches over 190,000 people every two weeks, making it the largest bi-weekly newspaper in the Boston area. The newspaper is available at newsstands, schools, hotels, entertainment oriented businesses, on Boston neighborhoods and by subscription.

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BROOKLINE VILLAGE M/F roommate wanted. 1bdrm avail in 4bdrm apt. Large living room & dining room. Hardwood floors & fireplace. Great location-near D-line. Avail now. $250/mo heat & hot water incl. 277-4872

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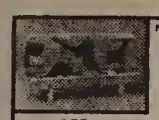
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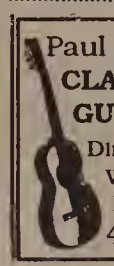
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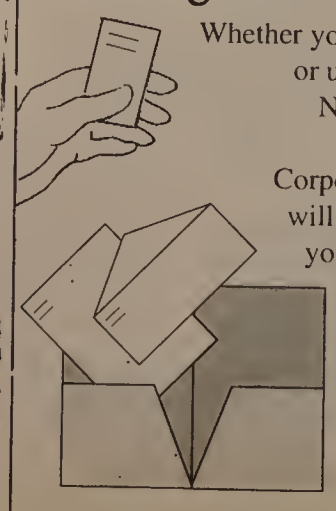
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

COMPASSIONATE, SINCERE, honest, divorced white female, 29, with alluring brown eyes, enjoys life, walks, movies, dancing, camping, snowmobiling, skiing & much more. Seeks a sincere, honest male for friendship and/or a 1-1 relationship. No games, just honesty! EXT•8152.

STRONG, RUGGED, gentle, masculine man, 30-45, wanted to be pampered by a shy, passionate, soft & strong white female in her free time. I'm 5'6", 135 lbs, an avid weightlifter, non-smoker, and have a quiet lifestyle. EXT•8218.

PRETTY BROWN EYES! White female, 22, enjoys movies & slow music, and desires a relationship with true honesty. Seeks a black male, 23-28, who is sincere, responsible, intelligent & also wants a real relationship. Light drinking & smoking are Ok. No drugs! EXT•8222.

CARIBBEAN FEMALE, 27, 5'6", independent, employed, has a mind of her own. Seeks an attractive, employed, well-dressed, unselfish, eager to please, monogamous, heterosexual (100%), African male, 26-35, 5'7"+, who likes or can adjust to Caribbean music & culture. EXT 8220.

GREEN-EYED BLACK WOMAN, 29, seeks a non-smoking black male, 27-30, who enjoys late night walks & cuddling in front of the TV. He must be sincere, funny, employed & love surprises. EXT•8200.

DEFINITELY ATTRACTIVE! Jewish female, 35, sincere, honest, down to earth, emotionally secure, not into playing games, many varied interests. Seeks handsome, white male professional, 33-39, for a committed relationship. EXT•8187.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, REDHEADED, divorced white female, 27, long-legged, with a good career & zest for life. Seeks a white male, 27-37, at least 5'10", in good shape (physically & mentally), responsible, fun yet serious, ambitious, open to possibilities... EXT•8227.

SWEET, SEXY & PRETTY! Very voluptuous black lady, 30, smart, honest & a little shy, seeks a professional black or Latino male, 28-38, who loves sports, values family, and would enjoy quiet evenings at home with me. EXT•8198.

ATTRACTIVE, FULL-FIGURED, single white mom, 21, dirty blonde hair, blue-green eyes, tikes to play at the park during the day & snuggle up at night. Seeks an honest white male, 21-29, with similar interests. EXT•8221.

MONOGAMOUS, DOWN TO EARTH, black female, 30, 5'5", with a great sense of humor, seeks a similar male, 26-40, who enjoys sports, going to movies, dining in & rainy wealher. Don't pass this up! How does friendship first sound? Let's give it a try! Nothing beats a try but a failure! No games please! EXT•8121.

LET'S GO OUT & HAVE FUN! Single working mom, 27, 5'7", cute, good figure, greal personality, in need of some fun & romance. Seeks a white male professional with equally good looks & great personality. EXT•8133.

PERSONALITY PLUS! White female, 27, 5'2", long blonde hair, fit & attractive (but not vain), considered fun-loving & free-spiriled, with creative interests from luxury to leisure. Seeks a successful & sincere male, 27-33. EXT•8183.

ATTRACTIVE, MATURE, proportioned, full-figured white female, 25, 5'8", seeks an attractive black male, 25-37, 6'+, "Basketball type", who is a sharp dresser, monogamist, mentally & financially secure or at leasl knows what he wants. No smokers or drug users! EXT•8101.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 29, shapely, blonde hair, blue eyes, enjoys fitness, movies, trips, music, dancing, sports, on-going events, the North End & race tracks. Seeks a white male for fun & great times. No drugs! Light drinker OK! EXT•8171.

VERY ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN FEMALE, 34, 5'3", dark blonde hair, divorced, independent, non-smoker. Seeks tall, dark & handsome, Italian male, 30-38, 5'10"-6'2" non-smoker, with a good sense of humor & a good job, for possible relationship. Reply only if you fit description! EXT•8110.

PETITE FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, 58, 5', 92 lbs, enjoys animals, dancing, dining out & a sense of humor, seeks a male, 50-65, as possible travel companion & good friend. Respondent must not lake himself seriously. EXT•8126.

VERY SINGLE & VERY GORGEOUS black woman, 22, 5'2", 115 lbs, chocolate brown complexion, big brown bedroom eyes, and a very good-looking figure. Seeks a FINE black male, 22-29, for a special friendship & possible relationship. Call to find out more about me! Serious responses only! EXT•8192.

BEAUTIFUL, PETITE & SLIM Asian female, well-educated, professional, caring mom. Seeks intelligent, attractive, educated, white or Asian male, 35-47, with a zest for life. Please no nerds! EXT•8135.

THE PARTY IS OVER! Very attractive, classy & sexy, marriage minded, Cape Verdian lady, 42, 5'4", 140 lbs, brown hair & eyes, nicely built. Seeks a tall, well-built, attractive male, 48-55, who has the same interests at heart, is kind, understanding, and enjoys the simple things in life. No games or heavy drinking! EXT•8161.

NATURAL BLONDE, 39, 5'3", green eyes, avg. weight, North Shore area. If you didn't just break up with your girlfriend or wife, if your tired of the air heads, have your act together, and are looking for a relationship. We have a lot in common. EXT•8104.

LOVIN' IT ALL (Being a black female, single & tall)! 27, 6', 145 lbs, enjoys exercise, music & reading. Seeks a black male, 26-35, 6'+, with similar interests, an open mind, sense of humor & a great smile. EXT•8219.

ARE YOU MY MR. WONDERFUL? Attractive while female, 29, 5'5", 118 lbs, with a little one, seeks a handsome white male, 27-34, 5'8"-6'2", who is educated, sincere, well-dressed, well-groomed, and ready for a meaningful relationship. call, you won't be disappointed! EXT•8151.

SWEET & SINCERE! Full-figured, very attractive, single white mom, 34, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, great dimples, enjoys movies, cooking & quiet evenings. Seeks good-looking, kind, sincere gentleman, 34-44, 5'10"+, for friendship & possible relationship. Sincere replies only! EXT•8062.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SINGLE! White female, 25, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, athletic, mature, honest & professional, seeks a male, with similar inlerests, for a 1-1 relationship. Enjoys all sports, long walks & talks, dancing, the beach, skiing, cooking, family & friends. Tired of the bar scene type! EXT•8031.

MOCHA BROWN & HEALTHY black female, 5'5", light brown eyes, enjoys clubing, movies, cooking & more. Seeks fun-loving, tall, handsome & well-educated white or Spanish male, 25-28, for friendship & possible relationship. I'm waiting sexy! EXT•8020.

ITALIAN FEMALE, 40, professional, attractive, physically fit, financially & emolionally secure, with many interests. Seeks a male professional, under 50, who's interested in a serious relationship. EXT•8054.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, slim, divorced while female, 41 (looks & feels younger), considered attractive, centered/happy with myself & my life. Optimistic, warm, animated, loyal friend, impassioned about my work (refugee/immigrants rights), quite irreverent, wry/lively sense of humor. A voracious reader/traveler, movie goer, physically active & fit. EXT•8043.

ATTRACTIVE ASIAN FEMALE, 28, 5'5", 125 lbs, college educated, vivacious & fun-loving. Seeks attractive white male, 5'7"+, who is serious about a long-term relationship. EXT•8015.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, HARDWORKING, dedicated teacher, 30, 5'9", 135 lbs, blonde hair & sky blue eyes (Swedish), sensual, sensitive, classy, open & honest. Enjoys exercise, modelling, singing & dancing. Seeks very attractive male with similar interests & qualities. EXT•8019.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar inlerests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6987.

HONEST & SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 34, 5'6", 130 lbs, intelligent, loving, good sense of humor. Seeks sincere, energetic black male, who enjoys music, dancing, movies & quiet times, for friendship or whalever comes naturally. EXT•8032.

END RACISM! LOVE SEE'S NO COLOR! attractive, eclectic Jewish female, 26, with exotic looks, long brown hair & alluring brown eyes. Seeks mature, open-minded male, under 40, of higher spirilual & moral values, for a deep & emotionally intense, 1-1 committed relationship. Interests include classic cars, biking, travel, Kabballa, Reggae & dancing. No losers! EXT•8044.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionale & sincere, seeks younger male for long-term relationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

FACT: Attractive, petite, black female, mid-30's, who is dynamic, charming, interesting, energetic & more. WANTED: White male, 32-45, who is sincere, kind, romantic, funny, and interested in a honest relationship. Do respond! EXT•6808.

MS.CLEAN SEEKS MR.CLEAN for friendship & hopefully more! Light-skinned black female, 48, petite (5'5", 120 lbs), with beautiful blue eyes, enjoys dancing, dining out, bowling & weekend trips. Seeks energetic male, 45-60, who shares similar interests. EXT•6811.

VERY PHYSICALLY ACTIVE, divorced white female, 46, brown hair, blue eyes, emotionally & financially secure, with passions for skiing, aerobics, fishing, dancing, animals & being romantic. Seeks white male, 36-47, witi. similar interests. No couch potatoes or head games! EXT•6927.

WONDERFULLY WARM, big, buxom, beautiful redhead, 31, sassy, smart & sensual. Seeks huggable white male, 30-48, who is rugged, humored, self-assured, and appreciates large, soft, ample sized women. EXT•6804.

BEAUTIFUL, PETITE WHITE FEMALE, 36, enjoys music, dancing, theatre & travel, seeks an intelligent, educated male, 36-42, for a serious relationship. EXT•8226.

PETITE, ATTRACTIVE BLACK FEMALE, 24, working student into fitness, dancing & reading, seeks tall, attractive Italian male, 25-31, with similar interests. Please no players! EXT•8061.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

WHITE MALE, 37, 5'10", medium build, sincere, honest, bright, educated, unpretentious, humorous, sensual, enjoys beaches, hot tubs, massages, movies, music, art, reading, romantic dinners & good conversation. Seeks slim white female, 25-37, for romance & fun. EXT•7939.

WHITE MALE, 27, 6', blond hair, blue eyes, loves to travel to places near & far, a good movie on a rainy night, and all sorts of animals. Seeks a bright, perceptive & honest lady, 25-30, with a good sense of humor, for a caring 1-1 relationship. EXT•7830.

TEDDY BEAR SEEKS HUGS! Big, brown, brawny bruin seeks someone to hug. Nol interested in painted dolls. Please be 25-40, soft, strong, awake, eager to do & be loved. EXT•7829.

MULTILINGUAL ENGINEER, bright, balanced, compassionate, accomplished, divorced white male, 40's, 6'2", with an oulgoing personality, looks & a sense of humor. Seeks non-smoking, stable, tall, slim white female, under 42, with warmth, intellect & sense of direction. EXT•7921.

ADDICTED TO LOVE! White male, 26, 6', 170 lbs, artistic, athletic, outgoing & reasonably attractive, seeks a female partner who knows what she want's out of life. She likes to laugh, love, dance, dine & explore new things togelher. No disappointments! Race & religion unimportant! EXT•7815.

RESCUE ME! Very handsome white male, 26, professional, caring, tired of the bar & club scene, enjoys movies, dining, Bruins games & quality time together. Seeks a while female who is intelligent, honest & attractive. Metrowest area! EXT•7866.

NEEDS A GOOD WOMAN! Tired of the bar scene! Very athletic white male, mid-20's, 6'4", brown hair, blue eyes, well-traveled, driven & loves life. Seeks an attractive, self-secure woman of class. EXT•7910.

ATTRACTIVE, PROFESSIONAL, funny, athletic, true romantic Jewish male (Capricorn), 34, 5'10", dark hair, big brown eyes. Seeks down to earth white female (Pisces, Taurus, Virgo), 23-30, who is ready for her knight in shinning armor. EXT•7938.

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR! Nice, honesl, good-looking, handy, intelligent white male, 36, 5'5", in great shape, loves the beach, tennis, travel, skiing, and anything else that's fun. Seeks a pretty, honest & sincere woman to share the good times with. EXT•7875.

HANDSOME & ELIGIBLE! Black male, 33, 6'3", dark-skinned, black hair, brown eyes, Capricorn. Seeks a black female, 23-38, without dependents, who's interests include dining out, dancing, Rap, R&B & live Jazz. If you're seeking a monogamous relationship, call! EXT•7817.

SEARCHING FOR A LOCAL, un-encumbered, slim, attractive, romantic lady for a possible serious relationship with a 50+, 6'2", 195 lb, handsome (I've been told), professional, divorced white male from the Metrowest Area. Inlerests are myriad. If you are a spontaneous, non-pretentious, special person, also with a myriad of interests, please call. All calls answered! EXT•7886.

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL, 25, 5'11", athletic, blond hair, blue eyes, good-looking & confident, enjoys jogging, blading, most sports, cooking & lravel to warm places. This nice guy with good manners seeks an attractive young woman, 22-28, with similar interests. All calls answered! EXT•7909.

LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT WOMAN! White, European, athlelic male, graduate business student at Harvard, 30's, 6', 175 lbs, blond hair, green-blue eyes, enjoys all sports, long walks, skiing, the beach & family. Seeks educaled, attractive female, 21-29, for a serious 1-1 relationship: EXT•7937.

THE ONE FOR YOU! Handsome Jewish male, 35, tall, slim, intelligent business professional with heart, soul, sensitivity, wit, playfulness, a great sense of humor & many interesls. Seeks a classy & pretty Jewish female, 23-34, not overweight, who has style, intelligence, and is ready for a committed relalionship. EXT•7860.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been daling. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gels me! Metrowest! EXT•7771.

JEWISH MALE, 43, tall, fit, terribly sexy. Been looking for a Million-Dollar Baby in the 5 & 10 cent store--now looking here! Seeking jewish female with well-turned ankle & twinkly smile. EXT•7925.

SEEKS SKI PARTNER! White male, new to Boston area, 25, 6'1", 190 lbs, successful, MBA, athletic, fit. adventurous, enjoys boating, skiing & outdoor activities. Seeks attractive, fit, educated white female, 21-27, who can ski the bumps & stay oul all night. EXT•7902.

IN SEARCH OF... Attractive, black Hispanic college student, 25, 6', 165 lbs, athletic build, seeks sexy white, Hispanic or European female, 20+, for serious relationship. I'm one in a million, and you are too! EXT•7907.

SINGLE FATHER OF ONE, white male, 25, seeks a mature female, 22-28, who loves kids, music, movies, and alt other good things. If this is you please call! EXT•7896.

A REAL MAN! Black male, 29, 6'3", 230 lbs, dark complexion. This handsome, humble, sincere, romantic, financially secure & very single man is awaiting your call! EXT•7775.

TALL BLACK MALE, 23, 6', 180 lbs, college student, seeks understanding, open-minded female, 20-25, who enjoys spending quality time with someone special, long walks & good conversation. She shoutd have a good sense of humor, and not be afraid to be herself. Race unimportant! EXT•7711.

HANDSOME PHYSICIAN, 30, 5'7", 165 lbs, of Italian descent, warm, fun-loving, well-travelled & well-built. Seeks a warm, caring, attractive, buxom but reasonably slender female for friendship, dancing & more if chemistry is right. EXT•7663.

CHIVALROUS, HANDSOME, solid quality, svelte, divorced white male, 48, 6'2", 190 lbs, into fitness, antiques, arts, bordeaux, fireplaces & romantic walks. Seeks an attractive & fit woman, 28-42, who wants quality. Boston Area! EXT•7729.

RECEPTIVE, ATTRACTIVE white male, 34, 5'9", 150 lbs, creative, thoughtful, with a great sense of humor (ok, ok...slightly cynical) and a youthful (but not immature) outlook & disposition. Fascinated by expressive conversations with unpretentious people who are candid & open. Seeks attractive female who's casual, relaxed, sincere, insightful & FUN! EXT•7747.

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! White male, 36, 180 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks a fit lady of quality, 28-42, for an honest & monogamous relationship. I'm sincere, and happy in my work. If you enjoy music, movies, dining out & good conversation, give me a call! EXT•7615.

AMIABLE, ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC white male, 30, 6'1", 195 lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, kind, caring, considerate & exciting, enjoys animals, sports, Boston, art, travel, dining, dancing, quiet & loud times. Seeks similar, tall, elegant & fashion conscious while female. EXT•7689.

ABOVE AVERAGE LOOKS! White male, 32, 5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair & eyes, usually in blue jeans & boots, but also likes dressing up for romantic nights out. Enjoys camping, motorcycles (Harleys), snowmobiling, skiing, guitars & music. Seeks a white girl/woman, with an above average body & face, for companionship. EXT•7643.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7551.

SLEEPLESS IN THE SUBURBS! White male, 30, 6'3", 215 lbs, brown eyes, never married, enjoys travel, sports & music. Seeks an attractive, exotic woman (Greek, Hispanic, Italian, etc...), 21-30, for possible relationship. EXT•7789.

MARRIAGE MINDED, Good-looking, divorced white male, 40, 5'8", 150 lbs, professional, business owner, educated, warm, caring, humorous, a good friend, athletically inclined, many interests. Seeks an attractive white female, 28-38, who would enjoy spending time with a real down to earth man. No children please! EXT•7630.

EXCEPTIONALLY ROMANTIC, handsome & alluring Jewish male, 30, very athletic, sophisticated & emotionally stable. Seeks female, 20-30, who is physically fit and feels happiness & passion in her heart. EXT•7688.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cilies, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7671.

SIMPLY TERRIFIC! Attractive white male, 38, looking to meet a down to earth, cule white female, 28-35, who would enjoy an adorable, 5 month old yellow lab, Vermont foliage, hot cider, country inns, dungarees & romantic dinners. EXT•7629.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

ATTRACTIVE, GAY WHITE MALE, 21, non-smoker, non-drinker, wanting to meet a good friend in Boston, 18-21, to hang with on weekends. Call for more information! EXT•7683.

BLUE COLLAR JOCK/MASSAGE ACTION! I'm 35, 172 lbs, 44" chest, clean-cut, crew-cut, good looks, built, discreet, honest & can travel. Seeking straight acting, clean-cut, built male for massage action. EXT•7912.

ATHLETIC, SPIRITED & HANDSOME white male, 37, 6', 180 lbs, black hair, green eyes, muscular, clean shaven, Into running, lifting, biking & swimming. Seeks vicarious man for sweaty workouts, fun & perhaps inlimacy. EXT•7752.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

©1993

BY ROCKIE GARDINER

DEC. 8- DEC 21, 1993

GENERAL FORECAST:

These are the times that try men's patience because basically, nothing's happening. That's right, folks,—what we mainly get this week are lunar aspects that might divert us from our daily grind and protect us on the bumpy road to the mall. How to get around the horrific holiday traffic jams? Light a Hanukkah candle on Tuesday and pray for patience. Or courage (on Wednesday) to cut across those long lines of cars. Love (and its candle) comes by the grace of the Sagittarius new moon on Monday, which is exactly at 4:27 a.m. If you want a thrilling, possibly chilling romantic background for your lovefest, take your intended to the mountains for the Geminid meteor shower. The only planetary aspect of any interest is a Mars sextile to Saturn Monday afternoon that should foster better business, more efficient government and smoother relationships with all men, young and old. There's a military connotation, but it'll be in support of a "good war." Ha! Bah, humbug! My new-moon wish is for a better space technology and a higher purpose. Because Mars is in idealistic Sag and Saturn is at the tail end of scientific Uranus, and won't come back for another 30 years, it could happen! Isn't patience the key to the heavens?

ARIES (MARCH 20—APRIL 19)

Constructive step-by-step progress, particularly for those born close to the Taurus cusp. Out of country, out of state, formerly out of mind?—these are the sort of folks who can help you realize your current ambition. When your Mars ruler aligns with respectable, responsible Saturn on Monday, material success on some plane is there for the taking. The Sag new moon favors foreign travel and research; if you want to get out of town soon, focus on a suitable direction.

TAURUS (APRIL 20—MAY 20)

Intense emotional vulnerability Friday night/Saturday morning, so you might want to play it relatively safe and stick to the sadists you know, rather than seek out new forms of torture. Save that experience for Saturday night/Sunday morning, when the Sag moon puts you in a more playful mood. Bond around brunchtime with the woman of your dreams (Mom?) and go buy goodies while one of you is in a generous mood. The new moon falls in your eighth house of other people's money. Surprised?

GEMINI (MAY 21—JUNE 20)

Getting married? This is not a bad time to tie the knot, particularly if yours is a fiery relationship. And who among you (i.e., which Twin) doesn't like a little heat? Love, partnership and meaningful bonding are the only areas of experience worth your time and consideration this week, so don't bother with the usual distractions, the mental gyrations. Focus on meeting and merging while all this Sagittarian energy is available, and if a ritual feels right, make appropriate new-moon magic on Monday.

CANCER (JUNE 21—JULY 22)

More work for Mother? Nurturing, maternal Crabs could find themselves inundated with pleasant-enough duties, holiday projects and odd jobs after the new moon hits on Monday. When your ruling orb beckons, moon children follow directions—no ifs, ends or buts. This could turn out to be a happy, quiet week—fruitful, yet fun. Maybe you'll find another hobby to enjoy. If so, take advantage. Once Capricorn begins, you won't be calling the shots anymore; you might be ducking them instead.

LEO (JULY 23—AUG. 22)

Strictly for laughs. Fun is the focus of this week's agenda, so if you have an entertaining idea or you're entertaining, keep it light and go for the gusto. (Too many beer commercials, girls, too much football?) The higher the vibe, the better the bash. There's also an underlying passion for playacting that attracts a conventional Joel or Jill, the sort of extravagant behavior that leads to thriller-diller displays of affection—that swinging-chandelier thing you do so well.

VIRGO (AUG. 23—SEPT. 22)

Everything happening this week affects you on a personal level, within the confines of hearth and home, with maybe a foray out to the gym or the vet, and that should be it. So if you find yourself dealing with the government, banks, unions, etc., figure you're doing something wrong and read for a different sign. While the Sag new moon introduces new adventures on the homefront, but still within the loving arms of the family or your realtor, that's where you should be.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23—OCT. 22)

More of the same and that ain't half bad. No financial challenges, tests of negotiating skills or clever repartee this week, just the ordinary ebb and flow of shifting emotions, people and parties. The Sag new moon, however, can energize the neighborhood or bring a writing/teaching project to your front door. There's an air of excitement and curiosity, plus a willingness to deal with an old, dead love affair in a brave, new way. This assignment is totally optional, pass if you'd rather not play.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23—NOV. 21)

The Scorpio moon on Friday night could trip you up because it'll be real easy to misread romantic cues, to be led down the wrong aisle. Try to keep an emotional distance from what and whomever you are instantaneously attracted to or be prepared to pay (your Mars co-ruler is in your money house) the price. If neither alternative interests you, stay home and play hard to get. Sure. After the weekend there's an infusion of energy, a sense of adventure and financial opportunity, but no big deal.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22—DEC. 21)

Happy birthday to the travelers, teachers and translators of the zodiac. Thank our lucky stars the new moon highlights a purely personal agenda, our solar first house, because there's little reason for anyone to pay us any attention at all this week. And since our Jupiter ruler is lurking in the reclusive 12th house, we'll probably opt for a very quiet, practically nonexistent birthday celebration this year. Well, maybe you'll get all fired up when Mars conjuncts your natal sun, but me, I'll get a fever.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22—JAN. 20)

Unseen forces working on your behalf can spark an interest in a financial venture, but except for a soft, sexy Mars aspect to your Saturn ruler, not much is happening. Relax and enjoy the holiday spirit before winter officially sets in and you have to throw your weight around or play at being the CEO of this year's Christmas celebration. A Capricorn moon as the week begins can help you focus on the most emotionally satisfying options available. We wouldn't want to make the wrong choices now, would we?

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21—FEB. 18)

The best part of the Sagittarius season is how it legitimizes your natural propensity for hanging out, shooting the breeze and seeing what comes of it. No plans, no agenda, just the urge to get out and mix it up. Happily there's a purpose underlying your purported purposelessness, and that'll become apparent after Monday, after energetic, ballsy Mars contacts Saturn in your sign. But even that is no sweat...unless there's an unexpected sexual dividend in it for you.

PISCES (FEB. 19—MARCH 19)

Career planning in the middle of the holidays? As pointless as that might strike you, career and reputation is the area of your chart highlighted by the Sagittarius new moon. Don't be surprised if you're doing business over latkes, pushing projects in between lighting candles or trimming the tree. Family matters take on added importance as well, so make sure you pay attention to the men in your clan, the ones at the top of the totem pole, if they send a signal.

For Rockie, call (900) 933-0033 for a daily forecast, 18 years old or over. Touch-Tone phones. $1.25 per minute. L.A. Weekly (213) 667-2620.

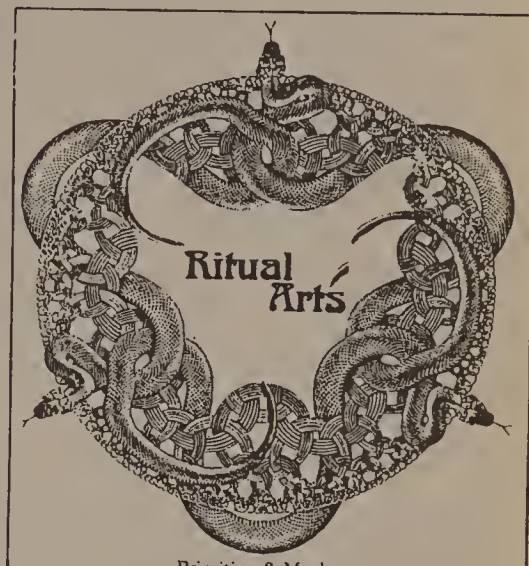
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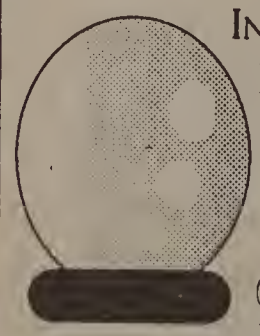
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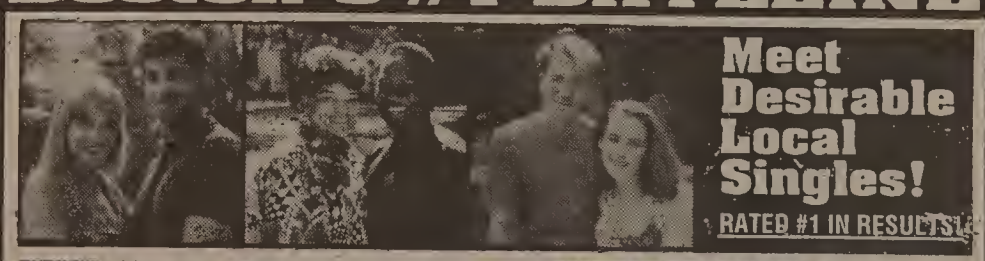
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IN STEP WITH 1994

What to do New Year's Eve

Boston's Cafe Society

Before You Hit the Slopes

The Conspicuous Consumer

by Mopsy Strange Kennedy

365 Days of Xmas Shopping

Although right now is the very apogee, the virtual coronation of the Christmas Tree Shop's reason-to-be, the store lives on, anointing in turn the particular needs of each holiday. At this crowded moment (happily, the crowds are made sparkly by seasonal cheer), you can get all sorts of amazingly inexpensive things for your tree, your house and your Christmas-decoration needs. Crinkly ribbon, Santa doorstops, fancy needlepoint, Christmas stockings, brass candlelamps for your window, angels and drums to drip from the tree; the products could hardly be more varied or inexpensive. The store offers surprisingly attractive books — not just the pink-plastic lava of cheap children's books or the tacky remainders — but "quality" classics, some art books, and even some marble-paper-covered poetry: Keats, Shelley, Shakespeare ... *those* guys. But to alert yourself to the fact that the Shops are also a regular upscale-bargain store, you'll want to keep an eye out for the ongoing stock's supra-seasonal things for everyday. In no particular order, you can find: fancy, foreign cookies and glamorous salad dressings; toffees in classy-blue tins; a gorgeous, wide desk chair covered in blue-spangled, gold-starred, flowered sheets; lamps and lampshades; delicately painted glassware; and luggage. The exterior of the place represents a New England village with cottages squashed fancifully together and a boat hanging off them. Shopping will be fun all year.





Christmas Tree Shop
Route 1, Lynnfield
598-0004

Sitting Pretty

Not just a place to shop for something to sit on, this store also provides an ongoing education in the aesthetics — the virtual architecture (since some of the famous chairs here are the work of architects) — of chairs. Museum-style panels explain the facts and history of the chairs, many of which are sufficiently historic to have names — the famous Wassily chair by Marcel Breuer, for instance. Made of chrome and belt leather, the Wassily positions the sitter imposingly in heroic, four-square centrality. And here, a few blocks from the LeCorbusier building at Harvard, is his elegant black-chaise lounge designed to separate the supporting and the supported; the chair almost looks like it's floating. The footrest of the well-known Eames chair, also black, seems to invite not so much a lazy boy, as a classy, ruminative one. Many other wooden chairs here, although also comfortable and practical, might be bought and loved for their looks. Some are modern arty; some are interestingly pure, wanting a hall and a wall to be shown off against. A little sofa, of sorts, filled with expandable, polystyrene pellets, suggests a backseat — minus the car — and comes with a 25-year warranty. And, amazingly, this furnishings course — er, store — features discounts of 20 percent and in some cases more. Parking next door.

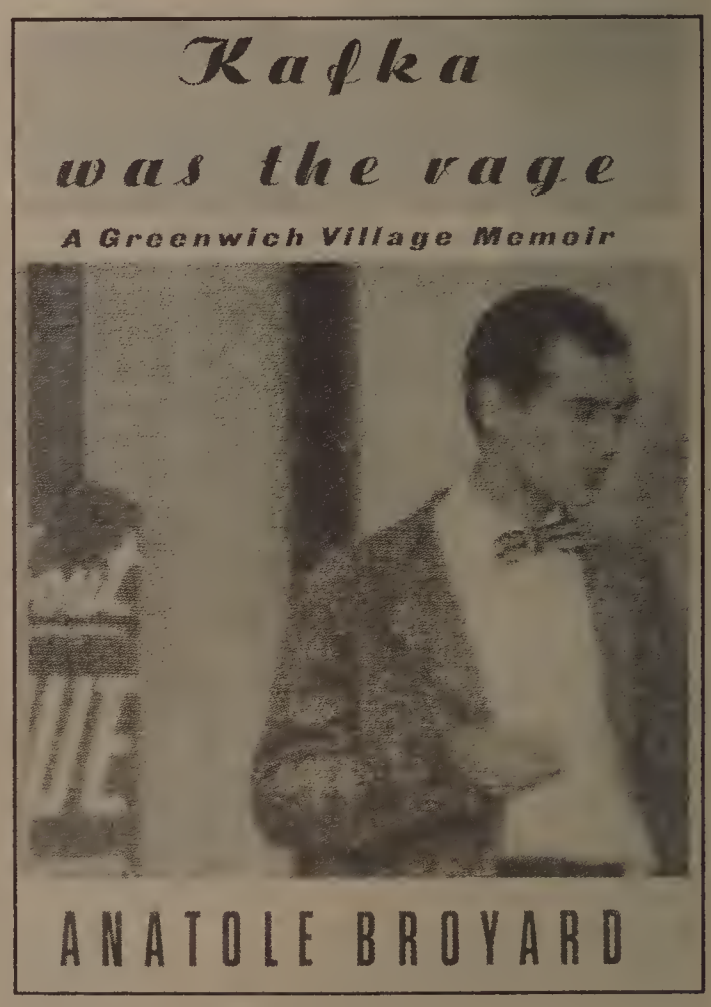




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The Greenwich Village Voice

Readers of the *New York Times* will remember the reviews and the voice of Anatole Broyard and his undepressing book, *Intoxicated by My Illness*, written while he was dying, in which his zigzag energy made a final loop-the-loop. Now, posthumously, a buried crocus blooms in the form of his memoir, written over time, of his years in jazzy, arty, sexy, experimental, post-War Greenwich Village. Just out into the world, and in a characteristic state of ecstatic receptivity, he takes on the crazy world of literature and art (meeting Delmore Schwartz, Maya Deren, Caitlan and Dylan Thomas, among others), psychoanalysis (which he manically confuses with literature) and romance. He informs his analyst, in a typically hungry way, that love accounts for "two thousand years of poetry," but that sex alone "can't account for all the laughing or crying. Otherwise, love wouldn't be so famous, we wouldn't be carrying on about it all the time." His own love life at the time was conducted with the comically pretentious painter Sheri Donatti. "She was a preview of things to come, an invention that was not quite perfected, but that would turn out to be important, a forerunner or harbinger, like the shattering of the object in Cubism or atonality in music. When I came to know her better, I thought of her as a new disease." Broyard's quirky, excited outlook makes you see that the Village he was observing in 1946 was enlivened by such characters as his very own self.



Kafka Was the Rage
by Anatole Broyard
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Mopsy Strange Kennedy has freelanced for the *Atlantic, NY Times Book Review* and *Magazine, Parent's Choice, RedBook, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune* and was a staff writer for *Glamour*. Please send all correspondence to: *The Improper Bostonian*, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146

Happy Holidays



Thank you for your support in 1993. May our double issue serve you twice as well over the holiday season. Look for us again January 19

The Improper Bostonian

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ON THE COVER

Baby Julia
Photographed by Marna Kennedy

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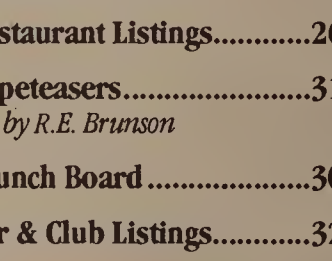


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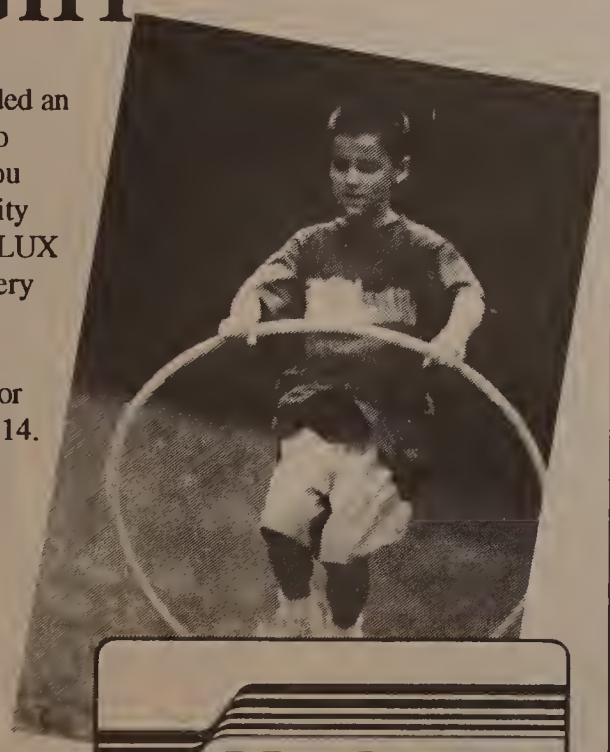
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VIDEO

Toto Recall

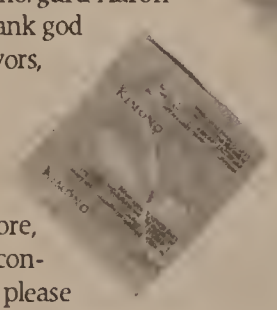


It's been out for a couple of months, and remains one of the most popular rentals around, but not nearly enough people are talking about *Toto Les Heros* (Paramount Home Video). This Belgian/French/German masterpiece won eight international awards, including the Camera d'Or from Cannes. The story, about an old man (Michel Bouquet) who must confront a lifetime's worth of envy, plays itself out in a delicate mixture of surrealism and familiarity. We're privy to Toto's memories of a childhood touched by death, incest and class inequity; we also watch the central love affair of his life unravel as an old nemesis resurfaces. The flick sounds like a downer but is consistently funny (instead of merely, as they say in criticese, "bittersweet"), and writer/director Jaco Van Dormael's touch is neither heavyhanded nor excessively esoteric.

SEX

Feelings

For the man in your life who bellyaches how he "can't feel anything" — ta da! — the new **Kimono Sensation Plus condoms.** Only on the market for two months, the new skins are selling like hotcakes at Condom World on Newbury Street. Dots on condoms are nothing new, but their placement on the *inside* of the prophylactic, with their consequent "massaging action," received our focus group's thumbs-up. The innovation "gives men a reason to wear condoms," says Condom World honcho/guru Aaron Cohen. (Thank god for small favors, bristled the female contingent of our focus group.) Before, me's No. 1 concern was to please the woman, revealed Cohen, but "now, it's every man for himself."



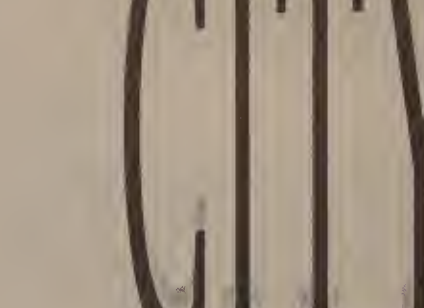
Onward, ho!

Erogenously enhanced Bostonians are also stocking up on the twin sensual forces of **Kama Sutra Pleasure Balm** and **Oil of Love.** The former numbs the erogenous zone of your choice so that you can, well, *prolong* things. The latter, described by Cohen as the "Emack & Bolio of erotic oils" for its variety in flavors, heats up and creates an individualized scent according to your own particular musk.

STOCKING STUFFER

Take Charge

While we're on the subject of prolonging things, the Buddy L Super Charger will not excite your beloved into a heightened state in view of the fact that it doesn't exude intoxicating aromas nor tickle those hard-to-reach zones. But, the Buddy L substantially extends the longevity of your alkalines. Based upon a newly discovered trickle-charging technology developed by a professor at McGill University, you can now (to the bane of battery companies) safely recharge your dead, disposable batteries.



Unlike common rechargeable batteries, which can be recharged almost forever but maintain a charge for far less than off-the-shelf disposables,each alkaline battery can be recharged 25 times.

SPORT

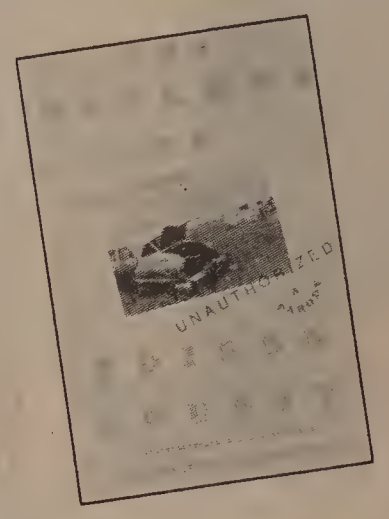
New Wave

If you can't get to the islands this year, ditch your board and wet suit in the closet and head down to your local dance club. It seems the Beantown Gen X scene just can't wait for summer (rots o' ruck, guys. Merry Christmas) and has caught the wave of the nation's hottest trend: Crowdsurfing. All it takes is loud music and a quick boost into the air before you find yourself pitching and rolling on a sea of 200 people you've never met before. Sound scary? It is, a little. But no mortal injuries have been reported so far and the view is to die for. Think of it as the ultimate trust fall. The surf is a little hard to forecast, but reportedly the best waves are to be found on the shores of Lansdowne Street.

BOOK

Parody On, Dude

Everyone's Favorite Book last year, *The Bridges of Madison County,* takes a beating in *The Ditches of Edison County.* Blaring an "Unauthorized: A Parody" warning on

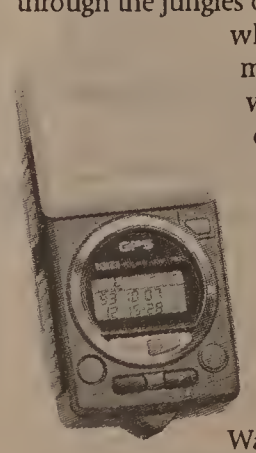


the cover, the book takes on the soppy love story of Francesca and Robert and transforms it, hilariously, into the Velveeta-laced romance of Pancetta and Ronald. Nothing's spared: Ronald Richard Roberts' parody spoofs the character anemia, sentimental appeal, psychobabble (uh, dialogue), and philosophical ramifications of Robert James Waller's best-seller. "Unconditional love requires great courage, spiritual faith, and sometimes, extraordinarily low intelligence," ruminates the first page of the Penguin Group-published tomes. Later: Ronald "was enthralled. He couldn't remember ever having cared much about kitchen accessories, yet suddenly he was obsessed with examining the knives, forks and spoons of a strange, sad and lonely woman. 'Well, if it's not too forward of me, I'd love to scrutinize your cutlery sometime.'" Replies Pancetta: "I guarantee you'll enjoy having my delicate instruments handle your meat."

TECHNOLOGY

You Are Here

It could make getting lost a thing of the past. You could use it to find your car at the mall, your way to a friend's ski house, the flight path to Nova Scotia or the trail through the jungles of Borneo. That's what the U.S. government had in mind when it recently opened to civilian use an extensive network of global-positioning satellites, hence the portable GPS, Global Positioning Receiver. The network, a Cold War biproduct used primarily for missile guidance and troop movement, can provide accuracy in longitude, latitude and altitude within 90 feet – anywhere on the globe. Prices range from $500 to $1699, with the basic models sporting features such as territory-map displays to units that flash only coordinate numbers.



TELEVISION



Blueb Tube

Kidnappings, holdups, car chases and a lot more than we ever got from *Hill Street Blues* or the Boston Police Department since Charles Stuart. *NYPD Blue*, the newest cop show on the block, barrels through proper TV etiquette, thrusting naked bodies and four-letter words in our face. "Not on my television!" conservative TV viewers said in horror as they mobilized a slew of attacks last summer, demanding its cancellation. But *NYPD* has survived to become one of ABC's top programs. Maybe it's just catering to the public's hunger for sex and violence; less-cynical people call it an unpolished, rough-on-the-edges look into the lives of cops working in a city that neither trusts nor respects them. They swear. They get sworn at. You'll swear you saw the former Boston police commissioner presiding over the mess.

THE SCENE

I Ben There

Confusion abounds. West Street Grill is officially hip, but by now, it's common knowledge even in Revere. It's too soon to tell about Sonsie, Armani exclusively serves the kiss-on-both-cheeks crowd, and Marais has become the leisure suit of the nightclub scene. The heir apparent to the young upscale professional (you know the acronym) club scene is the not-so-new Ben's Café in Maison Robert.



Located in the former Boston City Hall, the intimate downstairs bar has of late been the talk of exclusive-elbow-rubbing urbanites after an impressive mid-December soiree.

Compiled by Jennifer Kornreich, Judith E. Dutton, Amy Hoffman and Aliya Jamil. If you know what's hot in Boston, write The Improper Bostonian: *City Rave, 17 Station St., Suite 7A, Brookline, MA 02146.*

NEW YEAR'S EVE

at... Roxy



GET YOUR KEY TO THE CITY

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- Video link to Times Square
- Champagne toast at midnight
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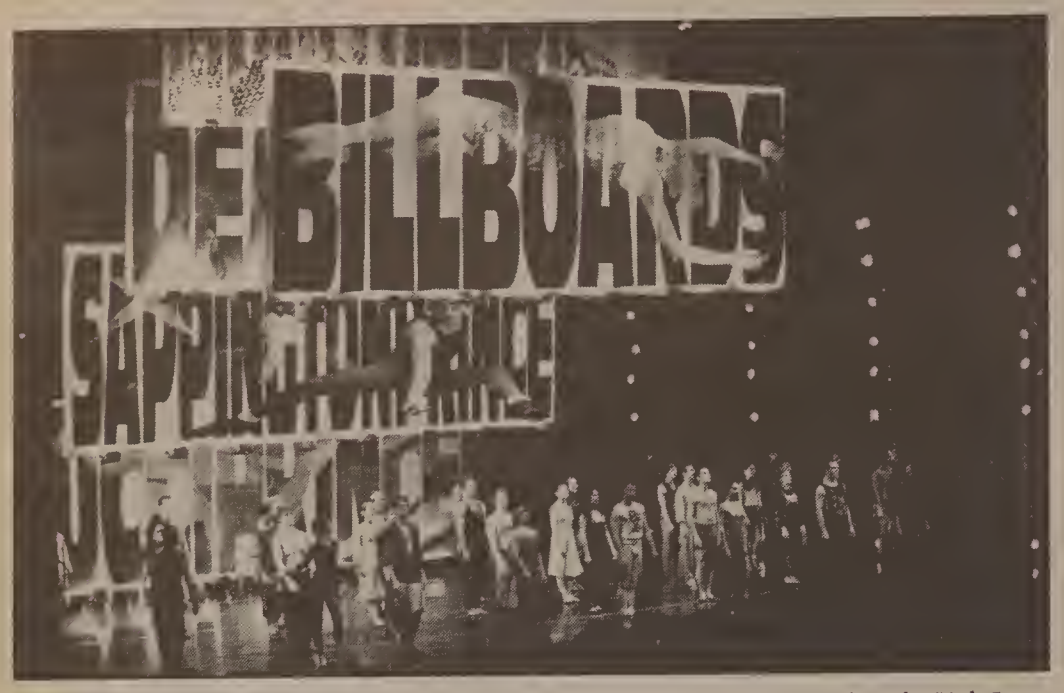
Over 21 • Proper Dress Required

Limited Seating

HOT TICKET

BY LARA EWEN

ONE MONTH'S WORTH OF IMPROPER PICKS



TUTU FUNKY: *Prince wrote the music for the Joffrey's rock-ballet, which struts into the Hub Jan. 18-23.*

FRIDAY

24 Why not spend the evening at home tonight with the radio (yes, radio!)? *A Christmas Celtic Sojourn* with host Brian O'Donovan, tonight from 7-8 p.m. Highlights include performances by the Chieftains and excerpts from *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, read by Dylan Thomas himself. Tune into WGBH, 89.7 FM, or 96.3 FM in the Back Bay.

SATURDAY

25 If you've been considering decking the relatives instead of the halls this Christmas, maybe it's time you got out of the house. A hit musical about second chances, *Forever Plaid* might just add post-performance caroling to its Christmas Night show at 8 p.m., at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room, Arlington and Columbus Streets, Boston. Tickets are $28.50. Call 931-ARTS or stop by the theater.

FRIDAY

31 Aerosmith may be sold out at the Garden, but don't despair. We've compiled a list of Improper suggestions for your New Year's Eve pleasure. See our special section on the facing page.

SATURDAY

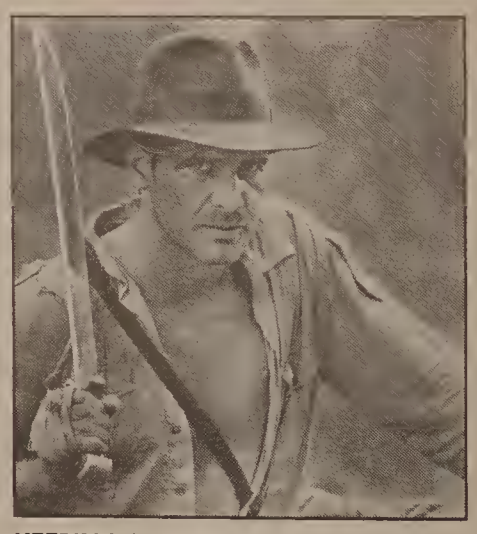
1 How much would you pay to avoid football today — $50? $100? Well, for a mere $4 (free for children) you can shop, shop, shop as 60 dealers from six states tempt you with their wares. The Castle Antique Show at the Park Plaza Castle (corner of Arlington Street and Columbus Avenue in Boston) will be open from 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Food will be available. Free parking, too! Call (508) 744-2731 for info.

SUNDAY

2 *The Age of Rubens*, the first major survey of Flemish-baroque painting ever mounted in the United States, closes after today. Comprising 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe, this is an exhibit you'll tell your grandchildren about. And, today is your last chance to see it. (In case you don't know, the MFA is at 465 Huntington Ave., Boston, 267-9300.)

TUESDAY

4 Directly following tonight's performance of *La Cage Aux Folles* at the Shubert Theater, WGBH Radio's Ron Della Chiesa will host *WGBH's Evening With the Stars*, a benefit party for WGBH Public Broadcasting. At Roberta's Show-Biz Cafe (at the Charles Playhouse, 76 Warrenton St., Boston), guests will have the chance to enjoy refreshments while rubbing elbows with the cast of the Tony Award-winning musical. Tickets are $100, which includes the price of the show and the benefit. A one-year membership to WGBH is included in the price for non-members. Advance reservations are highly recommended. Call 492-2777 x3485



KEEPING UP WITH THE JONES: *Get your Indy fill with a six-hour* Indiana Jones *fix on the Wang Center's 60-foot screen, Jan. 8-9.*

SATURDAY

8 The *Indiana Jones* trilogy, back to back, will be brought to the big-big-big 60-feet screen as the Wang Center (270 Tremont St., Boston) goes to the movies, today and tomorrow, at noon both days. A snake pit will be provided, courtesy of the Franklin Park Zoo. Tickets are $10 and are available now. Call 482-9393.

MONDAY

10 Tonight at 7 p.m., the New England premiere of Jonathan Demme's new film, *Philadelphia*, starring Tom Hanks as a lawyer with AIDS, will be accompanied by a party to benefit the Harvard AIDS Institute. It all happens at the Charles Hotel, on the corner of Eliot and Bennett Streets, in Harvard Square, following the screening at the Harvard Square Loews. Tickets, $50-$150, are available by phone (351-0165). Consider yourself lucky: in New York, the tickets ran up to $2,500.

WEDNESDAY

12 Get out your elbow-length gloves and dust off your tails — it's opening night at the opera. The Boston Lyric Opera performs *Carmen* at the Emerson Majestic Theatre (219 Tremont St.). Lorraine Hunt and John Fowler sing the Bizet score, performed in French with projected English subtitles. There will be both a pre-opera dinner and a post-opera cast party (call 248-8811). Tickets are $75 per person for the pre- and post-events. For the opera itself, tickets are $18-$68 (call 248-8660). There will also be a pre-opera lecture, free with a ticket to tonight's performance, by director Ken Cazan, at the Tremont House (275 Tremont St.) from 6:30 to 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

14 At the Huntington Theatre (264 Huntington Ave.) starting Jan. 14, and running through Feb. 13, is Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. This is serious comedy — one of the best ever written. Call 266-0800 for tickets.

SATURDAY

15 The largest casino fund-raising evening in the Greater Boston area will be tonight at the Westin Hotel, Copley Place, Boston, from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. There will be dancing, gambling and general revelry as United Cerebral Palsy hosts its 11th annual All Night Celebration. This event will offer actual casino-style gambling — *real* money, folks, not the play stuff. Tickets are $15 per person, $25 per couple, available at the door or by phone, 926-5480.



GENDER BENDER: *Walter Charles, left, and Lee Roy Reams kick up their heels in* La Cage Aux Folles, *at the Shubert Theatre, Dec. 28-Jan. 16.*

SUNDAY

16 Renowned-soprano Kathleen Battle will be filling Symphony Hall with her dulcet tones today at 3 p.m., as part of the Bank of Boston Celebrity series. At press time, the program is yet to be announced, but Ms. Battle could make George Michael covers palatable. Tickets are $32, $30 and $20. Call 482-6661.

TUESDAY

18 Tonight and through Jan. 23, the Joffrey's blockbuster event, *Billboards*, travels up from NYC to our Wang Center, 270 Tremont St. Four different American choreographers combined their talents to Prince's score. Tonight at 8 p.m. (see *Calendar* for other dates and times). Tickets are $20-$40. Call 482-9393 for info, or 931-ARTS for tickets.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

BY LARA EWEN

This New Year's Eve doesn't have to be all about watching the ball drop in New York. Boston can be tons of fun, if you know where to look. The hotels are having swishy parties, and the bars will be packed. Here are some more suggestions:



STRUNG OUT: *Ring in 1994 to the sounds of Deborah Henson-Conant's jazz harp at Zachary's Bar.*

THE BOSTON ARIA GUILD PRESENTS: *DIE FLEDERMAUS* AND GRAND MASKED BALL
Sanders Theater, Corner of Quincy and Cambridge Streets, Harvard Square, 496-2222, starts at 7:30. Park for free at the Broadway Garage. Tickets for the operetta alone are $30-$40, and for just the Masked Ball, it's $35.

COLONNADE HOTEL
120 Huntington Ave., 424-7000, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.
Jazz-harp soloist Deborah Henson-Conant plays in Zachary's Bar. Tickets to this special solo-cabaret performance are $25. Plus, the hotel is offering a special, reduced room rate of $89 for guests attending any of its celebrations.

THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND BAY STATE CRUISES CO-HOST:
THE WATERFRONT BALL
World Trade Center Ballroom, Boston, 723-7800, 7 p.m.-1 a.m.
The evening includes music, hors d'oeuvres, a sit-down dinner and a champagne toast at midnight. Plus, a fantastic view of First Night fireworks. Tickets are $75; $70 per person for groups of 15 or more.

COMEDY CONNECTION
Faneuil Hall, 248-9700, three shows tonight at 7, 9 and 11 p.m.
Comedian/actor Anthony Clark headlines. Tickets are $15-29. ID required.

SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB
Guest Quarters Suite Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Rd., Boston, 783-0090, two shows, at 9 and 11 p.m.
New York Voices perform. The jazzy night includes dinner, hats, noisemakers, dancing in the hotel atrium, free parking and that inevitable champagne toast. Tickets are $65 and $85. Plus, the hotel is offering a two-room suite for $119 per couple. ID required.

BOSTON POPS
Symphony Hall, 266-1200, 8:30 p.m., concert at 10:30 p.m.
Harry Ellis Dickson leads the Pops Esplanade Orchestra. Hosted by Ron Della Chiesa, of WGBH Radio.
The night starts early with pre-concert festivities, including cocktails and dancing. This will be the last concert of the "Holiday Pops Series." Tickets are $28-$83. You can get them by phone, or by stopping by the box office.

ROXY BLOCK PARTY
279 Tremont St., Boston, 227-ROXY, 8 p.m.-2 a.m.
The night includes a dinner buffet, music by the White Heat Swing Orchestra and a DJ between sets, so the dancing never stops. The Times Square celebration will air on the big screen at 12 a.m., and there will be a champagne toast. At 12:30 a.m., the party moves to NYC Jukebox, Gal XC or Playoffs. Tickets are $39.94 and $59.94. ID required.

AVEROF INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION
1924 Mass. Ave., Porter Square, 354-4500, 8 p.m.-3 a.m.
The Averof in Cambridge hosts a special New Year's evening with belly dancing and shish kabobs galore! The Averof Band performs. There will be champagne, noisemakers — the works. Call for info.

FIRST NIGHT
70 locations, 250 performers and installations, First Night Hotline: 562-5094, starts at 1.
Boston's answer to Mardi Gras begins with the *Children and Family Festival*, and continues throughout the day and into the night with performers, a parade and a fireworks extravaganza at midnight. Buy a $10 button to get in on the fun. Available everywhere,like CVS and Store 24. P.S.: No public boozing allowed.

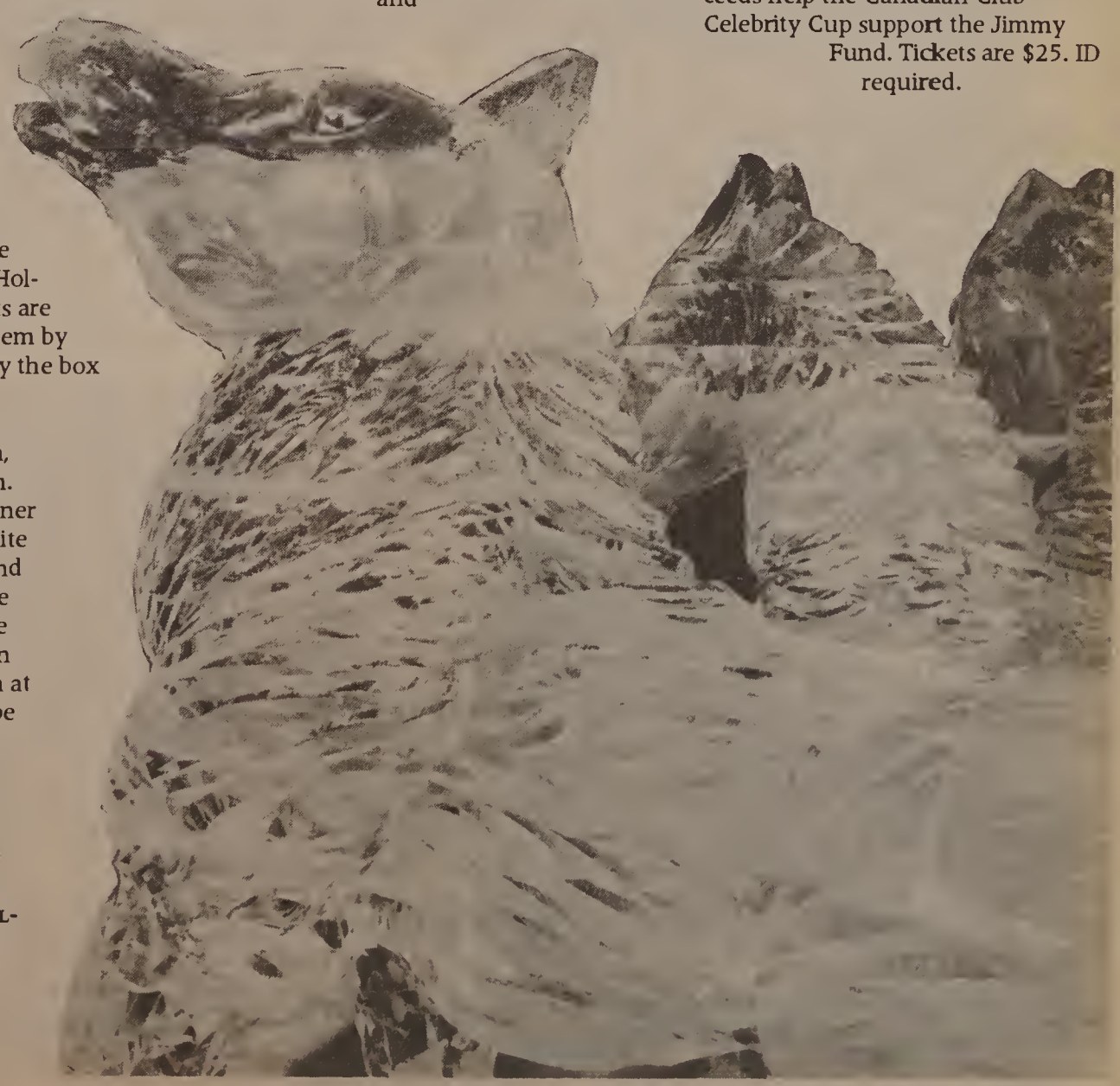
HARD ROCK CAFE
131 Clarendon St., 353-1400, or Ticketmaster, 931-2000, starts at 9:30 p.m. Barrance Whitfield and the Savages will take you to midnight with their soul rock. The $40-per-person price tag ($43.25 through Ticketmaster) includes a buffet, champagne and breakfast at 1 a.m. ID required.

SECOND ANNUAL BACK IN BLACK GALA
Park Plaza Grand Ballroom, 64 Arlington St., Ticketmaster, 931-2000, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Music by the Strangers and Fat City Band. Dress black tie or festive, and be prepared for balloons and a raffle.



A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC: *The Ninots Roving Band lends its multicolored talents to the First Night merrymaking.*

ceeds help the Canadian Club Celebrity Cup support the Jimmy Fund. Tickets are $25. ID required.



ICY STARES: *Copley Square's ice sculpture has become a First Night tradition.*



BUZZED IN BOSTON: Bostonians are increasingly turning to the cafe latte, cappuccino and espresso, indulging in an upscale caffeine scene new to the Hub.

Cafe Society

Story by Julie Flaherty Photos by Bina Altera

Making a show at the local cappuccino dispensary is the '90s answer to the club scene

So, there's nothing to drink in the house but the jug of homemade eggnog your aunt brought over for Thanksgiving? To avoid salmonella poisoning, you decide to brave the New England cold and head out for refreshment. On your last round of shopping or to kill time between the major holidays, why not go bar hopping? *Coffee* bars, that is. After all, making a show at the local cappuccino dispensary is the '90s answer to the club scene. Not that we have anything against the booze-and-browse scene, but everyone from middle management to Harvard profs knows that coffee culture is coming of age in Boston.

Choosing a coffee haunt is based 20 percent on taste and 80 percent on atmosphere. Let's face it, until recent years, Bostonians didn't know good coffee from acid rain. Coffee tastes are certainly becoming more "sophisticated," as those in the trade like to say. As a reward, the city has seen increasing quality and diversity in both the beans and the houses.

Still, there are requirements for a true coffee house. They should not have too much food. You should not feel like an ingrate when you bypass the three-page menu and say, "Just coffee, thanks." A good cafe is never irreverent to the simple cup of joe. Munchies and salads are acceptable, desserts highly desirable — but a cafe with more than a few entrees graduates to restaurant status. You should be able to hang out as long as you like (when your coffee begins to separate, it may be time to crawl along). You should be free to leave when you want and not have to hunt down the waitress for a bill.



NEVER BOARD: An afternoon of contemplation, chess and coffee at Trident Booksellers and Cafe..

My coffee route stuck to the main drag of the MBTA. Driving around on caffeine paranoia can be worse than the traditional drinking and driving.

Starting off in Davis Square, right off the Red Line, is the imminent future of coffee in Boston. At the Someday Cafe (51 Davis Square, Somerville, 623-3323), lattes and other "milk drinks," imports from the Northwest craze, are making their mark. The two Seattle proprietors have brought part of their lexicon of coffee lingo, as well: you can order your latte "skinny moo" (with skim milk) or "veggie moo" (soy milk). It's a spunky dive, and the proprietors work like dogs, but there are few tables. One of the proprietors cheerfully sweeps away a pile of *Somerville Journals* so I may sit on the window seat. But I opt to take my coconut-flavored latte across the street to hang with the public statues. The tiny house is sandwiched between the Somerville Theater and Buck a Book, the latter making the shop strategically located for touch-up holiday shopping. You may have to swim through stacks of Nancy Reagan biographies and cooking-with-wheat-germ tomes, but there is always something of note among the coffee-table books.

Back on the Red Line, I'm off to Algiers Coffee House at 40 Brattle Street (492-1557), just above the Brattle Theater. The Arabs were the first to brew coffee, and the shop pays homage to that by offering Arabic coffee by the pot, as well as trendy espresso specialties. The downstairs is like Ali Baba's cave: crowded, dark, low ceilings. The well-trod Persian rugs have become one with the tile floor, and the octagonal, wood tables are tipsy. But the second floor and its silo-shaped interior is bright and open, and the loud wooshing of the espressomakers is muted.

Also in the square is Cafe Pamplona, the best place to ponder New Year's resolutions. Claustrophobics beware: despite the whitewashed walls, this subterrranean niche is dark and cozy; with only a non-smoking corner (three of the dozen tables), it is sometimes cloudy. The room has a Daliesque feel, but I couldn't confirm whether it's the low ceiling or the black-and-white-checked floor that is slightly askew. On my particular run, the soup of the day was garlic, the coffee was hot and the pastries were chilled. The service is excellent, partly because you are never far from the waiter — or any of the patrons for that matter. All types have claimed the cafe, which serves standard espresso fare, as a hideaway. Three bearded men discussed fossil fuel, while in the darkest corner a woman scanned the room as she sketched something. I'm not sure what, because there is just enough room for the black-marble tables (their major cracks considerately covered with duct tape) and not much decoration. But there is plenty of room for ambiance and introspection.

A quick jaunt from Park Street brings me to the waterfront and the North End , just the place to be for the first snowfall, if and when it gets here. Friends who regularly travel to Italy say Caffe Vittoria (296 Hanover St., 227-7606) is the truest of the North End cafes. Surely, the menu of just coffees, desserts and liqueurs shows that Vittoria ("Victory") knows its place. During the day, it is a

local kaffeeklatsch, where men sit for hours over short espressos. At night, the postpasta crowd arrives for the eclairs, and an interesting mix of tourists takes over. In between, during dinner hour, is the best time to go, and you can have your choice of seats. There is the balcony (really just a platform at the back of the shop) and the courtyard (a brick-walled alcove). Sit in the storefront behind the old-fashioned espressomaker on display and people-watch. The newer section almost doubles the size of the cafe, although it looks more like a '50s diner with its chrome-treated decor.

A good cafe is never irreverent to the simple cup of joe. Munchies and salads are acceptable, desserts highly desirable — but a cafe with more than a few entrees graduates to restaurant status.

The check comes with the service, but it is worthwhile to linger. Like any Italian grandmother's home, curio cabinets display a motley mix of treasures: porcelain dishes and figurines, Perugina chocolate, baby pictures. Behind the wooden bar, the long-time barista, head-shaved dolpi-style, works the espresso machine, a more-modern version than the ones on display, including one of the first espressomakers made in the United States. The caffe mocha is served messy and rich, and a dish of gelati complements the brisk outdoors when you're listening to "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas " on the jukebox.



ESPRESSO LANE: *Bostonians are choosing espresso over a plain-old-boring cup of joe.*



TAKE A WALK ON THE OTHER SIDE: *At The Other Side Cafe, telling the waiters apart from the patrons is hard, since the whole group looks like an off-campus party in Allston.*

Yes, I know. Who can think of relaxing when there is so much more shopping to do? Luckily, the newer coffee shops are combining the power of caffeine with point-of-purchase sales. Truly all coffee-hopping roads (in this case the Green Line West) lead to the Coffee Connection. Although the service at all locations is erratic, they make a splendid cup of coffee, be it the American variety or the espresso drinks. Plus, the stores are decked out for the holiday season. After the high-brow end of Newbury Street closes down at 7 p.m., do some window-shopping and stop by the Coffee Connection at 165 Newbury St., which stays open until 10 or 11 most nights. There are only five two-person tables, and there is no people-watching while the displays block the picture window, but you can get that last-minute espressomaker or chocolate-covered-bean gift for your favorite java junkies. Even better, for the better-late-than-a-necktie gift list, fly an assortment of fresh-roast-and-ground to them.

There is the other, larger Coffee Connection on the other side of Hereford, but if you're trekking down to the lower end, don't pass by Trident Booksellers and Cafe (338 Newbury St., 267-8688). After passing through the first wall of incense, it's the perfect place to find that gift for your friend that is so hard to shop for. Especially if she's a lesbian Buddhist with an interest in photography. The books cover most of the bases, but the emphasis is on the creative, the avant-garde, the mystical, the deranged and the neoteric. I ask a salesperson what the last one means. She isn't sure, either.

If you're not sure if your victim, er, friend will like her gift, bring it to a table and try it out over a juice drink and a scone — the latter is addictive. The hanging-out area, where you can also get a few meatless luncheon foods, has been revamped over the last couple of years, but it is still a good place to get a caffeine high and have a heated discussion over Nietzsche and/or body massage (references close at hand). If you're alone, it's not hard to join in on someone else's argument. Or befriend a bonsai — no one will notice — which are adorable when trimmed for Christmas. I sip my cappuccino and wonder if anyone has listed his or her bridal registry here: Brides flipping through the display book of tarot-card designs, making a list of desired-magazine subscriptions.

I realize that the caffeine is getting to me, so I continue up Mass. Ave., first stopping at Urban Outfitters to make sure my attire is appropriate for the last stop. At The Other Side Cafe (407 Newbury St., 536-9477), plaids, nose rings and berets are the required dress for the grunge scene. Funky jazz — played *loud* — keeps the conversations full-throated and the atmosphere clublike. This coffee house has a great location: between Berklee to the south, BU to the west and MIT just over the bridge.

There is a dinerlike bar, but for the tablebound, the service is waiter-powered, which means you could go unnoticed in one of the dark corners of the loft. Telling the waiters apart from the patrons is hard, since the whole group looks like an off-campus party in Allston. The furniture is junk couture from a Hadassah resale, complete with mismatched '60s-Formica dinettes, broken folding chairs and lumpy couches. When the college crowd leaves for the holidays; come lounge with friends, put up your feet, and fend off the New Year's hangover. ❑

Avant-Ski

Practical Tips to Maximize Your Time on the Slopes

By Jay Paris and Carmi Zona-Paris



GET VERTICAL: *For the serious skier, Sunday River offers the best vertical drop with the shortest lines.*

"Simply reaching the ski slope fully equipped and reasonably fit is how a majority of ski time is spent. Consider these practical tips to master the rituals before stepping into your bindings."

Compare the number of hours you actually slide down the slopes to the number of hours you spend choosing, rounding up and tuning equipment; shopping for ski clothing and accessories; packing; loading the car; traveling to the resort; waiting in lift lines; defrosting in lodges; driving home; and unpacking. If you are a social skier, your ratio of pre-exercise ritual to actual skiing may be eight to one, and if you are a no-nonsense skier, your ratio might be six to one.

If you accept our hypothesis that simply reaching the ski slope fully equipped and reasonably fit is how a majority of your ski time is spent, consider these practical tips to master the rituals before stepping into your bindings.

Boots

We've talked to countless experts and have fallen down many mountains between Vail and Wachusett. For certain, the most important piece of ski equipment is your boots. And finding someone who knows how to fit you properly is not easy. To maximize the contact between your foot and the ski, you need to minimize the space in your boot when leaning forward — on a slope — which is a very different sensation from standing on a flat, stationary floor. A ski boot should feel uncomfortably small in the showroom. In fact, the rule of thumb is to find a boot that feels moderately snug, and then try on one size smaller. If that still feels comfortable, try two sizes smaller. Typically, to counter a loose, ill-fitting boot, skiers crank down their boot winches, putting uneven pressure on the ankle and foot, which slows down circulation. If you suffer from cold feet when skiing, your boot may well be too large. Watch ski racers. Their boots are

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so uncomfortably small that unlocking their boots is the first thing they do upon crossing the finish line.

Cold Feet

Another remedy to cold feet is so simple it is usually overlooked, ruining many a ski day. Preheat your boots. If you leave your boots in a cold trunk, or in an unheated room where temperatures are below freezing, it takes the complex layers of plastic literally hours to warm. How many skiers don cold boots in the morning and have cold feet all day long? Or almost as bad, how often do skiers walk from the parking lot of a resort to the lodge, trampling through the briny puddles of half-melted snow in ski socks and running shoes, only to slide into boots with damp or wet socks. Dry socks, silly as it sounds, can make the difference between a cold day of skiing and reasonable comfort.

Lost Luggage

It only takes one incident of lost luggage to realize the wisdom of a well-planned packing strategy and it happens to tens of thousands of skiers each winter. Skis are the last pieces of luggage to be loaded into the underbelly of a plane. More skis and bags are lost in Chicago than in other city in the world — that being the city where all-too-many skiers make westward connections. Most are recovered, but usually two days later. On a five-day skiing trip to Utah or Colorado, the loss is severe. We suggest buying a carry-on boot bag (there are endless varieties in the $50 range) and stuffing your boots with a toothbrush, a light-nylon windbreaker and pants, and polypropylene underwear. Stow the valise overhead while wearing a sweater, ski socks and ski gloves. If you become one of the airline's unlucky victims, you can rent skis (for which you can be reimbursed by the airline) and still enjoy two days of skiing before you and your clothes become overly ripe.

"If you suffer from cold feet when skiing, your boots may well be too large. Watch ski racers. Their boots are so uncomfortably small that unlocking their boots is the first thing they do upon crossing the finish line."

Clothing

While we're on the subject of clothes — if they make the man, they don't make the skier, despite Newbury Street myths to the contrary. Today, there is actually an inverse-dress law prevailing on the slopes. The casual, social or party skier is much more likely to be wearing the $400 Roffe ski parka or the gortex-lined, sweat-wicking K2 jumpsuit, even through the lodge lounge. The extreme skiers — the die-hard masters of moguls — are irreverently shabby. They tend to wear simple jackets or nylon shells over fleece vests and worn blue jeans, giving in to ski couture with an occasional beret or bright headband. They will wear, however, the finest eyewear on the slopes, realizing that depth perception at high speed is only slightly less critical than their choice of boots and skis. Extreme skiers and no-nonsense skiers always have their sunglasses well secured to their heads or clothes in noticeably strong ways. Good eyewear at the Ski Market on Commonwealth Ave. or at one of the Ski Haus shops in suburban Boston is half as expensive as the same item selling at a mountain-side ski shop. Yet, expensive sunglasses are the most commonly lost item and most commonly purchased equipment at ski resorts.

The Hill

For the social skier, the hill of choice is still Vail in the Rockies and Killington in New England. For the more serious skier, Sunday River offers the best vertical drop with the shortest lines, thanks to high-speed quad lifts. The discovery of the year is Marble Mountain in Newfoundland, reachable on Air Canada packages.

The trails are superb with better vertical than anything in the Laurentians, and the climate is surprisingly moderated by the sea. If you like skiing powder amid moose and bald eagles, consider this foray into wilderness; it's inexpensive and only a few flying hours away.

Boston's Best

Best boot-fitters: Bob Smith Sporting Goods. Plan on spending at least an hour there as the staff analyzes your foot and your price range and offers a guarantee for a perfect fit, even after a field trial.

Best equipment deals: Ski Market opposite Boston University. They accept trade-ins, do repairs and have a large inventory for most budgets.

Best skiing opportunity: free rentals, lessons and lift tickets at Sunday River between 8-11 a.m. every morning.

Best adventure: Marble Mountain in Newfoundland (contact Air Canada).

Best hill within two hours: Waterville for family; Loon for singles and couples.

Best hill within four hours: Killington for overall variety of skiing and social activity.

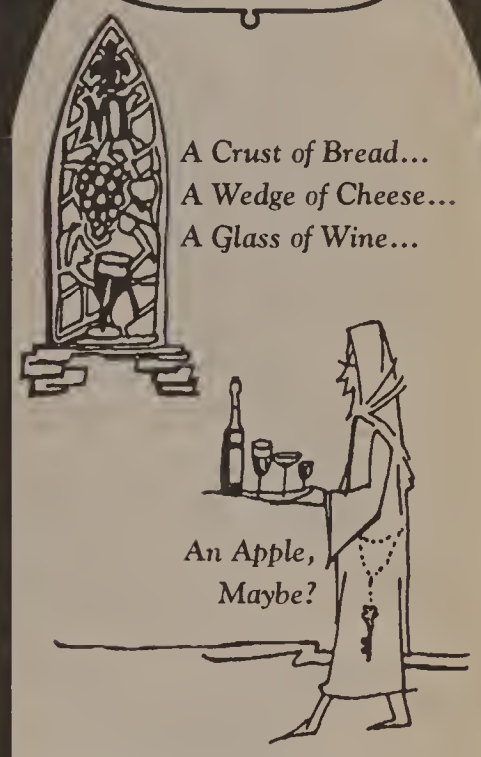
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Key	
★	Don't Bother
★★	Fair
★★★	Good
★★★★	Very Good
★★★★★	Fantastic

A DANGEROUS WOMAN
★★

Try as she might, Debra Winger can't save this film. She bravely attempts to flesh out a believable portrait of a meek, childlike woman with real guts, but she's done in by the TV-movie trappings of the plot. Winger's character wants love and respect, but her truth-telling is unwelcome in a world of people who take advantage of her and cheat on each other. It's a potentially compelling imbalance of power, but even actors as good as Barbara Hershey and David Strathairn can't raise their characters above stereotypes. Worst of all is Gabriel Byrne's over-the-top performance as an alcoholic Irish carpenter who is the first person to treat Winger with kindness, although even he ends up mistreating her. The film sorely needs a doctor to administer some plausibility.

J.W. Hall

GERONIMO: AN AMERICAN LEGEND
★

You can get a better sense of the Geronimo story from a few paragraphs in a history textbook than from this flimsy, forgettable work by director Walter Hill. The film's politically correct plot (the "White Eye" are the bad guys) is so choppy that it's often unclear on what side each man — including Geronimo, played by Wes Studi — stands. We learn little of Geronimo's background, his family or his way of life. We see him only in the twilight of his career. The same is true of the military men played by Robert Duvall and Gene Hackman. The film is instead crammed with cliched close-ups of hurt looks in Indians' eyes and of dead bodies strewn across the desert. The only resolution is the resignation of one sensitive misfit (Matt Damon) from the cavalry.

M.R. D'Entremont

GRUMPY OLD MEN
★★★★

Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau are two lifelong Minnesota neighbors who never outgrew a hankering for mutual childish pranks and general competition (these days, it's "my gallstone is twice as painful as your ulcer"). When a wacky but lovable Berkeley professor (Ann-Margret) moves into the neighborhood, the old men vie for her affections. Their (mostly) vain attempts at recapturing youth are as hilarious as their constant bickering and name-calling. Both win our affections and despite the fun, we truly want them to reconcile. Burgess Meredith also gives a great performance as Lemmon's dad, a sex-mad, foul-mouthed nonagenarian.

M.R. D'Entremont'

MRS. DOUBTFIRE
★★★

I've seen *Tootsie*, and believe me, it's no *Tootsie*. Even more than most of Robin Williams' films, this contrived farce alternately soars and plummets on his manic flights of fancy. Without his singular comic genius, the film would be a pile of John Hughesian mush about how divorcing parents should not hurt their kids. Williams plays a father who can only see his kids by going undercover as an elderly British nanny because his ex-wife (Sally Fields in a thankless role) detests his childishness. The repeated transformations grow old quickly and the cooking disasters are cliched, but Williams' irrepressible need to bust your gut is hard to deny. His riffs in the guise of a hip-hop, grand motherly Mr. Rogers-in-drag are often great fun, even if it all feels fairly insincere.

J.W. Hall

SCHINDLER'S LIST
★★★★

This is a Steven Spielberg film? In radical opposition to his previous movies, he shoots in expressionistic black-and-white tones, refuses to flinch from the horrors of the Holocaust and embraces ambiguity. Spielberg has gone back to his Jewish roots and tried to understand why a Nazi businessman, Oskar Schindler (brilliantly played by Liam Neeson), risked his life to save several-hundred Jews employed in his metalworks factory. The bloated film — just over three hours — has some serious flaws, chiefly Spielberg's understandable tendency to forget about Schindler so as to give a fuller sense of the unspeakable, inhuman treatment of the Jews in the ghettos and extermination camps. But there are also ghastly images that won't soon be forgotten, such as the blazing funeral pyres of bodies and a child's trying to hide in a latrine.

J.W. Hall

INTERVIEW: BY KAJ WILSON
THE SNAPPER'S DIRECTOR STEPHEN FREARS



During this year's Toronto International Film Festival, director Stephen Frears, actor Colm Meaney and producer Lynda Myles answered questions about their film, *The Snapper*. Most of the questions were directed at Frears, who was articulate, witty, engaging and self-effacing.

"I always wanted to make a film in Ireland. But I always felt like an outsider. I come from an imperialist race and had a lot to apologize for. Lynda and Colm guided me through it.

"Roddy Doyle [author of the book on which the movie is based and the screenwriter] teaches geography and English. He worked about 150 yards from the set and would stop by. We gave him a beeper and he'd call up after the period. He's very conscientious.

"If you were to ask me how my films are similar, I would say it has to do with the quality of the language. I'm very clever. I work with good writers. I grew up with films with wonderful dialogue. Good dialogue gives me great pleasure.

"Family dominates my life. I can't think of anything more chaotic than family life. And Roddy writes about it so well. It seems to me that the situation in *The Snapper* is a serious one, although perhaps I feel that way because I'm getting older, and I've got a daughter, a 9-year-old. I hope I'd behave as well as Des does under the circumstances.

"As far as my films having, as you say, a 'darkly comic sensibility,' I don't sit around saying, 'This is too cheerful for me, this will sit badly with my oeuvre.' I'm on my knees with gratitude when a good script comes in the post. I remember thinking that my contribution to *My Beautiful Laundrette* was realizing how good the script was when it came across my desk.

"Have I planned my films? Americans have these things called 'careers.' They have five films and they know what they're about or where they'll be. There's a wonderful quote by David Lean: You come up out of a rabbit hole. It's a different hole each time. For a time, you lose yourself.

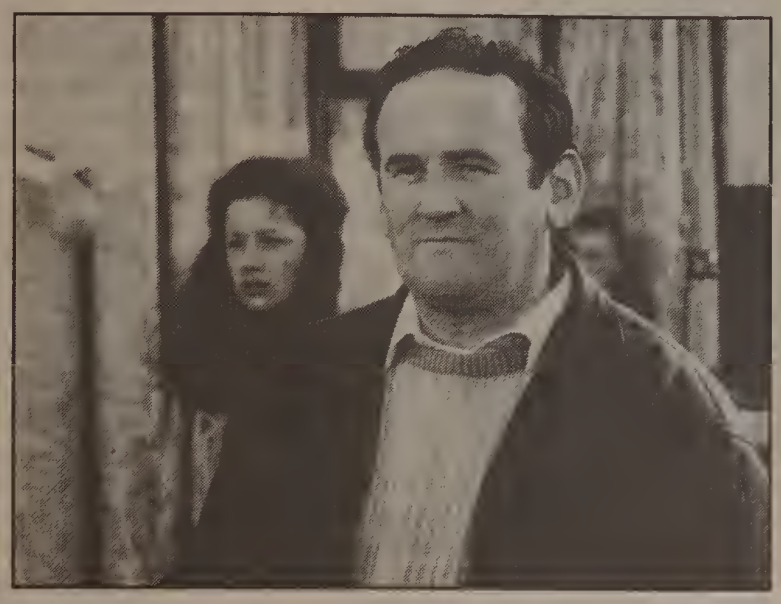
"There is no British film industry. It's gone. The world wants American films, not British films. But there seems to be a lot of spirited people who keep making films. At Cannes this year, I was astounded when almost 10 films came up." ❑

Movie Review / Kaj Wilson

It's a . . . Keeper

"...*The Snapper* is a little gem: a high-spirited, unpretentious, cheeky Irish celebration of family life and pregnancy..."

'Tis the season when Hollywood contributes to Christmas craziness by wheeling out too many big, shiny packages for audiences and the Academy to ooh and ah over. Here's hoping that *The Snapper* isn't lost in the crush. Directed by Stephen Frears, the film is a little gem: a high-spirited, unpretentious, cheeky Irish celebration of family life that begins with a pregnancy and ends with a snapper (Dublin slang for a newborn).



***DADDY DEAREST**: Colm Meaney stars as the father who rises to the occasionof his daughter's unwanted, unmarried pregnancy.*

The working-class Curleys — father Dessie (Colm Meaney), mother Kay (Ruth McCabe) and their six children — seem to be in a state of perpetual motion. Even when they sit still, their mouths are moving. It's a wonder they all fit in their cramped Dublin rowhouse. Twenty-year-old daughter Sharon livens up this already lively household when she announces she's pregnant and refuses to name the father. Word of her condition moves at lightning speed through the neighborhood grapevine, and soon the upset becomes an uproar when the identity of the father finally surfaces. That's about it; if the story sometimes seems a little thin and the family antics a bit precious; the terrific acting, sparkling dialogue and lively pace more than compensate.

The Snapper is the second novel in Dubliner Roddy Doyle's Barrytown trilogy; *The Commitments* is the first. Dessie was last seen briefly in the movie *The Commitments* as band-manager Jimmy Rabbitte's Elvis-worshipping father. The Rabbittes became the Curleys so that no one, including Twentieth Century Fox, who owns the rights to *The Commitments*, would mistake *The Snapper* for a sequel.

IF YOU GO

The Snapper

★★★★

Directed by: Stephen Frears

Screenplay by: Roddy Doyle

Playing at: Loews Harvard Square

Dessie is a sweetheart: a warm, funny, generous man who loves his family and his Guinness. He accepts playing second fiddle to his beautiful, wry wife and not being taken seriously: "I'm the dad, he'd only laugh at me." Dessie adores his oldest daughter Sharon, and she, him. Like many dads, he's a combination father-protector and suitor. "You're my knight in shining armor," Sharon tells him when Dessie gets into a fight defending her honor. The dark, unspoken joke is how much the father of Sharon's baby resembles dear old Dad, but lacks Dad's appeal.

As her pregnancy advances, Sharon becomes more womanly, more like her mother. Dessie becomes more loving and genuinely excited by the baby's arrival, until at last he doesn't care who the father is. As confident and secure as Kay is, she's not above being a little jealous of her daughter, although she'd be the first to admit that, thanks to Sharon, her sex life has improved. Dessie has taken to reading about pregnancy and the female anatomy and applies what he learns in bed.

For all its sunniness, the movie has a gritty, harsh side that fans of Frears' *My Beautiful Laundrette* and *The Grifters* will welcome and that gives the movie texture. The neighbors are petty and judgmental. Her girlfriends are only half-joking when they tell her they'd rather not be seen with her at the clubs for fear her belly will ward off suitors. It's hard to blame them. Opportunities for romance and happiness seem limited. Maybe that's why they drink so much. A flashback scene of the baby's conception — a drunken encounter on the hood of a parked car — is pathetic and all too believable. Even when pregnant, Sharon entertains herself by pub-crawling and getting smashed with her friends.

Tina Kellegher is wonderful. Her Sharon is smart-mouthed, stubborn and down-to-earth. She's ordinary *and* special. She has a rubbery, expressive face and a solid generous core; after a while, you think she's beautiful.

Curley family life may be chaotic, but it's a warm haven. By celebrating birth, the family and the ordinary, *The Snapper* captures the spirit of Christmas at its best. ❑

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Independent Films / Gerald Peary

Blind Ambition

"...*Out of Sight* is an uncompromised, unexpected take on a blind woman, but what a blind woman! Put away all your sentimental, politically correct assumptions..."

1993 ends in a properly celebratory way in Boston, with the world premiere at the MFA of a challenging documentary feature, *Out of Sight*, by an important locally based filmmaker, Newton's David Sutherland.

Let me say immediately that Sutherland's fine documentaries — among them, splendidly oddball appreciations of eccentric artists Paul Cadmus and Jack Levine, and an insightful look at the male psyche, *Half-time: Five Yale Men at Mid-Life* — should be far better known. But, among area documentarians, Sutherland goes his own quiet, non-public way. He never attended nor taught at Harvard or MIT, the de rigueur schools for local filmmakers. He never worked "in-house" at WGBH. He has no association with Boston's documentary "famous": Ross McElwee, Richard Leacock, Frederick Wiseman, Errol Morris.

In fact, Sutherland studied film in — ugh! — LA., at Hollywood-driven USC. Then back in Boston in the family business, he only became a filmmaker by default, after his father's tire store burned down. Nowadays, where does he hang out? In this Newton home's basement, converted into an editing room. He's there year round, worrying and obsessing about his movies, accompanied always by his wife, Nancy, the able co-producer and co-decisionmaker on *Out of Sight*.



EYE TO EYE: *"I don't know if America is ready for a blind person who is not a goody-two-shoes," says Diane, the heroine of Newton-resident David Sutherland's documentary* Out of Sight.

As always with Sutherland, *Out of Sight* is an uncompromised, unexpected take on a documentary subject. It's a film about a blind woman, but what a blind woman! Put away all your sentimental, politically correct assumptions. Northern Californian Diane Starin, Sutherland's focus, is a hellion out of a 1940s Hollywood film noir. A tough-as-nails Barbara Stanwyck, who, with her dolled-up blond girlfriend, Jillian, meanders out to roadhouses at night.

There, she picks up hot-to-trot, big-bellied cowboys and salivating salesmen. She cheats on her older, ailing boyfriend, Herb, an alcoholic rancher. And Diane and her mom, Harriet, count the days for Herb to die of cancer ... and leave Diane his ranch and property.

Sutherland includes sequences showing Diane in a somewhat sympathetic light, i.e., when she is acting as mentor to a 15-year-old blind girl and when she demonstrates her tremendous prowess as a horsewoman despite her lack of sight. Diane is an articulate young woman, and she obviously has tremendous will power and fortitude. Also, to her credit, she's completely unapologetic about her blindness.

Ultimately, however, Diane is a shrill, chilling screen presence; she seems so wrong about how to conduct her life. There is something pathetic, deadening, in watching her compulsively return to the dance floor for another pickup.

Some of *Out of Sight* is hilarious black comedy, but some of it is plain ghoulish. And I don't mean the scene in which Diane casually washes her eyeball in the sink and returns it to its socket. I mean being privy to Diane's self-deceptions, yes, her "moral blindness"; the selfish ways she treats boyfriend Herb who, although not especially articulate or self-reflective, seems a decent old guy.

"I'm in my 30s, living with a man in his 60s, in a relationship which deals with alcohol and infidelity," Diane says in the movie. "I don't now if America is ready for a blind person who is not a goody-two-shoes."

I don't know, either.

Out of Sight hasn't yet located a distributor willing to buy rights and find out.

AIDS Remembrance

There have been many AIDS-remembrance articles about people in the arts — actors, dancers, directors — but none to my knowledge mentioning the decimation in my profession, film criticism. So, I'll end 1993 by recalling, among many deaths:

Jay Scott, the brilliant critic for the Toronto *Globe and Mail*, who died this August. My friend.

Stuart Byron, one-time critic for Boston's *Real Paper* and the *Village Voice*, who was probably the first in America to discuss personal, gay issues in his columns.

Stephen Harvey, the kindly, helpful film curator at New York's Museum of Modern Art, who authored the beautiful study, *Directed by Vincente Minnelli*.

Vito Russo, whose book *The Celluloid Closet* is the classic about homosexuality in the movies. ❑

IF YOU GO

Out of Sight.

★★★

Directed by: David Sutherland.
Playing at: Museum of Fine Arts, Dec. 31-Jan. 21.

Still Watching Movies on Videotape?

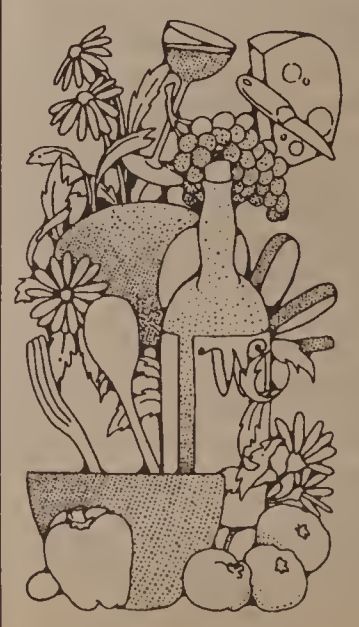
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Amy Persky Gross
Sew Happy

By Johanna Roveto

Rows of industrial sewing machines and tables covered with fabric fill the room; boxes of beads, embroidery and pearls hang above. Side rooms hold stainless-steel sinks and rows of RIT dye, tutus, elaborate costumes, and dancers' shoes. Moving from table to table among the staff of nine is Amy Persky Gross, wardrobe director for the Boston Ballet, who is also responsible for the 200 costumes currently seen on *The Nutcracker*'s stage.

Persky Gross oversees every aspect, from the designs to the fitting sessions. For a single costume, up to 12 fabrics may be used, which are bought in white, dyed to meet color specifications, and prewashed. Each bead or pearl is hand-sewn, not glued, and knotted off separately so that one loose bead does not affect an entire string.

"You need to be really organized," says Persky Gross. "But you live it. It's in your head. You have lists, charts and a bible for each show with sketches, swatches, notes on where it was bought, how it was dyed. Kim (Vercoe, associate director) is invaluable, with her textile background."

Persky Gross discovered costumes during graduate school, when her interest in painting shifted to the possibilities of fabric. She started as a milliner, painting headpieces and dying fabrics and tights. "It is very hands-on work, which I love. Every costume is built individually to last, to move. People in the shop have different backgrounds, so we learn from each other with each production."

Even when a show is remounted, work begins well in advance. Costumes for the *Nutcracker*'s 50 performances are measured in July, and retrimmed for a fresh look. Patterns are stored, should a costume need complete updating. Costumes are individualized as much possible for the best fit. "The dancers are great to work with, so you really want to do everything you can for them."

"We don't redesign any costumes," she adds. "My job is to maintain the integrity. A color may change slightly, to reflect modern palettes, but they always evoke a similar feeling."

The team is currently focused on spring 1994, when it will work simultaneously on costumes for up to eight programs. A number of new programs will require more intensive demands. The rewards, Persky Gross says, are worth it.

"*Sleeping Beauty* was a monster," she says, noting there were more than 300 costumes for the show, "but a beautiful-and-a-fun monster." ❑



Photo by Paul Pilcher

DRESS FOR SUCCESS: *Amy Persky Gross, wardrobe director for the Boston Ballet, oversees the 200 costumes currently starring in* The Nutcracker.



WORLD-CLASS: *The dynamic-playing style of Winchester-based, virtuoso-clarinetist Richard Stoltzman are is world renowned. He can also make a mean linzer torte and follows the Sox.*

Richard Stoltzman
Virtuoso and Swell Guy

By Julia Hanna

Richard Stoltzman is a virtuoso and a swell guy. The Winchester-based but world-renowned clarinetist's versatility as a dynamic performer is legendary, to say nothing of the fact that he makes a mean linzer torte, a result of time spent at that little cooking school around the corner, London's Cordon Bleu. As adroit with words as he is with musical notes, Stoltzman fired back fast-talkin', no-nonsense answers (folks from his hometown of Omaha would be proud) to the following questions:

"Do you consider yourself a classical musician—" "Yes." "...who is very good at jazz —" "No." "...or a jazz musician who is very good at classical music?" "Yes."

Stoltzman went on to elaborate slightly: "I was trained as a classical musician. The only reason why I love jazz is that my dad pointed out what he felt was the best classical music, and it was the big bands. So I listened to big bands all the time when I was growing up, because that was the music my father felt I should listen to if I was going to be a decent human being." No doubt he did Dad proud by inviting Benny Goodman to his Carnegie Hall debut, sort of proud, anyway. "I never thought he would show up, and as it turns out, he did. So, anyway, when it was time to introduce this great legend to the whole audience, I said, 'We have with us tonight Benny Goodman,' and he stood up in his box. I started clapping like everyone else and as I was clapping my clarinet fell apart and rolled across the floor of Carnegie Hall. I was running after it and trying to put it back together. Anyway, we got through the rest of the program."

Stoltzman himself was the legend of honor at WGBH radio's fall banquet celebration for the ear and the belly, aptly called "An Evening With Richard Stoltzman." The program opened with the "Sonata for Clarinet and Piano in f minor" by Brahms (Irma Vallecillo accompanied) and a rare all-live performance of Steve Reich's "New York Counterpoint" with the New England Conservatory of Music Clarinet Choir.

Does he get the same pleasure from playing Reich as he does a more accessible composer such as Gershwin? "I get pleasure out of playing for people. If the people hate the pieces that I play, I don't get as much pleasure out of it. You want the audience to have some kind of meaningful and, hopefully, enriching experience."

The audience obviously felt precisely that. One man, a priest, remarked on the "blessing" that brought Stoltzman (who followed his wife, first violinist of the Muir String quartet) to Boston.

"We love this community ..." Stoltzman responded, "If the Red Sox could just ...." The Sox just couldn't. But as long as they do well enough to keep Richard Stoltzman around, we're willing to bear with them, too. Just. ❑

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Proper Bostonians

Photos by Roger Farrington

The 1994 Snow Ball

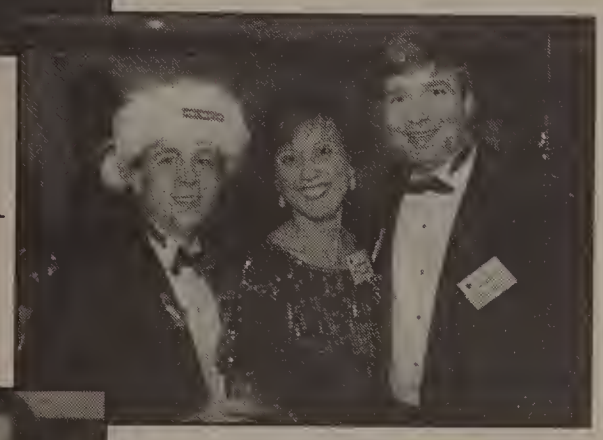
Founded by four couples on a group blind date in 1987, Santa Claus Anonymous' annual Snow Ball has become one of the success stories of Boston's winter social scene. More than 3,000 attended the black-tie dance, raising more than $120,000 for inner-city youth programs.



VISIT FROM SANTA: *His Jolly Old Self, a/k/a Kenton Smith of Nynex Sales, bestows holiday greetings upon Beth Kavanagh, a dental hygienist.*



SANTA'S HELPERS: *Santa Claus Anonymous chairman Todd Kurland, right, and Liz Callanan, president, oversee the full house at the Sheraton Boston's ballroom.*





THE HAT MAKES THE MAN: *Black Diamond Club members , from left, Alexis Belash from Work/Family Directions; P.J. Hofferberth of Reebok Marketing; and Dave Hofferberth of DMC Services.*



HOLIDAY SPIRIT: *Committee members Joe Kates, Colonial Management; Laurie Ross, Genetics Institute; Leslie Semonian, Boston Beer Works; and John Dockrey, Boston Visiting Nurses.*



SEASON'S GREETINGS: *Committee members Dave Read and Kathleen Dupuis.*

MERRYMAKERS: *Committee members Jane Reardon, human resources, New Balance; Andrew Changelian, Showtime Enterprises; and Ellen McGovern, a student at Worcester State College.*

Theater / Nancy Leonard

To Hal and Back

"... The ART's *Henry IV* is a splendidly accessible epic, turning a ponderous text into a vibrant tale of political intrigue and personal triumph..."



ROYALLY GOOD: *Prince Hal, played by Bill Camp, carouses with Falstaff, played by Jeremy Geidt in a 15th-century-tavern-turned-neon '50s diner in the exuberantly designed ART production of* Henry IV.

If you've a mind to tackle Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, toss out the books and notes, and get yourself to the Loeb Drama Center, where the American Repertory Theater is serving up a two-part mounting full of spirit and artistry. Although the text is dense and ponderous, director Ron Daniels has done wonders to enliven six hours and seamlessly stitch the diverse scenes (both noble and profane) into a majestic pageant.

The ART is presenting "Part I" and "Part II" on different nights, and together on certain Sundays. I recommend viewing in chronological order. "Part I," which takes a while to accelerate, is the superior work; and here, its second act is stronger than its first. "Part II" has lots of filler, and although eventually dealing with important issues, spends a long time getting ready for uncertain developments. Some scenes are better than others in the broad array, but the collective weight of the production — its compelling epic sweep — is what impresses the most.

Henry IV chronicles the transformation of the wastrel Prince Hal into the dutiful Henry V, as his father, King Henry IV, is beset by rebels near the end of his reign. Nearly a decade earlier, Richard II had been deposed and King Henry set upon the throne. Now, factional strife and misrule have supplanted that initial hope. Racked with guilt over usurping the crown and fighting erstwhile friends, Henry IV is also troubled by his unworthy heir apparent: a madcap who spends his time carousing with old Jack Falstaff and his boisterous cronies.

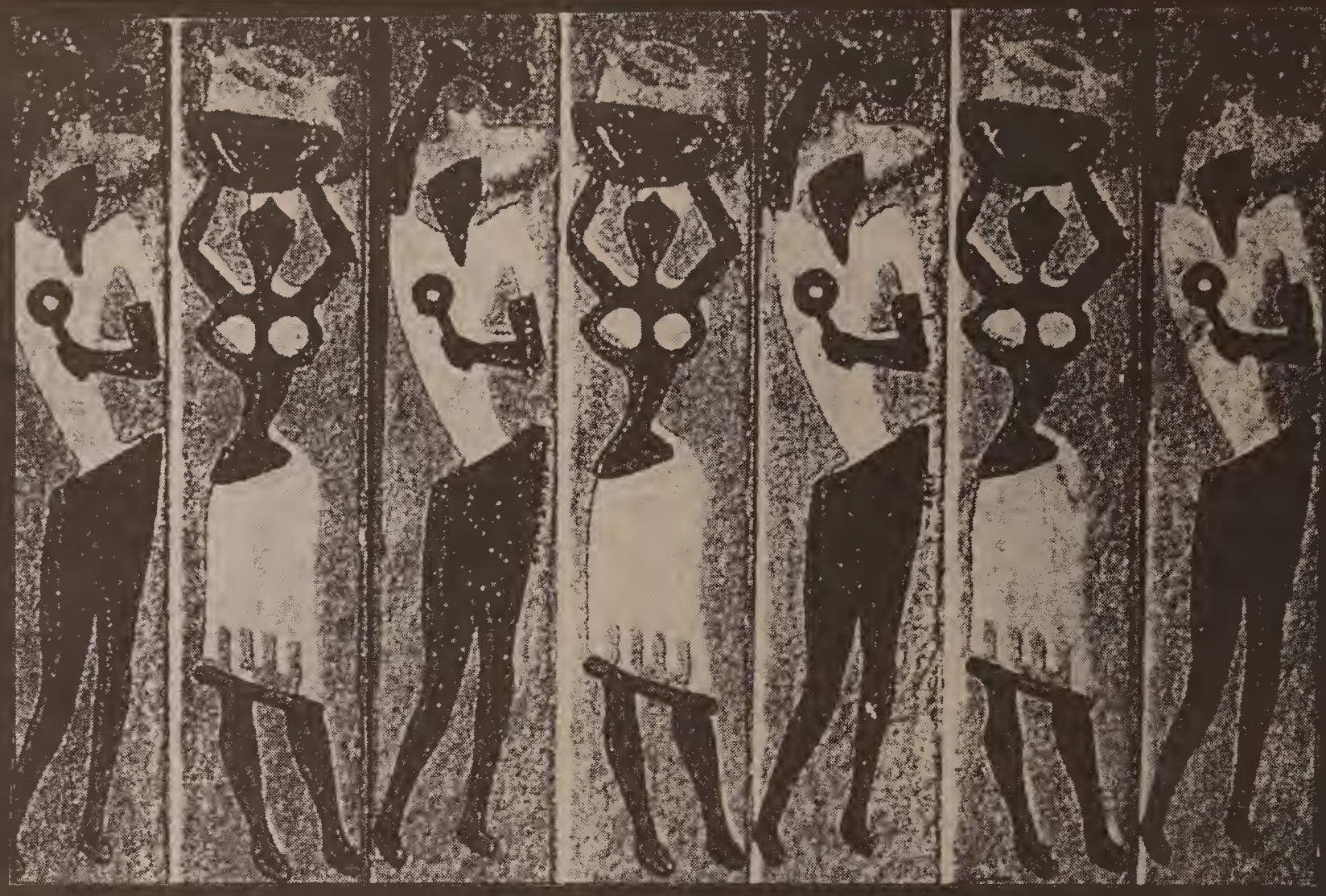
Shakespeare artfully balances scenes in court, in the rebel camp, and in Falstaff's rowdy world. Daniels does him one better, by fracturing time to create a kind of timeless resonance. His battle scenes look like American Civil War settings, but the sounds include a Vietnam-era helicopter and contemporary artillery. The king's foes are a collection of 1930s fascists, Native Americans, and Andean peasants, and Falstaff's Eastcheap tavern is a chrome-and-vinyl diner from the 1950s. The eclectic design works well without upstaging the action, even if it does become a little overassertive in the second part.

The success of the production lies in the vigorously detailed performances, which always command attention and ensure that we follow developments. Bill Camp is impressive as Hal, whose pose as a modern punk rocker (spiky blond hair, T-shirt and jeans) seems to have been taken as a hedge against destiny rather than a weak nature. Although his prince never seems as sullied as his reputation, he matures steadily before our eyes, vindicating himself in battle and winning back his father's affection. Royal Miller delivers a dazzling performance as the fiery antagonist Hotspur. He dominates the first act with vibrant detail and rich emotion, building to some thrilling, if fatal, swordplay against Hal at Shrewsbury. It's memorable work. Jeremy Geidt is a wonderful rogue as the corpulent, licentious Falstaff; yet there's much social commentary when he moves on to recruit men for the King's army, and true poignancy in his final banishment. John Conklin's bare set, with its gleaming red walls and floor, relies on sliding panels, curtains, neon signs and a few props to mark various locations. Frances Aronson's lighting is wonderfully varied and evocative and Gabriel Berry's costumes are truly a motley.

The ART's *Henry IV* is a splendidly accessible epic. Daniels and company have turned a ponderous text into a vibrant tale of political intrigue and personal triumph.

The Who's Tommy

Loud and spectacular, at least in its visual and aural elements, *The Who's Tommy*'s propulsive score and non-stop multimedia imagery certainly validate this rock opera as a high-tech sensation. The glory of the production lies in director Des McAnuff's brilliant staging, which sweeps through time and place in breathtaking wonder. But when you leave the Colonial Theatre (where this work will be on view through Jan. 15), you may feel rather disappointed by its wimpy story. It's not really clear what *Tommy* aims to tell us; but even if you guess right, you'll find it dramatically wanting. ❑



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–Mopsy Strange Kennedy, *The Improper Bostonian*

Arts Review / Charles Giuliano

HOPE AND *PRAYER*

"... It's a win-win situation: a great selection of some of the best artists in the city and you make a contribution to Boston Pediatric AIDS Project..."

On the branches of trees outside Japanese temples hang thin strips of paper with prayers, poems and remembrances of deceased loved ones. Five years ago artist Tom Grabosky invited others to bring anonymous, paper pieces to the Howard Yezerski Gallery, where they would be made available for small, charitable contributions. The annual, December "Paper Prayers" has become a Boston tradition that involves many galleries and several museums. In its first four years, the event has raised $42,000 for the Boston Pediatric AIDS Project (BPAP). Organizers hope to match or top last year's $17,000.

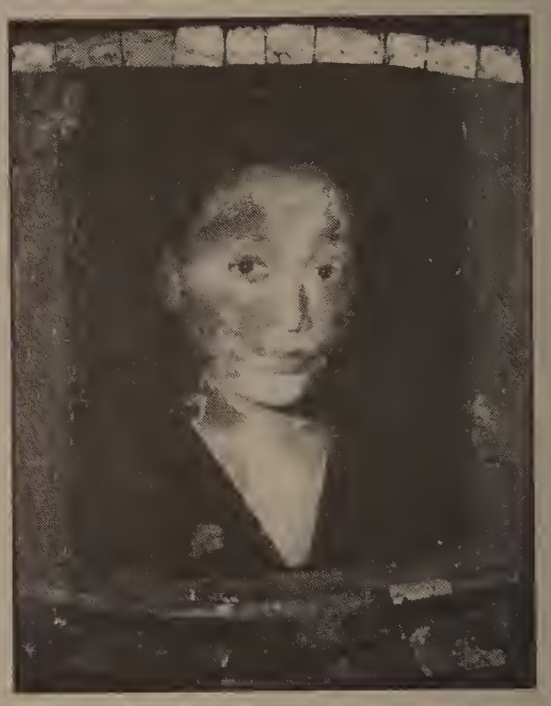
The anonymous paper prayers — in which everyone guesses who did what and the pieces are marked at Filene's Basement prices — have been joined for the past two years by a second category, "Anything but Paper Prayers." These are signed or identified small-scale works by some of Boston's best-established, as well as emerging, artists. These pieces are available for a contribution of just $150. And, this year, the tradition gained a third element: an exhibition curated by Grabosky called "In the Spirit of Remembering," that includes major pieces by a blue-chip group of established Boston artists: Domingo Barreres, Maggi Brown, Arthur Ganson, Robert Goss, Yanik Lapur, Lynda Ray, Paul Shakespear and Elaine Spatz-Rabinowitz. A percentage of the sales will be donated to BPAP.

"There are still many choice pieces left," Yezerski said during a last-minute tour of the exhibition, which officially closes Dec. 23. Most art galleries will be closed from Dec. 24 through the New Year. But Yezerski will maintain office hours and can be reached by telephone (262-0550).

"The response has been very gratifying, both from the many artists who have donated works to all the other participating galleries (Alpha, Ashuah Irving, Kingston, Krakow, NAGA, Nielsen) and museums (Art Complex, Duxbury; Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center; Wellesly College, Mass. Art, and Newton Arts Center), " Yezerski said. "Basically it's a win-win situation. You get a great selection of affordable pieces by some of the best artists in the city and make a contribution to BPAP as well."

During the busy holiday season, galleries usually present group shows. With so many social distractions, this period is not considered the best time for one-person shows or to present emerging artists. These group shows usually take the form of the art-world equivalent of reruns or greatest hits at affordable prices.

I was refreshingly surprised to encounter the very powerful exhibition, *WAKE UP put stereotypes to bed*, an installation by Sam Earle in observance of World AIDS Day, as well as *New Work: Peter Madden, Ron Rizzi and Esther Solondz*, curated by Mary Olmsted at Gallery NAGA. The gallery is also exhibiting a wall of "Anything but Paper Prayers, of which a few pieces are still available. The gallery will be closed as of Dec. 24.



ESTHER SOLONDZ: *Woman in Blue Dress, 1993.*

Earle's installation, recently on view at the Museum of Fine Arts, comprises 12 hanging coats, 12 handmade books and a pile of coats. Eleven of the coats and books represents groups at risk for AIDS. The extra coat and book invite interaction and comments from viewers.

The three artists in "New Work" are each showing with NAGA for the first time. Of these, Rizzi is the best known, having previously shown with two now-closed galleries, Akin and Zoe. He was recently seen in *Building a Collection* at the MFA, and is part of the *Beyond Dreams* retrospective at Bromfield Gallery, through Dec. 30. In his haunting, figurative vignettes, Rizzi, a student of Buddhism, depicts stunning fields of intense, vibrantly streaked color, offering meditations on China's hostile occupation and assimilation of Tibet. The images are variations on the flight of the Dalai Lama into India in1959.

Esther Solondz's voodoolike concoctions of mixed media and photography were one of the great critical and curatorial discoveries last year. Her work was featured at the Ashuah Irving Gallery on Congress Street, as well as at the De Cordova Museum in Lincoln. The haunting images evoke feelings of ghostlike remembrances and spirits. This work seems to be even stronger.

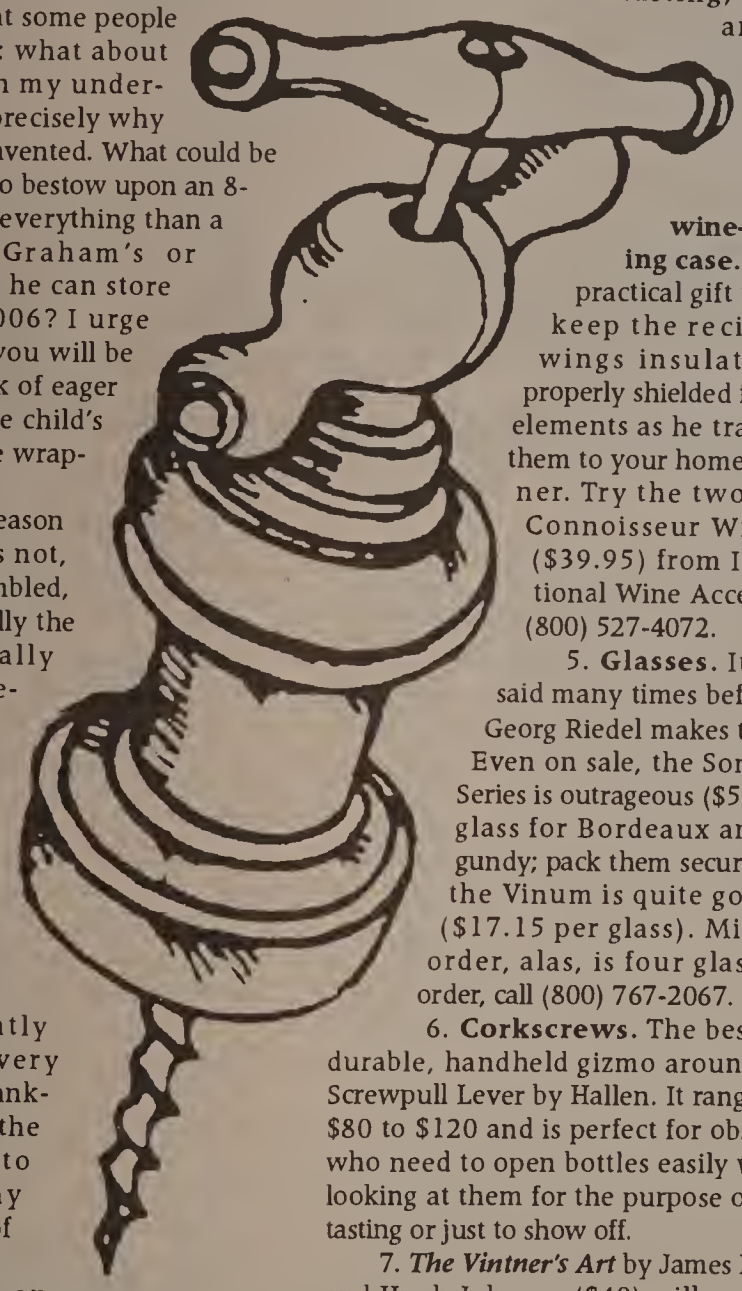
Much credit is due to the many artists, curators and galleries who have made generous contributions to support BPAP and other charities. ❑

Through the Wine Glass / Sandy Block, MW

The Gift of Wine

"...I give wine not, as some have grumbled, out of laziness. It is actually the most ecologically responsible of presents. Why? It's easily recycled..."

Selecting the right gift is an art that, unfortunately for those on my shopping list, I have not quite mastered. Everyone, without exception, gets wine. I know what some people may be thinking: what about the underage? In my understanding, that is precisely why vintage port was invented. What could be more appropriate to bestow upon an 8-year-old who has everything than a bottle of '85 Graham's or Delaforce, which he can store until the year 2006? I urge skeptics to try it; you will be amazed at the look of eager anticipation on the child's face as he tears the wrapping paper.



The primary reason that I give wine is not, as some have grumbled, laziness. It is actually the most ecologically responsible of presents. Why? It's easily recycled. If you are given a bottle that fails to excite your interest, why not pass it on to someone else? Be careful, though. I recently received some very tersely worded thank-you notes for all the trouble I took to repackage my remaining bottles of '91 Nouveau.

This year, in an effort to shield myself from further base ingratitude, I have struck out into uncharted waters and diversified my range of gift-giving recommendations. Some ideas do, however, presuppose that the recipient knows how to read.

1. **A magazine subscription.** *Decanter*, a British monthly that coyly describes itself as the world's best wine magazine, is full of good writing and costs $65 (Call (800) 688-6247). Also of note for its seriousness and interesting prose: *The Quarterly Review of Wine* ($13.95; P.O. Box 591, Winchester, Mass. 01890-9988).

2. **A champagne recorker.** Surprisingly, many American homes are without this staple gadget, which enables you to preserve a sparkling wine's effervescence for a day or so after celebrating. One of the nicest gold-plated pieces ($15) is available through Williams-Sonoma, (800) 541-2233.

3. ***The Beginner's Guide to Understanding Wine*** ($12.95). A great book by Michael Schuster with a deceptive title, this is not quite for beginners. Some of the most cogent and useful information about tasting, serving and storing is contained herein.

4. **A wine-carrying case.** Here's a practical gift that will keep the recipient's wings insulated and properly shielded from the elements as he transports them to your home for dinner. Try the two-bottle Connoisseur Wine Bag ($39.95) from International Wine Accessories, (800) 527-4072.

5. **Glasses.** It's been said many times before, but Georg Riedel makes the best. Even on sale, the Sommelier Series is outrageous ($55.30 per glass for Bordeaux and Burgundy; pack them securely.) but the Vinum is quite good, too ($17.15 per glass). Minimum order, alas, is four glasses. To order, call (800) 767-2067.

6. **Corkscrews.** The best, most durable, handheld gizmo around is the Screwpull Lever by Hallen. It ranges from $80 to $120 and is perfect for obsessives who need to open bottles easily without looking at them for the purpose of blind-tasting or just to show off.

7. ***The Vintner's Art*** by James Halliday and Hugh Johnson ($40) will answer all those nagging technical questions you have about how the stuff is made and why it tastes the way it does in a readable, easy-to-follow format.

8. **A wine coaster.** This is something few people think of buying, but it's very useful. Williams-Sonoma features a tastefully decorative pewter one that comes with a cork stopper ($49).

9. ***The Great Domaines of Burgundy*** by Remington Norman ($40) is specialist stuff, but it's absolutely definitive, full of inside dope on this most-fascinating district. And the pictures are good, too. A handsome volume, painstakingly researched and eminently practical for the devout Cote d'Or maniac in your life.

10. **A wine-label remover.** A somewhat-absurd gift, but you can probably picture who on your list would appreciate it. I sure wish I had one when I was a sommelier. Call International Wine Accessories (800) 527-4072 for the juicy details. ❑

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular dining establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

A STEAK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD
39 Dalton St., Boston, in the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, 262-1822.
Take reasonably priced hearty servings of delicious food, serve in a relaxed style, add music and you've got A Steak in the Neighborhood. DJ and dancing nightly after 10 p.m. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, late-night snacks 'til 1a.m. daily. Come in for a mountain of nachos and one of the 52 varieties of beer or a 12-oz,New York steak and a giant brownie sundae.

AKBAR INDIA RESTAURANT
1248 Cambridge St.,Cambridge, 497-6548.
Akbar offers fine Indian cuisine in a traditional setting. Visit Akbar for dinner and sample one of the daily dinner specials and a menu that offers various Indian dishes including thali, a traditional specialty (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available). For $5.95, Friday through Sunday, 12-3 p.m., feast on an all-you-can-eat buffet, or stop in for live classical Indian music Thursday through Saturday nights(no cover). Akbar also offers a full bar. Take-out and delivery available. Free parking. Open daily 12 to 11 p.m.

ANTHONY'S PIER 4
140 Northern Ave., Boston, 482-6262.
Boston's world-renowned seafood restaurant, Anthony's Pier 4 is bustling. Besides offering one of the finest views of Boston Harbor and the skyline, the restaurant has received numerous awards such as first place in Sales and Marketing magazine's Business Executives Dining Award for 14 years. Specialties are the freshest harvests from the sea, including New England lobster, Boston scrod, as well as a variety of fine meats.

BENNETT ST. CAFE
The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 661-5005.
Chef Peter Davis, formerly of the Peninsula Hotel, Beverly Hills, CA, has created a totally new menu, including new rotisserie specialties, fish dishes, fun sandwiches, pastas, salads and decadent desserts. Visit our fabulous Sunday brunch buffet, known for its raw bar, omelettes made to order, and overflowing buffet samples of meats, salads and desserts. Dress is very "Cambridge" – come as you are! Open 6:30 a.m.-11 a.m. for breakfast, lunch 11 a.m. -3 p.m., and dinner 3-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 11 p.m.

CAFE RUBINO
226 Newbury Street, Boston, 247-2080.
Mastercard and Visa accepted.
At Cafe Rubino, Newbury Street's only pasta bar, there is something for everyone. A favorite is the New Orleans Italian sandwich, the muffelatta, as well as authentic pasta dishes. Stop in for morning coffee or afternoon espresso, and try the delicious cakes and tortes. Take out available. Hours are Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Wednesday thru Saturday 8 a.m.-11 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. -9 p.m.

CANESTARO PIZZERIA
16 Peterborough St., Boston, 266-8997.
Canestaro Pizzeria is only two blocks from Fenway Park, so drop by before or after the game for the best pizza and calzones in Boston. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the patio. Voted "Best Calzone" by Boston's Best Guide. We offer 30 different pizza toppings and calzone fillings. Choose from pesto, artichoke hearts, sun-dried tomatoes, pasta dishes and seven different kinds of salads. If you're really hungry, try the steak sandwich with everything, and we do mean everything: steak, prosciutto, pepperoni, mushrooms, green peppers, onions, and cheese. Free home delivery. Open Monday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m.

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CAPTAIN'S WHARF
356 Harvard St., Brookline, 566-5590.
The best seafood restaurant in town, Captain's Wharf has the freshest seafood you'll find anywhere (outside the ocean itself). Captain's Wharf always offers large portions at great prices-dinner specials like one pound lobsters for $9.95, shrimp and garlic fettucine for $9.95, and Cajun catfish for $7.25. An extensive seafood menu sure to thrill the taste buds. Lunch specials are served from 11:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m., and prices range from $4.75-$5.95. Beer and wine are always available, as is a raw bar. Conveniently located on Harvard St. next to the Coolidge Corner T-stop. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Free parking available.

CHINA PEARL
9 Tyler Street, Boston, 426-4338.
Winner of the Improper Bostonian's Best Dim Sum. Dim Sum is an interesting way to sample various dishes, including steamed dumplings filled with seafood or meat, and for dessert, dumplings filled with sweet paste or preserves. China Pearl also boasts a full lunch and dinner menu. Take-out available. Open Monday-Saturday 8 a.m.-2 a.m. and Sunday until 11 p.m. Dim Sum served from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
The last stop on the C line, Cityside is conveniently located across from the Circle Cinema. Experience contemporary dining in a friendly neighborhood atmosphere while sampling American, Italian and Southwestern cuisine. Cityside also features creative daily specials. Lunch and dinner 7 days a week. Outside dining, weather permitting. Serving Sunday-Wednesday until 10 p.m., Thursday-Saturday until 10:30 p.m.

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.
Enjoy hearty platters of fresh seafood, BBQ, and the biggest, spiciest Buffalo wings in town. Great daily specials for both lunch and dinner. The atmosphere is a casual brewery, big and bold with copper everything—brewing kettles, tabletops, bar, and ventilation ducts. The English-style ales are robust,unpasteurized, hand-pumped, and brewed right on the premises. Live music every Friday and Saturday night. Open Sundays from noon to 10 p.m., Monday-Thursday 11:30 a.m. to midnight, Friday and Saturday until 1 a.m.

CORNUCOPIA ON THE WHARF
100 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-0300.
New American-New England cuisine is served at this trendy waterfront restaurant. The creative menu changes with the seasons with a mix of seafood, meats and poultry. Desserts are spectacular-Cornucopia won the Improper Bostonian's Best of Boston award for "Tastiest Dessert". Bon Appetit named Cornucopia "Best Sunset View Bar" in Boston. Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, brunch served Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations are advised. Open for lunch Monday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; dinner Monday-Thursday 5:30-10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 10:30p.m.

DAVIO'S
269 Newbury St., 262-4810.
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 661-4810
202 Washington Street, Brookline Village, 738-4810.
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DOLCE VITA
237 Hanover St., Boston, 720-0422.
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THE FISHERY
718 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 868-8800.
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THE FISH PIER
667 East Broadway, South Boston, 269-2111.
The largest selection of fresh, fried, baked, and broiled seafood and the friendliest service in South Boston characterize the Fish Pier restaurant. The menu also includes a multitude of chicken dishes, prime and BBQ ribs, sandwiches, salads, appetizers, chowders, and other hearty American fare. Mention the Improper Bostonian and enjoy a free appetizer with your dinner! Come to South Boston's neighborhood mecca for fresh seafood or call up for delivery anywhere in Boston. Open for lunch and dinner: Monday and Tuesday 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Wednesday-Saturday 10: 30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sunday 12-9 p.m.

GANDHI RESTAURANT
704 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 491-1104.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy a fresh, healthy, light and spicy menu that offers a plenitude of vegetable, seafood, chicken and lamb entrees. For vegi lovers—baingen bartha, eggplant cooked with peas and tomatoes, and bhindi bhuna, fresh okra roasted with onion, ginger and garlic. Gandhi offers tender chicken and lamb dishes cooked in curry sauces or with vegetables. Shrimp Nargassi, shrimp cooked with spinach, and fish vindaloo, spicy fresh curry mix with potato are other alternatives. All dishes may be ordered for take-out anytime and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week, 12-11 p.m., Call for delivery 577-0000.

GEOFFREY'S CAFÉ-BAR
651 Boylston St., Boston, 437-6400.
578 Tremont St., Boston, 266-1122.
With two convenient locations, in the heart of the Back Bay and in the South End, Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar has become a favorite for many of the locals. Geoffrey's serves breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner and decadent desserts 7 days a week. Geoffrey's prides itself with serving the healthiest portions of the freshest food at extremely reasonable prices and was the Improper Bostonian's winner for "Best Waitress" and "Best Brunch." Open Monday-Thursday 7:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday 7:30 a.m.-midnight, Saturday 8 a.m.-midnight, and Sunday 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

GRENDEL'S RESTAURANT AND BAR
89 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge. 491-1160.
Major credit cards accepted.
Established in 1971, Grendel's features inexpensive international food such as cheese fondue, spinach pie, pasta, sandwiches, and a mammoth salad bar. Famous for the chocolate fondue, as well as ice cream sundaes and pastries. Grendel's is a perfect spot for afternoon tea or after the theater, as well as lunch and dinner. Outdoor dining by the park, weather permitting, and porch dining all year. Three fireplaces make for a cozy winter atmosphere. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Bar open every evening from 4 p.m. to 1a.m.

HARVARD STREET GRILL
398 Harvard St., Brookline, 734-9834.
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CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

The Movable Feast / By R.E. Brunson

Duck the Issue

"...Mr. Leung's entrees were all, without exception, extraordinary. The Peking duck was voted all-time best by the whole table..."

Mr. Leung is located below street level, in the block of Boylston Street, between Clarendon and Dartmouth. Passersby may not even detect its existence unless they glimpse the pole bearing the restaurant's emblem or the valet, ready to retrieve cars. The restaurant itself is furnished with a minimalistic decor of spotlights, tables covered with starched-white cloths, black-lacquer chairs and several exotic, floral displays. Mr. Leung's sleek contemporary look has a dated feel to it. However once the food arrived, we knew that the restaurant wasn't past its prime.



HONG KONG-STYLE: *Bernard Leung — Mr. Leung — learned his craft at the famous David K's in Manhattan and came to Boston to work with Sally Ling, before striking out on his own in his service oriented restaurant on Boylston.*

Bernard Leung — Mr. Leung — learned his craft at the famous David K's in Manhattan and came to Boston to work with Sally Ling. When he opened his own restaurant in the city more than seven years ago, his Hong Kong style of Chinese food was a new, exotic concept. The cuisine is Chinese; many of the dishes have familiar names, but the service, the preparation and presentation attempt a level rarely encountered in other Chinese restaurants. It reflects, as the name implies, the more sophisticated, urbane world of Hong Kong.

Service is an important part of the experience at Mr. Leung. Professional waitstaff, clad in tuxedos, graciously unfold napkins into patrons' laps upon seating. Glasses are miraculously refilled and dishes silently whisked away without a klink of silverware against porcelain. It is as service should be: impeccable, down to the steaming hand towel presented between each course. All without fuss.

The menu offers a variety of dishes from Southern California, along with favorites, such as Peking duck. There are also tasting dinners, including several items in each course, for two persons. Our choices for appetizers included the crispy Indonesian-curry dumplings. These crunchy triangles were filled with ground beef, marinated in curry and combined with chopped water chestnuts and bamboo shoots. We were pleasantly surprised by the taste of the Indonesian curry, and the dumplings disappeared in a heartbeat. The clams in black-bean sauce were another favorite. The tender clams were covered in a velvety black-bean sauce that was light but still fragrant with garlic and spices. Our only diappointment of the evening was minor; the filling of the pan-seared seafood dumplings was generic and bland.

The entrees were all, without exception, extraordinary. The Peking duck was voted all-time best by the whole table. The duck is served in two courses. In the first, the golden-duck skin is combined with hoisin sauce and long slices of cucumber and wrapped in a warm pancake. The staff prepares the pancakes tableside and serves them to guests. We requested extra hoisin sauce on the side. The pancakes were heaven with a wonderful crunch toevery bite. The rest of the delicious duck arrived later in the second course, thinly sliced, in a light sauce with slices of ginger, snow peas and peppers.

The ginger-and-scallion lobster was also perfect. It was dramatically arranged on a platter so as to appear to be rising from the sea, covered in seaweed (green-scallion tails). It was accompanied by a side of angel-hair pasta with fresh ginger and scallions. The lobster meat was perfectly cooked by the chef, as were all the proteins in our meal. The black-pepper filet mignon was another winner. It had been marinated and was very tender and tasty with its sauce of onions, mushrooms and black pepper.

While eating, we discovered that the owner will be opening another restaurant in March. The location will be in Amsterdam's old location in the Park Plaza building and the cusine will be a mixture of American/Continental with a variety of Asian cusines. Look for features such as a Japanese hot table, where items are cooked on a stone without oil or fat. Back to the dinner: there were several selections for dessert, but our group decided to pass and settle for a fortune cookie. If a fortune could have captured our experience, it would have been "a wonderful meal makes for a light heart." All would have enthusiastically agreed. ❑

IF YOU GO

Mr. Leung

545 Boylston St.
236-4040
Lunch, Mon.-Fri. 12-3 p.m.;
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House Of Blues
96 Winthrop St. Cambridge 491-2583
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free monday-Saturday,12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

Icarus
3 Appleton Street, Boston, 426-1790.
Major credit cards accepted.
Now in its 15th year, Icarus continues to win accolades, including "Best Reastaurant" from the Improper Bostonian. Chef-owner Chris Dougalss' award-winning cuisine combines the freshest ingredients in an ever-changing and imaginative style. Recent highlights include polenta with braised exotic mushrooms, grilled shrimp with mango and jalapeño sorbet, and juniper and pepper-crusted venison. Homemade desserts, a full bar and an extensive wine list . Dinner from 6-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 'til 11 p.m., and Sunday brunch from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday night live jazz in the bar. Valet parking Monday-Saturdays. Reservations recommended.

India Pavilion
17 Central Square(on Western Ave), Cambridge, 547-7463.
Major Credit cards accepted.
Savor royal recipes, preserved from the time of the mughals! India Pavilion offers delicious cuisine, cooked in traditional Indian style. Select entrees such as chicken kandhari; chicken cooked in a cream sauce with cashews, and chicken masala; chicken cooked in a thick curry sauce. The menu offers other meat dishes such as beef shahjhani and shahjahni biryani, as well as popular vegetable enrees like malai kofta, vegetable balls fried and cooked in a delicious sauce. All dishes may be ordered for take-out, and will receive a 10% discount. Open 7 days a week. Lunch 12-3 p.m., dinner 3-11 p.m. Call for delivery 577-0000.

Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Red Line. 776-2004.
Everyone knows that Johnny D's has one of the hippest music rooms in Boston, and it's no secret that the kitchen puts out some of the best food around. Natural free-range, antibiotic-free beef, chicken, and eggs. A multi-cultural menu with daily specials such as fresh grilled tuna with Jamaican relish, and homemade pastas. Also serving appetizers and sandwiches, and weekend brunch. Prices are reasonable. Enjoy 50% off all menu items between 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Parties and functions welcome. Open from 11:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m., brunch Sat. and Sun. 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Jose's Mexican Food
131 Sherman St., North Cambridge, 354-0335.
For the feel of Mexico in the heart of North Cambridge, try Jose's Mexican Restaurant. Jose's has been serving up authentic Mexican food for 10 years. Winner of "Cheap Eats", "Hit of the Week", and many other yearly awards. Bite into the burritos or feast on fajitas while savoring Jose's famous margaritas or an Ice cold cerveza. Mention the Improper Bostonian and get 20% off your food bill. Lunch specials Monday-Friday 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., Saturday 12-4 p.m. Dinner Monday-Thursday 4-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 4 -11 p.m., Sunday 4 -9 p.m. Handicapped accessible.

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
An authentic Irish atmosphere and menu sure to please all. Appetizers include potato skins and shrimp cocktail. Meat lovers are sure to be thrilled with the large New York sirloin steak or teriyaki steak tips, while dishes from the sea include baked stuffed shrimp, New England broiled scrod, scallops, and more. Childrens portions are available. This is more than just another Irish pub and restaurant; The Kells prides itself on great food, prices, and service. Food specials all day. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. for cocktails. Parties and functions welcome.

Legal Seafood
Park Plaza Hotel: Restaurant & Café 35 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-4444. Statler Office Building: 27 Columbus Ave., Boston, 426-5566. Kendall Square: 5 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, 864-3400. Chestnut Hill: 43 Boylston St., Rt 9, 277-7300. Copley Place: 100 Huntington Ave. Boston, 266-7775. Prudential Center: 800 Boylston St., Boston, 266-6800.
Rlghtly known as Boston's best fish house, Legal Sea Foods has an unquestioned standard of excellence. Founder George Berkowitz lives by hls motto, "If it's not fresh, it's not Legal." One of many highlights is the seafood casserole—a medley of salmon, scallops, shrimp, and scrod.

Maison Robert
45 School St., Boston, 227-3370.
Two restaurants and café bar. Elegant formal dining rooms and unique private party rooms for meetings and parties. A nice place to gather with friends is the newly renovated café bar entered through the terrace. This sunny space makes you feel like the warm waters of the Mediterranean are outside. The new bar menu offers tastes of the Mediterranean with your favorite drink. Prix fixe complete dinner in the café at $15 and $22. Serving lunch, cocktails and dinner.

Magnolias Southern Cuisine
1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 576-1971.
Major credit cards accepted.
Formerly The Cajun Yankee. Chef John Silberman, trained by Paul Prudhomme at K-Paul's, brings the best the south has to offer. Come sample his appetizers of Cajun popcorn, deep fried cheese, home smoked salmon and goat cheese, and blackened scallops. Entrees include Maryland soft shell crabs, grilled pork loin with corn relish and hot pepper jelly, blackened prime rib, and pan-seared tuna Belle Watlings' style. Open Tuesday-Saturday 6-10 p.m.

Mamma Maria
3 North Square, North End, Boston, 523-0077.
Reservations recommended. Valet parking; no dress code.
If you're looking for an evening set in a turn-of-the-century townhouse on a cobblestone street, try Mamma Maria, winner of the 1992 "People's Choice Award" for Best Italian Restaurant and 1993's Time Travel Guide's "Best of the Best". Fresh-cut roses add atmosphere to a menu that includes boneless breast of chicken coated with pistachios, and homemade porcini ravioli in duck ragu. Save room for offerings created by their pastry chef. Open Monday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m.; Friday-Sunday 5-10 p.m.; Lunch, Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Massiminos Cucina Italiana
207 Endicott St., Boston, 523-5959.
You'll dine in a comfortable atmosphere and elegant surroundings as you feast on specialties from master chef Massimino. This former head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel serves dishes that are unmatched. Try the swordfish stuffed with fresh mozzarella and basil in a marinara sauce or the chicken Florentina, a chicken breast with artichokes and black olives in a Verdicchio wine sauce baked with mozzarella. Available for functions. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Very dose to North Station T stop; convenient parking.

Michael's Waterfront
85 Atlantic Ave., Boston, 367-6425.
Michael's Waterfront has blackened tuna with curried shrimp and jicama slaw, seared salmon with Dalmatian bean cakes and native crab, grilled lobster with seafood summer relish, wild mushroom raviolis with shrimp, pancetta, roasted peppers and garlic olive oil. Michael's Waterfront was voted "Best Wine List" in the Improper Bostonian in 1993. Reservations for dinner are recommended. Open Sunday-Thursday 5:30-10 p.m., Friday and Saturday 5:30-11 p.m. Lounge open until 12:45 a.m.

O'Leary's Pub and Restaurant
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
Relax, dine and socialize in this newly opened pub on lower Beacon Street. O'Leary's features continental cuisine and traditional Irish dishes such as Guinness beef stew and steak au poivre. Choose from an extensive selection of domestic and imported draft beers. Open for dinner Sunday-Wednesday 5-10 p.m. and Thursday-Saturday 5-11 p.m. Lunch from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Original Sports Saloon
47 Huntington Ave, Boston, 536-1904
This neighborhood restaurant and bar is the only place to go in Boston to watch a sporting event. This establishment roars with excitement no matter which sport is showing on their five satellite TVs. As far as their menu, barbeque is the name of the game here; they do it differently than anyone else. All items are available for take-out and delivery. Open 7 days a week from 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

La Piccola Venezia
63 Salem Street, Boston, 523-9802.
No credit cards accepted.
Authentic home-style cooking in a casual, no frills environment. Blackboard menu, wine served in pitchers, and delicious Italian specialties make this one of the North End's most popular restaurants. The portions are large, the ambiance is bustling and friendly. Visit a favorite spot of the locals! Specialties include homemade soups, polenta, tripe, scungilli, baked caratelli, veal scallopini, and traditional pasta favorites. Open 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

Poppa & Goose
69 First St., Cambridge, 497-6772.
Created by Harvard, MIT, and Tufts alumni, Poppa & Goose's main mission Is to serve as the link between the local community and Cambridge's greatest resource: the country's largest and most diverse international student population. The menu has an ever-growing variety of authentic international dlshes. The "Poppa & Goose Community

Continued on Following Page

Restaurant Listings, cont.

Kitchen" is dedicated to cooking classes conducted by international students. Come and be chef for an evening; relax in the cheerful dining room and enjoy scrumptious food at reasonable prices; or take a Poppa & Goose kit home and effortlessly prepare an exotic dish in your own kitchen. Lunch 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Dinner 5:30-10 p.m. daily.

Porcini's Trattoria
68 School St., Watertown, 924-2221.
Major credit cards accepted.
Featuring regional Italian cooking in a comfortable country setting. Chef Kevin Kieley combines his love of Italian cooking with the area's freshest ingredients. The menu is broad and offers a wide variety of pastas, and entrees on the wood grill. The cozy 75 seat dining room has traditional murals, warm fireplace, and an open kitchen. Full liquor license and extensive wine list. The cafe is open seasonally, May through September. Handicapped accessible. Open for lunch Tuesday-Friday 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., dinner 7 days 5-10 p.m.

Positano
93 Salem St., North End, 367-4878.
Major credit cards accepted.
Experience the flavor and warmth of the Mediterranean Amalfi Coast right in Boston's North End. Start your meal with the antipasto, a medley of grilled eggplant, shiitake mushrooms, zucchini, and roasted Belgian peppers; or a salad of homemade mozzarella, plum tomatoes, and fresh basil. Enjoy linguini tossed with swordfish in a fresh basil sauce for $9.95, or chicken saltimbocca layered with fontina cheese, and Parma prosciutto in a cream sauce for $10.95. Come in for Positano's truly home-style Italian cooking. Open 7 days, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.

The Red Terrier Grille
1096 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. 566-4144.
One of the few restaurants in Boston where breakfast is served all day, everyday. Owners Carol Tringali and Robert DeFilippo serve home-cooked meals. They boast huge portions and exceptional value. Dinner prices range from $5 to $6. Try home-cooked dinners with real mashed potatoes, the roast beef dinner, stuffed roast pork, or corned beef and cabbage. Open Sunday 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Ristorante Rosina
379 Hanover St., Boston, 523-8481
Located on one of the most famous streets of the North End, Ristorante Rosina specializes in Italian cuisine, featuring seafood, veal, and chicken. Ask about the grilled-pizza special, which changes daily. The cathedral ceilings add to the airy, romantic atmosphere. Open Monday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday 12-10 p.m., dinner menu only.

Rosie's Italian Kitchen
95 North Washington St., Boston, 523-8769.
American Express and cash only.
Rosie has been cooking in her Italian kitchen for 18 years. This open-kitchen restaurant located in the North End is not to be missed. Some of Rosie's creations include her famous veal franchese, veal parmigiana, and many shrimp, chicken, and pasta dishes. The atmosphere is warm and cozy,and the prices are very reasonable. Imported beer and wine. Open Tuesday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.
Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.
Major credit cards accepted.
Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Open 6-9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6-10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Seasons at the Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall, Boston, 523-3600.
Major credit cards accepted.
Enjoy fine dining next to Boston's famous Faneuil Hall. Seasons features traditional American cuisine and daily specials including duckling with sesame and ginger, grilled Atlantic salmon with Finnan Haddie creamed leeks, and peppered New York sirloin with stuffed potato and roasted vidalia onions. Seasons also offers the luxury of a private dining room for special occasions, seating up to twelve guests. Hours are 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday - Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Reservations accepted, valet parking available. Please call the catering department for parties of 10 or larger.

Sindibad
145 First St., Cambridge, 492-2421.
If you enjoy Middle Eastern cuisine visit Sindibad, located near the Cambridgeside Galleria.
Some of the choices include hummus, baba ghanouj, grape leaves, and kibbeh sinayee for appetizers, shawarma, shish kebab, and felafel entrees. Prices are very reasonable, and the atmosphere is spacious and delightful. Handicapped accessible. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Spasso Italia Cafe & Bar
160 Commonwealth Ave, Boston, 536-8656.
Spasso is Italian for fun in Boston, it also means great food. Capturing the flavor and excitement of Italy and making it fresh, Spasso has a comfortable casual decor and tucked-away location. Outdoor seating. Open for lunch 7 days a week from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. pizzas served from 3-5 p.m., and dinner Sunday-Tuesday 5-10 p.m., Wednesday-Saturday until 11 p.m.

Taj Mahal at Kenmore
484 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 247-7266.
Major credit cards accepted.
Serving traditional Indian dishes, Taj Mahal is the place to experience fine Indian cuisine. Enjoy traditional favorites such as chicken tandoori and thali (vegetarian and non-vegetarian available), or try one of the lamb, chicken, beef, seafood or vegetarian specialties. Taj Mahal's menu also includes a selection between south Indian offerings. Try the all-you-can-eat buffet luncheon served from 12-3 p.m. for $5.95. Dinner is served 7 nights a week, 3-11 p.m. Take out and delivery available.

Third & Charles Bar & Grill
202 Third St.,Cambridge; Kendall Square, 547-9310.
Major credit cards accepted.
Don't let the name fool you; the T&C is a bit of Mexico moved to Cambridge. Featuring food "mild, hot, or insane," the menu includes everything from traditional tacos to the house specialty T&C pollo—a chicken breast with fresh mushrooms and bacon in a sour cream sauce. Try a brew from the extensive beer list, or an exotic melon or black raspberry margarita. Take out available. Serving food Monday-Wednesday from 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Thursday-Sunday 'til 11 p.m. Bar closes at 12:30 a.m. Mention this listing and receive a free appetizer with purchase of an entree.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's waterfront overlooking the Boston Tea Party Ship. Enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine featuring seafood, veal, pasta dishes, gourmet pizzas and hamburgers. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelettes, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest, and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities available, free parking. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday at 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.



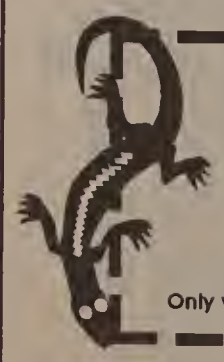
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–Meg Warden & Peter McNamara, *The Improper Bostonian*

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Robert Levy, *The Boston Globe*

"The best Margaritas."
Elizabeth Parker, *The Fine Print*

"Tri-Continental Funk... the Jamaican Jerk Pork at Cecil's has all the flavor of the puerco en adobo from the Boston area's better Mexican restaurants..."
-Robert Nadeau, *Boston Phoenix*

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–*Improper Bostonian*, November 1993

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BRUNCH BOARD

Brunch listings are provided as a service to advertisers. If you would like to have your restaurant listed, call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Department at 232-3705.

ARMADILLO CAFÉ
1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston-Boston, 232-4242.
Mexican-American cuisine featuring creative dishes that include chile poblano relleno, roast chicken enchiladas, fajitas, Brunch Chili, Louisiana Lost Bread and many other selections from our fine menu. Cappucino, espresso and extensive full bar available. Also enjoy traditional Mexican music with our mariachi band. Brunch Sunday 12-3 p.m.

CAFE SUISSE
1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, 451-2600.
Come to Cafe Suisse for Sunday Brunch. Aside from a delicious buffet of hot and cold specialties, you'll also find a live band playing a variety of your favorites, from jazz and show tunes to current hits. You can get it all for just $23.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Includes free parking.

CITYSIDE AT THE CIRCLE
1960 Beacon St., Brookline, 566-1002.
Cityside's Brunch is quickly becoming a neighborhood favorite. Offering an a la carte menu from traditional Eggs Benedict to sizzling fajitas. Prices range from $2.95 to $9.95. Brunch is served from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Arrive early and enjoy brunch on the outside deck.

COTTONWOOD RESTAURANT & CAFE
222 Berkeley St., Back Bay, 247-2225.
1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-7440.
Founded on Indian legend. Cultivated through Spanish tradition. Brought to life by the Cottonwood Cafe. A cuisine indigenous to our American southwest brings to you wonderful brunch items such as huevos rancheros, griddlecakes with fresh fruit salsa, and other selections from the unique menu. Enjoy an award winning margarita on the sidewalk cafe. In Boston, the brunch menu is served Saturdays, too. Free validated parking. Reservations accepted.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2:00 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

ICARUS
3 Appleton St., Boston, 426-1790.
A South End tradition for 15 years. From the freshly baked pastry table to the sumptuous selection of breakfast and lunch offerings, to the artfully prepared desserts, Icarus invites you to start your Sunday in style. Meet friends, enjoy the newspaper, linger over a bloody mary or mimosa. Try the memorable Eggs Benedict or pick from a creative collection of salads, pasta, seafood, and more. The attractive, comfortable dining room and knowledgeable staff round out a very enjoyable Sunday brunch experience. Sundays 11 a.m. -3 p.m. Reservations accepted.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville. Redline.776-2004.
Live jazz on Sundays. Mix and match with the brunch combo—more food than you need for $5.99. Choose among Texas toast, sweet cheese blintzes, fruit pancakes, omelettes, and eggs any style. Menu features homemade Belgian waffles, fresh fruit and yogurt, with daily specials. Saturday brunch features sandwiches and salads. Natural eggs, too! Saturdays 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.,Sundays 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

THE KELLS
161 Brighton Avenue, Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub and restaurant features one of the best brunch offerings in the area. Sundays at The Kells all you can eat brunch is just $6.95! Some of the items from which you can select include steamship roast beef, honey baked ham, chicken curry, rice pilaf, scrambled eggs, a variety of salads and much more. Great lunch and dinner menus also available, with special children's portions—all at Kells' low prices. Food specials available all day, every day. Brunch hours are Sunday 11:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Open 7 nights until 2 a.m.

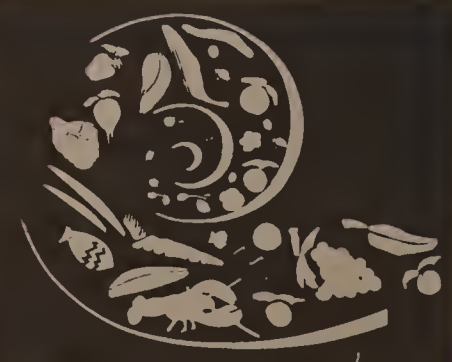
O'LEARY'S
1010 Beacon St., Brookline, 734-0049.
You don't need Aer Lingus to whisk you to Ireland in order to enjoy authentic and traditional Irish food. O'Leary's brunch selection of everything from Boxty, steak & kidney pie and chicken pot pie to Irish stew, sherry trifle and porridge, topped off with homemade apple pie will make you want reservations tomorrow. Brunch is reasonably priced at $8.95 and is served from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't make the brunch, stop by in the evening for a session of traditional Irish music.

ROWES WHARF RESTAURANT BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf on Atlantic Avenue, Boston, 439-3995.
"Boston's Best Sunday Brunch" (Concierge Guide To Boston) The scenic view of Boston Harbor is a unique setting for enjoying a spectacular traditional American brunch buffet with a superb selection of seafood; homemade sausages and pates, hot entree selections include coulibiac of salmon and scallops. Special seating for large groups. Private rooms available. Complimentary parking. Brunch is served from 10:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. $35 per person. Children under 12 no charge.

THREE CHEERS RESTAURANT & BAR
290 Congress St., Boston, 423-6166.
Located on Boston's scenic waterfront overlooking the historic Boston Tea Party Ship. You'll enjoy creative, homemade American cuisine at its best. The Sunday brunch offers made-to-order omelets, Belgian waffles and more. Voted one of Boston's "Best Clam Chowders" in the 1990 Boston Chowderfest and Boston's "Best Bloody Mary" since 1987. Function facilities, free parking. Just 1/4 of a block from the Children's and Computer Museums. Lunch Monday-Saturday 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Dinner Monday-Saturday 4-11 p.m., Brunch Sunday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday-Friday, 7 p.m.; Saturday 6 and 9 p.m., Sunday 6 p.m.

Alisam Arnett, Bastan Globe

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New Year's Menus

"...Restaurants across town are offering special seatings with menus that combine the best of old and new. Bon appetit and happy 1994..."

Union Square Bistro is offering a New Year's Eve without party hats, noisemakers or higher prices. The bistro will offer its regular menu and a selection of American and French champagnes priced from $15-$40 to toast the new year. **David's** on Stuart Street has a special menu for the occasion. Chef **Ross Cameron** left a few favorites on the menu but for the most part highlights new creations. The linguine and lobster with white truffles and brandy-brown-butter sauce sound wonderful, as does the roast-lamb chop with minted couscous and grilled flatbread. A sure winner. At the top of the line, **Icarus** is offering two seatings for the evening. The first is from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and includes a four-course meal for $50, the other runs from 9:30 p.m. until ... and features seven courses for $85. Menu choices include roast pheasant with foie gras and pomegranates with a wild-mushroom tart and rack of veal with roasted-garlic sauce. Bon appetit and a happy New Year!



WHATS ON THE OVEN?: *Daniel Bruce, executive chef at the four-star Rowes Wharf Restaurant at the Boston Harbor Hotel, demonstrates how he handles the heat in the kitchen by sitting on an antique stove at the Johnson & Wales University Culinary Archives and Museum. Chef Bruce spoke at his alma mater in his capacity as the school's 86th distinguished visiting chef.*

Juicy Details

Todd English & Co. will soon take over Bel Canto on Charles Street, Beacon Hill. Look for another **Figs** restaurant soon. The grapevine has it that **Icarus** will be named one of the top-100 restaurants in the United States in a new Condé Nast survey. The owners of **Roxy/Europa** are considering a jazz club in the old Improv. **Giacomo's**, **Patrick Lyons** and **Appetito** of Newton Centre all eyed Marcella's old location at 1 Appleton St. Appetito hopes to move in before February. **Michela's** is leaving its current location to take over **Rarities** restaurant in the Charles Hotel. **Goldie Hawn** was sighted in **Glen's Restaurant** in Newburyport. It must have been that California-style food and the open kitchen. **Starbuck's** has scooped up two new locations in the city, one of which is the Christy's space on Charles Street. We gain a coffee place, but where do we buy the milk to put in it? **Timothy Quinn**, a new chef, is now performing nightly in **Tosca Ristorante** in Hingham. Look for **Gourmet Foods** to open soon at 1432 Beacon St. in Brookline. By popular demand, **Pampas** on Mass. Ave. in Cambridge now offers spit-roasted fish and a traditional Brazilian smoked stew called *feijoada*. The **Broadway Deli** on Tremont may soon turn Italian, courtesy of the folks that opened the new **Trattoria Il Panino**. **Galleria Italiana** is opening for dinner Wednesday-Saturday and offers risotto cooked to order. Everybody seems to be shopping for restaurant locations, can the recession/depression be over?

Wicked New Brew

Pete's Brewing Co., the people who brought you Pete's Wicked Ale and **Samuel Adams'** West Coast archrival, has recently introduced its Wicked Winter Brew, a raspberry-style ale with a hint of nutmeg in its flavoring. Look for it at a store near you.

Late-Night Dining

Boston has never really been a late-night city, but advances are being made every day. Two of the newest players in the dark world of late-late night dining are **Roberta's Show-Biz Cafe** at the Charles Playhouse and **Champions Sports Bar** in the Marriott. Roberta's opened a month ago with a dark-green interior and walls lined with caricatures of the stars. Hoping to become the Sardi's of Boston, it offers between 6 p.m.-2 a.m. a full menu and drinks to the theater crowd. **Scott Olsen** performs nightly, but look for torch-and-lounge singers very soon. You may catch a glimpse of some of the cast members from the shows playing in town. Champions has been around for a while, but starting in mid-January will serve the full menu and a new breakfast menu until 3:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. There will be an opening bash on Jan. 14 to kickoff the new menus, from 12-4 a.m. with a complementary breakfast buffet. No cover or attitude. Who says there's no life in Boston after midnight? ❑

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HOUSE OF BLUES

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Attention: Listen to the instructions!!	
	Date
Rock	111-(01-31)
Jazz	112-(01-31)
Blues	113-(01-31)
	Day of Week
Reggae	114-(01-07)
Dance	116-(01-07)
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About Last Night. . . Lauren Dare AKA The Last Call Lady

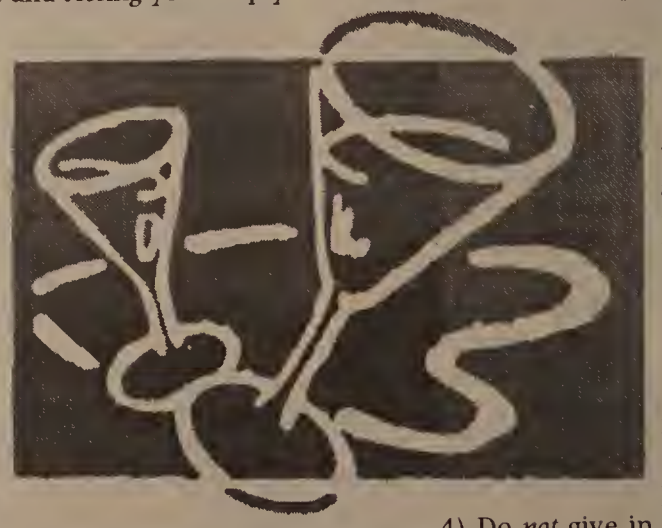
IRRESOLUTIONS

"...It's time to make promises to yourself that you know you will never keep and set yourself up for the crushing disappointment that inevitably results every New Year's Eve..."

New Year's Eve has got to be one of the single-most anticlimactic events in the history of the world. Every year you hopefully hype it up, expecting that with the arrival of a new cycle of 365 days will come something new and wonderful, like a Cindy Crawford figure, instant fame and adoration from millions, the lottery jackpot, or the realization of every sexual fantasy you've ever had.

Get a grip. When you start off the New Year slumped promisingly over the rim of a toilet, it's true that things probably couldn't get worse, but they're probably not going to get that much better, either. For instance, while I did eventually (*well* into the new year) recover from my hangover, I did not fulfill my resolutions to become Queen of the Universe or discover a better use for fruitcake. The status quo was pretty much maintained for another 365, while I assured myself that *next* year, things were *really* going to change.

And now, here it is again, time to make promises to yourself that you know you will never keep and set yourself up for the crushing disappointment that inevitably results every New Year's Eve, when you don't have nearly as much fun as you think you were supposed to. New Year's Eve is supposed to be picture-perfect: you and a stunningly attractive date dressed to the nines at some incredibly outrageous and debauched party, guzzling champagne and tossing your empty glasses over the balcony onto the roof of your stretch limo waiting below to take you to your next, wild destination. The night unfolds before you in a glittering scenario, where you will continue to have uninterrupted, wall-to-wall, this-is-the-best-time-ever FUN.



Hah. It hardly ever happens. What usually does happen goes something like this: You get out of the crummy taxi, which was unquestionably driven by a lunatic who feels about New Year's the way Scrooge felt about Christmas before Marley showed up — only to discover that you sat on something on the seat of the taxi and now your way-too-expensive dress has a splotch right on your derriere. You go into the party knowing that you'll feel better if you can just get some of that champagne in you. Immediately inside, your date disappears, only to reappear an hour after the countdown, so drunk that he/she doesn't remember his own name. Everywhere around you things are starting to come unhinged; your hostess is crying because she has a run in her pantyhose and no one ate her hors d'oeuvres, your vision is doubling in a most inconvenient manner, and the guy/girl that you really wish you were with at this moronic fete disappears into the bathroom with some bimbo. It's a nightmare that seems to occur, in some version or other, to almost everyone, every year.

Let's face it: What did you do last New Year's? If you *can* remember, I'll bet it wasn't that great. And if you can't remember, then it was probably even worse than that.

Well, that's it. This year, I'm going to enjoy it. I don't even know what I'm going to do yet, but I have ascertained, through scrupulous research and on-the-spot interviews, what I'm *not* going to do, and I'll share these rules with you in the hopes that you will have a more enjoyable and less disappointing New Year's Eve.

1) Do *not* buy one those package deals that includes accommodations at a Holiday Inn and "champagne toast." Drinking one, measly free glass of cheap Freixenet with suburban celebrants does not constitute a worthwhile evening.

2) Do *not* count on getting through the entire evening with your significant other without fighting. Undoubtedly, one of you will recall that it wasn't his/her idea to come to this stupid party and it's all downhill from there.

3) Do *not* spend more than an hour at a party without identifying the locations of all exits and bathrooms in case you need to make a speedy retreat to and/or deposit in the porcelain bank.

4) Do *not* give in to your urge to make a clean slate and tell your date that you've slept with at least two other people at this party. He or she is bound to be less than grateful for your honesty and candor at this particular moment.

5) Do *not* fool yourself into thinking that you never get sick from shots of Jaegermeister.

6) And, perhaps most important, do *not* worry about the fact that you will be starting the New Year in a condition similar to that of road kill — you'll have plenty of company in your misery. So relax, have fun, and save those resolutions for next year. ❑

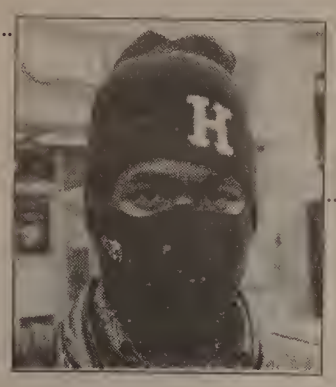
WOMAN ON THE STREET

BY KIMBERLY CAVINESS AND MEGAN GILMARTIN

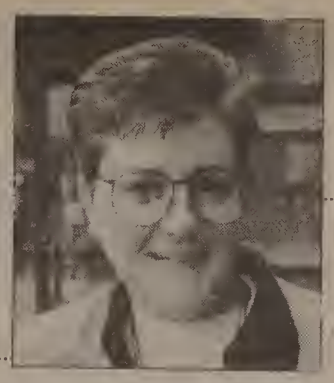
What was the last thing you thought about before falling asleep last night?



Paul, 27, Boston
"How I need to get my hair cut today."



Jerry, 21, Dorchester
"About living. About making it through the night."



Doreen, 36, Boston/Dallas
"I was thinking about the Pointer Sisters and why they're still around."



Carol, over-50, North Andover
"My marriage."



Julie Ann, 36, Roslindale
"Sex. About being very lonely and wishing I had my ex-husband with me."



Lisa, 29, South Weymouth
"Sex."

BAR & CLUB LISTINGS

The following is a list of advertisers, plus some of the most popular nighttime establishments in the city. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your bar or club listed, please call the Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 232-3507.

BREWERIES

COMMONWEALTH BREWING COMPANY
138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.
"Let no man thirst for lack of real ale," is the motto at this micro-brewery and restaurant featuring glass walls so thirsty patrons can longingly observe the brewing process. The decor consists of copper tables, pipes and beer tanks. Approximately 10 English ales are served on tap as well as Boston Burton Ale served frosty cold in the bottle. Close proximity to the Boston Garden translates to before and after game crowds. Live reggae and calypso every Friday and Saturday night 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Brewery tours are free, but sorry, this isn't the Molson factory. No samples. $3 cover, and if you have dinner here, cover is waived.

DANCING

AVENUE C
5 Boylston Place, Boston, 423-3832.
A chichi dance club located in the Theatre District across from the Common. Inside you'll find a mix of young professionals who arrive to meet, mix, mate, or dance up a storm. Cover charge increases after 10 p.m., so arrive early. No jeans or collarless shirts. Progressive music Friday and Saturday nights. Piano rooms.

EUROPA INTERNATIONAL BAR & CLUB
51 Stuart St. in Boston's theatre district, 482-6440.
If you're looking for a Friday night party, come dance for free at Europa, but don't forget your blue Improper Bostonian Europa/Roxy coupon from the October 27 and November 10 issues. Fridays are Club Classics Nights with DJ Tony Z, a buffet by Jacob Wirth from 8:30-10 p.m., and live performances in the lounge and piano bar, 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturdays and Wednesdays are International Night, 10:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Sundays: Brazilian Night, 9:30 p.m.-2a.m. Mondays: Ebony Night Out, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Thursdays: Asian Night, 11 p.m.-2 a.m. Call for live music info. Proper attire required.

ROXY
279 Tremont St. in the Tremont House, 227-7699.
Come dance and mingle in Boston's most elegant nightclub. FREE ADMISSION to the Roxy on Saturday nights with the blue Roxy/Europa pass from the Improper Bostonian's October 27 and November 10 issues.

GENERAL

ATRIUM LOUNGE
The Bostonian Hotel
Faneuil Hall Market Place, Boston, 523-3600.
Every Wednesday from 7-11 p.m. relax in the comfortable setting of the Atrium Lounge at The Bostonian Hotel with some of the best jazz artists from the Boston area. Enjoy the talents of artists like Mike Jones (piano), Gray Sargent (guitar), Dave Whitney (trumpet), and more. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

CAFE GRAPPA
1234 Soldier's Field Road at the Days Inn, Brighton, 254-4336.
Major credit cards accepted.
A jammin' place featuring live music Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. feature Splash, a tropical band that combines the best influences of reggae, Latin, and Afro-Carribean. Wednesdays from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. heat up fast as Alvin Terry, Boston's premiere jazz drummer is joined by a variety of the area's best musicians for a mighty jazz jam. Thursdays from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. feature Jose Ramos and his band for what's fast becoming the best blues jam in Boston. Free parking. Great Italian food available at Bennino's Restaurant next door.

CANTAB LOUNGE
738 Massachusetts Ave., Central Sq., Cambridge, 354-2685.
Live music every night. Dec.8-Framework. Dec.9-Lazy Galoot. Dec.10-Little Joe Cook&the Thrillers. Dec.11-Part-Time Lovers. Dec.12-Buzz Rush. Dec.13-Geoff Bartley. Dec.14-Blue Grass Country Woman & Acoustic Rock. Dec.15-Framework. Dec.16-Part-Time Lovers. Dec. 17-18-Little Joe Cook & the Thrillers. Dec.19-Buzz Rush. Dec. 20-21-Geoff Bartley.

CHAMPIONS SPORTS BAR AND RESTAURANT
Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Avenue, Boston, 578-0658.
22 televisions, with big screen and 100 inch TVs, and three satellites. We broadcast all title fights, with nightly promotions, pitchers and $1.50 drafts, with a full menu. Casual attire, never a cover. Garage parking available.

THE ELIOT LOUNGE
370 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, 262-1078.
"The Eliot is Boston's Best Sports Bar, only because it never tried to be one." Charles Pierce, Boston Magazine. This neighborhood pub sits at the corner of Mass. and Comm. Avenues. There are many intriguing photos on the walls: Early BAA Marathons, golf, horse racing and a balcony section devoted to recent Celtics' greats. An ever-expanding selection of draught and bottled beers make this a great stop before, during or after a game. On Saturdays dance to Nard's Rock and Roll Revue in a casual atmosphere. Also available for holiday parties for groups of up to 140. Call now to reserve your date. Open daily from noon 'til 2 a.m.

HOUSE OF BLUES
96 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 491-2583.
Soaked in blues, House of Blues showcases some of the top national, local, and international acts every day of the week. Lunch-time shows are free Monday thru Saturday, 12:30-2 p.m. Menu features southern style cooking: catfish, chicken, grits, and gravy. A funky, religious atmosphere to shelter your blues.

JOHNNY D'S RESTAURANT & MUSIC CLUB
17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, Redline.776-2004.
Live music seven nights a week, featuring top local, national, and international talent. Folk, jazz, blues, cajun, world beat... and more. Casual low key atmosphere embracing a wide range of musical tastes, ages (over 21) and personalities. "One of the hippest music rooms in Boston"—Boston Globe. 1992 National Club of the Year awarded by the Blues Foundation in Memphis, TN. Blues jam every Sunday 4-8:30 p.m. Cajun dancing every Monday 8 p.m. with Krewe de Roux, and free dance lessons. Acoustic series on Tuesdays 8:30 p.m. Great food- why not come for dinner and a show? Cover varies.

THE ROWES WHARF BAR, BOSTON HARBOR HOTEL
70 Rowes Wharf, Boston, 439-3995.
"Tucked into the corner of the majestic Boston Harbor Hotel lies one of the best secrets in Boston..." The Improper Bostonian. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of

Continued on page 35

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with Andrea, The Judge and The Sinner
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Open Daily 11 am - 2 am
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The Harp
Across from Boston Garden

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Dec.23	Swinging Johnsons
Dec.29	Tim Crandall
Dec. 31	5-0/Tim Crandall
Jan.1	The Sense
Jan.2	Tim Crandall
Jan.5	Tim Crandall
Jan.7	Tim Crandall
Jan.8	Tim Crandall
Jan.10	Tim Crandall
Jan.12	Tim Crandall
Jan.14	The Marcels Tim Crandall
Jan.15	Tim Crandall

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Every Tuesday	Free Jukebox
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Dec.23	Lulus in Crisis
Dec.25	DJ Mike
Dec.26	Cupla
Dec.29	Grinning Lizards
Dec.30	Tip the Waitress
Dec.31	DJ Mike
Jan.1	Broadcast
Jan.6	Exit 17
Jan.7	Shoot the Moon
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Jan.15	Storm Dogs

34 Harvard Ave., Allston
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The Green Briar

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Dec.23	The Pour Boys
Dec.26	DJ Ed
Dec.27	Irish Sessiun
Dec. 29	Karaoke
Dec.30	Dennis Healy Band
Jan.2	DJ Ed
Jan.3	Irish Sessiun
Jan.5	Karaoke
Jan.9	DJ Ed
Jan.10	Irish Sessiun
Jan.12	Karaoke
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Wed.	12/29	DESERT HEARTS w/ Jess Leary, Wendy Sobel, & Sally Sweitzer
Thurs.	12/30	BARRY CRIMMINS, Political Satirist – 1993 in Review
Fri.	12/31	NEW YEAR'S EVE w/ Blues Legend LUTHER "GUITAR JR" JOHNSON
Sat.	1/1	WILDEST DREAMS soul/calypso
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BLUES JAM EVERY SUNDAY 4:00 pm

Plenty of parking across the street. Directly across from the Ⓣ Redline at Davis Square.
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The Sound View / Paul Robicheau

ODE TO ZAPPA

"...Far beyond a 'rock' musician, Frank Zappa predated and outshined jazz fusion with the intricacies of his music..."

Photo by Paul Robicheau



IN MEMORIAM: *Dead at 52, composer and musician Frank Zappa's underappreciated career included audacious satire and sophisticated artistry.*

When Frank Zappa recently died at the age of 52 after a long battle with prostate cancer, the requisite eulogies came rolling in. He was credited for humorous tunes such as his hit "Valley Girl," which spoofed that Southern California mentality. He was recognized for debating Tipper Gore and the PMRC (Parents Music Resource Council) on the issue of censoring records. He was termed a maverick of social satire.

Yes, Zappa believed that humor belonged in music. But most of the posthumous tributes that briefly flashed on the news failed to grasp the magnitude of Zappa's accomplishments.

What about his skills as a composer? Far beyond a "rock" musician, Zappa predated and outshined jazz fusion with the intricacies of his music, which he recorded with bands featuring such prodigies as guitarists Adrian Belew and Steve Vai, violinist Jean-Luc Ponty and drummers Aynsley Dunbar, Terry Bozzio and Chad Wackerman. Zappa himself was a formidable guitarist, whose solos revealed staggering melodic-and-rhythmic complexity.

In recent years, frustrated that his compositions were too difficult for humans to play, Zappa immersed himself in the advanced Synclavier synthesizer — and put down the guitar altogether. When he found an ensemble to play those transcriptions, it was the leading European 20th-century group Ensemble Modern, heard on Zappa's latest release, *The Yellow Shark*. The association stemmed from what may be the greatest testament to Zappa's genius. In 1992, he was chosen as one of four featured composers at Germany's Frankfurt Festival, holding company with Karlheinz Stockhausen of Germany, Alexander Knaifel of Russia and the late John Cage of the United States.

From audacious satire to sophisticated artistry, Zappa was uncompromising. He skewered the hippie movement on *Freak Out!*, his 1966 debut with the Mothers of Invention. In 1967, he took on the sacred Beatles with *We're Only in It for the Money*, appearing in a dress on the cover's mock imitation of the *Sgt. Pepper's* album. Zappa's music of that era was both far-out and sobering, a mix of pyschedelic madness, playful do-wop and classical discipline.

Zappa's attraction to absurdity continued through '70s associations with Captain Beefheart and Flo & Eddie, the latter contributing to his reputation for bathroom humor. But Zappa's wit was often as topical as it was tart. More recently, he targeted the Republican right in his "Jesus Thinks You're a Jerk," heard on *Broadway the Hard Way*, a live album from Zappa's last tour in 1988.

On that tour, which included two nights at Boston's Orpheum Theater (with voter-registration tables in the lobby), Zappa's band also turned things upside-down musically, from his own classics to a cover of "Stairway to Heaven" (with horn arrangement in place of the guitar solo). For examples of such prowess, tap into *The Greatest Band You Never Heard*, or the first five of six double-CD volumes of *You Can't Do That on Stage Anymore* (the sixth focuses on the funny stuff). Of Zappa's 60-odd albums, four all-instrumental releases showcase his guitar playing. They all scratch the surface for a guy whose vaults contained tapes of virtually every concert and interview he ever did.

On the one occasion I interviewed Zappa, he began by stating "You have 15 minutes, and not a second more" — a typical comment from the time-conscious workaholic. Perhaps Zappa knew his time would be short on Earth. On *Freak Out!*, he quoted hero Edgar Varese: "The present-day composer refuses to die." Over the past few years, Zappa did his best to stand up to the Grim Reaper, the same as he did any other social or musical convention.

Elsewhere — One of the many bands influenced by Zappa is Vermont's Phish, which plays its annual New Year's show at a sold-out Centrum, while Aerosmith holds court at the Boston Garden for the first of two sold-out nights. Other New Year's attractions include mutant-blues-pop trio Morphine at the Middle East, ska-band Bim Skala Bim at the Beanpot and vocal-jazz group New York Voices at Scullers. ❑

Classical Music / M. T. Anderson

Making Waves

"...In Boston, radio serves as a first-class introduction to an art form that's otherwise deplorably expensive to explore..."

The air has been cluttered with Valkyries since the dawn of radio. In the '30s and '40s, the American Tobacco Co. and Texaco arranged for weekly commercial broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York; since then, busty German women have, without interruption, soared like bloated clouds across the airwaves. They arrive in our living rooms, sizzling with the heat of reentry. And classical radio is still going strong. Many listeners who wouldn't buy a classical CD enjoy classical music on the radio, especially in Boston, where so many excellent stations compete for attention.

Perhaps the most famous local radio personality involved is Robert J. Lurtsema, whose show *Morning pro musica* on WGBH (89.7 FM,96.3 FM in the Back Bay) has become a byword for clever programming, wide-ranging repertoire, and pauses so pregnant they demand C-section. Now that Lurtsema has cut back *Morning pro musica* to weekends (Saturdays and Sundays at 7 a.m.), WGBH has worked up a crop of new shows to replace it. On weekday mornings, Doug Briscoe's *Classical Morning* replaces Lurtsema's Hitchcockian early birds.



***ROBERT J. LURTSEMA**: Host, WGBH's* Morning pro musica.

Whereas Lurtsema tended to start the morning with smaller-scale, often-baroque works, and perhaps muster up a Brahms symphony after a few cups of coffee, Briscoe leans toward later music. This is a mixed blessing, needless to say. While romantic and postromantic music is very popular with the average listener, Richard Strauss at 8:30 may strike you like cold pizza and layer cake for breakfast.

Richard Knisely, whose superb *Off the Record* used to follow Lurtsema's show, has now been granted a two-hour spot called *Boston Performances* (11 a.m.-1 p.m.). This promises to be one of the strongest classical shows on the air. The show emphasizes local and live performances, so it has a real edge that's often lacking in classical programming. Knisely arranges live studio performances at least twice a week, presenting a gratifyingly wide range of music. Not only are the artists by turns venerable and unusual, Knisely himself is as amiable and informative a host as one could hope for. Among the commercial giants of the air, WCRB (102.5 FM) looms large. WCRB inherits the mantle of those early Texaco-Met performances — in fact, some of the first commercial breaks broadcast over the air interrupted great opera. The daytime programming is pleasant, although frequent commercial interruptions wear (unless one's playing it softly in the background). WCRB's programming has more depth than, say, WBACH (104.9 FM), which exuberantly declares itself light-classical music, but WCRB's commercial format demands that daytime announcers limit themselves to short works. WCRB's real gems are the "World Symphony" presentations, which carry on what can — without sarcasm — be called the finest tradition of commercial sponsorship of the arts. This series, airing at 9 p.m. on weeknights, 8 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. on Sundays, brings listeners concerts by the finest orchestras in America — among them St. Louis, Chicago and (on Saturday) our own Boston Symphony Orchestra. The selections are strong, usually interspersing well-known romantic pieces with 20th-century works, and the radio comment is brief and informative. There can be no better introduction to the symphonic world.

Similarly, WCRB's broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera House, which typically begin at 1:30 on Saturdays, shunt passion and tragedy right into your living room without the slightest expense or hassle. For many families, Saturday-afternoon opera has become the tradition of a half-century; it just isn't a Saturday without big Italians hurling themselves off rooftops while you hose down the car. As long as the Met continues to draw big names and big vibratos onto its pricey stage, Bostonians will thank WCRB for making it easy to listen in.One final local radio institution remains to be mentioned — Harvard's orgies. Not, in fact, games of nude Twister with greasy freshmen sobbing about their grade-point averages between cries of coition, WHRB's (95.3 FM) orgies are completely wonderful-and-obsessive music marathons, each exhausting with an urgency almost epicurean the works of a selected composer. For a night and a day, WHRB will bombard you with Chopin's juvenilia or Gesualdo's manic madrigals. They're witty and insane. For information, call 495-4818.

Radio continues to be one of the prime venues for classical music, as it has been since the first time we realized that the opera isn't over till the fat lady sells you radial tires. ❑

Bar & Club, continued from page 33

Boston..." The Improper Bostonian. Step into this cozy and inviting bar and try the house specialty of chicken pot pie with a most impressive selection of beers on draught, and one of Boston's finest selections of single malt scotches. Discover for yourself why chef Daniel Bruce has gained a reputation for his exquisite desserts. Lunch is served from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Three Cheers Restaurant & Bar
290 Congress St., 423-6166.
Located next to the Boston Tea Party Ship, 1/2 block from South Station. Monday Night Football Party 9 p.m.-12 a.m. Thursday: Three Cheers Karaoke Contest 8 p.m.-12 a.m. Weekly 1st prize of roundtrip airfare to Hawaii. Friday: Friday Night Dance Party. DJ Dave Stewart spins your favorite music. Mystery Cafe Dinner Theater Wednesday thru Sunday—Boston's dinner theater to die for. Free parking 7 nights a week.

Irish

The Green Briar
304 Washington St., Brighton, 789-4100.
Featuring some of Boston's best bands-entertainment Wednesday - Monday. Monday nights: Boston's Best Irish Sessiun. Wednesday nights: Karaoke prizes and giveaways. Catch all the big games here! The Green Briar also features hearty home cooked meals and a terrific Sunday Brunch. Open 7 days until 1 a.m. Casual dress. Cover varies. T: #57 bus from Kenmore.

The Green Dragon Tavern
11 Marshall Street, Boston, 367-0055.
Major credit cards accepted.
The Green Dragon was called "Headquarters Of The Revolution." Originally founded in 1657, this was the original site for the planning of the Boston Tea Party and the meeting place for important patriot groups. The Sons of Liberty and the Boston Society of Mechanics met here regularly. The Green Dragon Tavern is open daily 11a.m. to 2 a.m. with entertainment nightly. The Tavern serves lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch with daily lobster specials and 13 beers on draft.

The Harp at the Garden
85 Causeway St., Boston, 742-1010.
Party and dance at Boston's newest hotspot! The Harp pleases all music lovers' tastes with rock, reggae, jazz, progressive, and, of course, Irish. We have entertainment Wednesday thru Sunday. After-work parties on Thursday and Friday with live entertainment and free appetizers. Featuring some of Boston's biggest and best bands! Food served until midnight. Pulling Boston's best Guinness and offering weekly drink specials. Cover varies. North Station stop on the Green Line.

The Irish Embassy Pub
234 Friend Street,Boston, at the Boston Garden, 742-6618.
Do you remember The Irish Embassy Pub in Falmouth? Of course you do! Now we are also at The Boston Garden. Come down and enjoy a great crowd in a fun, casual atmosphere. Sundays there are acoustic jams in the afternoon and a D.J. at night. Monday nights come down and beat the winter blues with our blues jam. Tuesdays: Eoin Woods. Wednesdays: Best original music. Thursdays: College cover bands. Fridays: Alternative music. Saturdays: Classic hits.

The Kells
161 Brighton Ave., Allston, 782-9082.
The popular Irish pub The Kells prides itself on featuring "the best in live bands." Everything from the cutting edge of rock to original Irish folk music. Live entertainment is featured 7 nights a week, and Irish/American folk music can be heard on Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. For those important sports events, check out the TV at The Kells, the biggest screen in Boston! Students are welcomed to visit. Open 7 nights until 2:00 a.m.

Kinvara Pub
34 Harvard Ave., Allston, 783-9400.
If you are looking for a lively pub with an Irish flavor, the Kinvara Pub is the place to be. The pub features some of Boston's hottest acts where dancing is the norm. Live bands Wednesday thru Sunday. Sunday night: DJ Tom. Feast your eyes on our sumptuous dinner specials and appetizers, served until midnight. There is a wide assortment of bottled and draft beer, but the Guinness shouldn't be missed. Open 7 days a week until 2 a.m., with ample parking in rear. Casual dress.

O'Leary's
1010 Beacon Street, Brookline, 734-0049.
If the vast selection of both tap and bottled beers here isn't enough to tempt you, let the warm look and feel of a traditional Irish pub lure you in. The crowd is fun-loving, the atmosphere comfortable and dress is casual. Always a guaranteed good time. Live Music.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern
77 Broad Street, Boston, 338-9171 or 338-5656.
Major credit cards accepted. Drop in for a pint of stout and soak up the atmosphere at one of the most authentic Irish taverns in the city. Live music six nights a week, imported beers on tap. A traditional breakfast is served on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The kitchen is open daily. Open 11:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.

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THE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY LARA EWEN

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The IB's "Calendar" is published twice a month. If you wish to be listed in the Jan. 19 issue's "Calendar," you MUST get the information to us by Jan. 10.

SPECIAL EVENTS

CASTLE ANTIQUE SHOW
Park Plaza Castle
Arlington Street at Columbus Ave., Boston
(508) 744-2731
In the alternative-to-football vein of New Year's Day activities, this antique show heads the list. For a mere $4 (free for children) you can shop, shop, shop as 60 dealers from six states tempt you with their wares. Open from 12-6 p.m. Food will be available. Free parking, too!

BOSTON SEAFARER'S HOLIDAY
sails out from The Landing on William J. Day Blvd., South Boston
523-8386
If you don't feel too hung-over from your New Year's Eve, consider cruising to Thompson Island with the Friends of Boston Harbor. Their boat, the Pilgrim IV is making three trips to and from the island — the earliest leaves at noon, and the latest leaves at 1:15 p.m. Visitors can spend the next four hours wandering around, or even cross-country skiing, if weather permits. Dress warmly (although there will be a place to warm up on the island), bring a camera and a picnic lunch. Tickets , $10, $9 for senior citizens, and $6 for children 4-12, are available in advance by sending a check and SASE to FBHI, P.O. Box 9025, Boston, MA 02114. Some tickets may be available by the dockside, but advance reservations are highly recommended.

A CHRISTMAS CELTIC SOJOURN
WGBH Radio
(89.7 FM, or 96.3 FM in the Back Bay)
If you're not running yourself ragged today getting last-minute presents, why not spend the evening at home with the radio (yes, radio!) on. Host Brian O'Donovan explores Celtic traditions on Dec. 24 from 7-8 p.m. Highlights include performances by the Chieftains, and excerpts from *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, read by Dylan Thomas himself (although, of course, not live).

MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
Upper Rotunda, Faneuil Hall, Boston
737-3508
If the season to be jolly has you in a mad frenzy, here's an oasis of relief: Volunteers from MCH will be wrapping your gifts for you through Dec. 24, at Faneuil Hall. In return for your donation, you can leave your gift-wrapping tedium to the experts, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA PREMIERE BENEFIT
The Charles Hotel
Corner of Eliot and Bennett Streets., Harvard Square
351-0165
On Jan. 10, at 7 p.m., the New England premiere of Jonathan Demme's new movie, *Philadelphia*, will be accompanied by a real New York-style party to benefit the Harvard AIDS Institute. It all gets underway at the Charles Hotel, following the screening at the Harvard Square Loews. Tickets are $50-$150, and are available by phone. Consider yourself lucky — in New York, the tickets ran up to $2,500.

TRAINS, TRAINS, TRAINS!
South Station, Boston,
451-2266
Chugging through South Station's Grand Concourse from Dec. 4 to Jan. 8 is a model-train exhibit. At 16-foot-by-24-foot, it is the largest indoor-garden railway display exhibit in New England. Open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Free.

WINTER WONDERLAND
Boston Common, Boston
1(800) 8-WONDER
If you happen to be in the downtown area, why not take a stroll through *Winter Wonderland* on the Boston Common? Until the day after Christmas, the Common will be transformed into a holiday paradise, with a petting zoo, sleigh rides, gingerbread houses and even Frosty himself on hand! Open Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., and Sunday, noon-7 p.m. Tickets are $4 for children 4-12 and senior citizens, and $6 for adults. Children under 4 get in free.

WGBH EVENING WITH THE STARS
Roberta's Show-Biz Cafe at the Charles Playhouse
76 Warrenton. St., Boston
492-2777x3485
Directly following the Jan. 4 performance of *La Cage Aux Folles* at the Schubert Theatre (see Theater listings for other performances) WGBH Radio's Ron Della Chiesa will host a benefit party for WGBH Public Broadcasting. The reception will give guests the chance to enjoy refreshments while rubbing elbows with the cast of the Tony Award-winning musical. Tickets are $100, which includes the price of the show and the benefit. A one-year membership to WGBH is included in the price for non-members. Advance reservations are recommended.

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY BENEFIT
The Westin Hotel
Copley Place, Boston
926-5480
On Jan. 15, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., there will be dancing, gambling and general revelry as United Cerebral Palsy hosts its 11th annual All Night Celebration. The largest casino fund-raising evening in the Greater Boston area will offer actual casino-style gambling. REAL money, folks, not the play stuff. In addition, there will be music, raffles ... sounds like fun. Tickets are $15 per person, $25 per couple, available at the door or by phone.

DANCE

BALLET THEATRE OF BOSTON
Emerson Majestic Theatre
219 Tremont St., Boston
578-8727
Former principal dancers from the Kirov Ballet will be joined by more than 200 children in Jose Mateo's original production of *The Nutcracker*. Performances through Dec. 26 will include matinees as well as evenings, so call for times. Tickets are $12.50-$24.50, with special group, children and senior citizen discounts.

BOSTON BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
931-ARTS
This is absolutely the LAST CHANCE for you to see *The Nutcracker* this season. The ballet classic will run at the Wang Center from Nov. 26 to Jan. 2. Tickets are $18-$52.

JOFFREY BALLET
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
482-9393 (info)
931-ARTS (tickets)
From Jan. 18 to Jan. 23, the Joffrey's blockbuster event, *Billboards*, will be in Boston. Hold onto your hats: the score is by Prince, and four different American choreographers combined their talents to put this together. Performances are Tues.-Sat., at 8 p.m., with matinees on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are $20-$40.

THEATER

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER
Loeb Drama Center
64 Brattle St., Cambridge
547-8300
The first production of the ART's season will be Shakespeare's *Henry IV, Parts I & II*. Performances of *Part I* run through Saturday, Jan. 1, and performances of *Part II* run through Sunday, Jan. 2. While linked, the two plays are independent, and audiences should feel free to see either or both. Tickets are $18-$42.

CAMBRIDGE THEATRE COMPANY
Hasty Pudding Theatre
12 Holyoke St., Harvard Square
496-8400
If you've been unsuccessfully trying to juggle a busy holiday schedule, why not take a break and watch someone else juggle? The astonishing *Flying Karamazov Brothers* are at the Hasty Pudding Theatre through Jan. 2. The show begins at 8 p.m., and tickets are $18-$30, with reduced rates for children under 14, students and senior citizens.

CHARLES PLAYHOUSE
74 Warrenton St., Boston
426-5225 (Shear Madness)
426-6912 (*Charlie Brown*)
•Acknowledged by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the longest-running, non-musical play in U.S. history, *Shear Madness* is continuing its run at the Charles Playhouse. Set in the city in which it plays, *Shear Madness* allows the audience to become sleuths and solve a murder mystery. Tickets are $20-$26. Special holiday prices may apply.
•Happiness is going to see the Peanuts' *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* gang perform its 26th-anniversary production through Jan. 2, 1994. It's a family musical, but fun for hipsters, as well. Tickets are $22.50-$32.50. Senior-and-student discounts available.

CHEKOV THEATER AND FILM COMPANY
949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston
522-9328
Shakespeare's *Hamlet* has been adapted for seven players and is coming to Boston. Presented by the Chekov Theater group, which works in partnership with the Boston-Kiev sister-city association, this run is being facilitated by the Boston Playwright's Theater, from Jan. 7-30, on Fri. and Sat. at 8 p.m., with a Sun. matinee on Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets are $8 or $10. Call for info.

COLONIAL THEATRE
106 Boylston St., Boston
931-ARTS
Talkin' 'bout my generation...the Who's *Tommy* has been extended in Boston a while longer. Considered by many to be the first real rock musical on Broadway, the show, with an original score by Pete Townshend, has been extended until Jan. 15. Tickets are $15-$60. Also, there will be a special Jan. 12 party and performance for the 100th anniversary of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston. The evening includes a 7 p.m. performance and the *Celebration of the Century* party afterward in the Grand Ballroom at the Park Plaza. Tickets for the event are $125 or $250, depending on seating. Call 973-5417.

COYOTE THEATRE
C. Walsh Theatre
55 Temple St., at Suffolk University
695-0659
Those folks over at First Night have awarded a commission to an original work by the folks at the Coyote Theater, and you don't have go on New Year's Eve to see it. Titled *Approaching Midnight/Stories for the New Year*, it's playing Dec. 30 and Jan. 1 at 8 p.m., as well as the two performances scheduled for First Night. Tickets are $12-$18, and free on Dec. 31 with a First Night button.

HUNTINGTON THEATRE
264 Huntington Ave., Boston
266-0800
•This year is the 150th anniversary of that Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*. If you are so inclined, you should see it here, because Emmy Award-winning director Larry Carpenter will be returning to stage his widely lauded adaptation, through Dec. 31. The cast, the scenery, the ghosts and the Victorian carols should transform even the worst scrooge into a happy and gracious bundle of good cheer. Our own theater critic Nancy Leonard adds that Clive Revill is a scrumptious Scrooge. What's more, First Night buttons will be issued FREE to audience members at the 12/31, 5 p.m. performance. Tickets are $22-$39, with discounts for children 17 and under.
•Starting Jan. 14, and running through Feb. 13 is Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. This is serious comedy, and has been called one of the best comedies ever written. Call for tickets.

PARK PLAZA HOTEL
Arlington and Columbus Streets, Boston
357-8384
Forever Plaid, the musical hit about a group's second chance at stardom, continues its stint at the Park Plaza Hotel's Terrace Room. Although there will be no show on Christmas Eve, there will be a special performance Christmas Night, Dec. 25, at 8 p.m.

RIVERSIDE REPERTORY COMPANY
French's Opera House
45 Fairmont St., Hyde Park
361-7024
Not feeling in the mood for all the inevitable holiday cheer? Resisting the constant urge to say bah, humbug? Then go see *Scrooge*, the Dickens classic-cum-movie musical, now being performed as a fully staged production. From the pen of James Leisy, the show runs Nov. 26 to Jan. 2. Tickets are $12-$8.

SANDERS THEATER
Corner of Quincy and Cambridge Streets, Cambridge
931-ARTS (tickets)
621-0505 (information)
Songs, folk tales and carols from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Finland will abound as *The Christmas Revels* opens its 23rd season, Dec. 17- Dec. 29. Tickets are $12-$25 for adults, $8-$20 for children. Please bring a can of non-perishable food along to donate to the Cambridge Food Pantry Network.

SHUBERT THEATRE
265 Tremont St., Boston
(800) 432-7780
The 10th-anniversary production of *La Cage Aux Folles* will open on Dec. 28 for a limited engagement run through Jan. 16. The show, which has won six Tony Awards, will feature star performances by Walter Charles and Lee Roy Reams. Performances are Tues.-Sat., at 8 p.m., with matinee shows Thurs., Sat. and Sun. There will be no performances on Mondays. Tickets are $35-$60.

THEATRE LOBBY
216 Hanover St., Boston
227-9872
Whoopi Goldberg isn't the only singing, dancing nun. *Nunsense* is stirring the Boston area with its eighth year of silliness in the North End's unique, 175-seat, arena -style theater. Tickets are $17-$25, and discounts are available for students and senior citizens.

THEATRE OF RELATIVITY
Little Flags Theater
550 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
576-2800
Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* will be gracing the stage of the Theatre of Relativity from Jan. 13-Feb. 5, Thurs.-Sat. evenings. The play will feature 14th-century French and Italian music performed on medieval harp and fiddle. All shows start at 8 p.m., and tickets are $7.50 on Thurs., $10 Fri. and Sat. The weekend of Jan.13-15 is free! Call for tickets and reservations, as space is limited.



IMPROPER PICK

At the Nostalgia Factory Santa is the star attraction at The Graphic Santa, an exhibition of original and old advertising featuring Mr. Christmas himself, at The Nostalgia Factory, 336 Newbury St., Boston. Gallery hours are Mon.-Sat, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. On exhibit Jan. 1-31, Tin Pan Gallery , displaying sheet music from the turn of the century through the present, is on exhibit. Call 236-8754.

MUSEUMS

COMPUTER MUSEUM
300 Congress St., Boston
423-6758
Cartoonist Rich Tennant is the brains behind the first cartoon show to capture the fun foibles of life in the Information Age. The display of more than 50 drawings is based on the syndicated *5th Wave* cartoon series featured in *Computerworld* magazine. While you're there, don't forget to enjoy the more-than-100 interactive exhibits, including the award-winning Walk-Through Computer.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUMS
32 Quincy St., Cambridge
495-9400
The Busch-Reisinger Museum, the Fogg Art Museum and the Arthur M. Sackler Museum constitute Harvard's art museums. They are open daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and closed on holidays. Admission is $4, $2.50 for students and senior citizens, and free on Saturday mornings and for those under 18.
•To counter MFA's prestigious *The Age of Rubens* exhibit, the Fogg hosts *An Offbeat Collection of Dutch and Flemish Paintings* through Jan. 9, 1994.
•At the Arthur M. Sackler Museum, the exhibit *David Ward: Keepers of Light* will be on view through March 6. Mr. Ward, the noted British sculptor, photographer and performance artist, will be displaying a selection of his work from the last five years, employing a multimedia format that will include photography and glass.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM
280 The Fenway, Boston
566-1401
Fashioned after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the Gardner holds one of the most eclectic art collections in Boston and features a quaint, open courtyard. Said courtyard will be even more extraordinary through Dec. 31 with a special winter display of white cascading mums forming waterfalls over the second and third balconies, while mounds of white flowers imitate snow drifts. On special exhibitlon through March 13, *Passionate Acts in Greek Art and Myth*, featuring 22 objects from the museum's collection, the MFA and private lenders, all of which will serve to illustrate just some of the stories from Greek mythology. In addition to visual art, the museum also hosts regular concerts. Call 734-1359 for concert informatlon.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
267-9300
Open New Year's Day, 10 a.m.-4:45 p.m.
•Through Jan. 2: *The Age of Rubens* is the first major survey of Flemish baroque painting ever mounted in the United States and comprises 120 paintings from more than 50 private collections and museums in America and Europe. If you haven't seen this yet, this is your last chance.
•Its companion exhibit is *Rubens, Bellange, Rembrandt: European Graphic Art, 1580-1660*, a collection of 90 prints, drawings and illustrated books; through Feb. 6.
•MFA also presents *Duccio to Delacroix: Masterpieces of European Paintings From the Collection* through Jan. 2.
•Now through July 3, 1994, see *African and Oceanic Sculpture*, with more than 44 sculptures and masks from west and central Africa, along with some from the South Pacific.
•The tapestry gallery has *Four Centuries of Flemish Tapestry* through March 27.
•MFA presents *Deities, Saints and Allegories*, full-length images and busts of classic mythological figures, through March 6.
•American homes, from squatters' encampments to fancy Manhattan penthouses, will be examined in *In and Out of Place: Contemporary Art and the American Social Landscape* through Jan. 23, 1994.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston
723-2500
•A special holiday event on Dec. 26 and 27, titled *Once Upon a Holiday Cheery in the Lab of Shakhashiri,,* allows people to discover chemistry in a whole new way. Dr. Bassam Shakhashiri will be combusting, exploding, and generally making a mess with soap bubbles, balloons and polymers. Event times are 7:30 p.m. both days, with a 4 p.m. show on Dec. 27. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-serve basis one hour prior to the program, in the museum lobby. Call the American Chemical Society at (800) 872-2054 for more info.
•*It's All in Your Head*, where you can walk through a giant (9-foot) brain replica and explore the wonders of the mind, closes after Jan. 2. Better hurry up.
•The dinosaurs from *Jurassic Park* — including the ferocious velociraptor — are leaving New England on Jan. 9, and you better get advanced tickets if you want to see them.
•Through May 15, 1994, see the *Mysteries of the Bog* exhibit, where you can scoop cranberries and learn about this misunderstood ecosystem, including the myth of the "Bog-ey Man."
•*Sea Turtles* opened on Dec. 9, and it's here through Feb. 27. This exhibit explores the fascinating world of these seldom-seen endangered creatures.
•And don't forget the Omni Theater and the Charles Hayden Planetarium. In addition, there will be a sign-language translation for a wide variety of programs on the second Saturday of each month. Free admission Wednesdays between 1-5 p.m. during the school year, except during school vacations. Closed at 2 p.m. on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas. Open New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Museum of Transportation
Larz Anderson Park
15 Newton St., Brookline
522-6547
This school vacation will be a good time for the under-12 set to visit The Museum of Transportation (the rest of us are welcome, too!) The museum will be open Sun. Dec. 26-Sat. Dec. 31, and every child who visits and brings a usable piece of clothing or toy will get a coupon to enter for free during the February school holiday. The toys and clothing will be donated to the Salvation Army. Also, the Museum will open its *Children's Climb-on Area and Young Inventor's Workshop*, where youngsters can create their own vehicle designs from recycled materials. The current exhibit is *Muscle Cars: Wild in the Streets*. Come in and check out these cool hot rods. Why should kids have all the fun? Admission is $4, $2 for children and senior citizens. Parking is plentiful and free.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston
973-5200
Get the dirt on Boston Harbor with the New England Aquarium's new *Go With the Flow* exhibit, which introduces and explains the problems that plague the harbor and the ways that they can be remedied. The *Terrific Thursdays* program, which provides free admission to all visitors from 3-7:30 p.m., will not be valid on Dec. 30.

GALLERIES

Absinth Gallery
215 Hanover St., Floor 2, Boston
248-6962
Through Jan. 9, there will be a special exhibition of 10 artists titled *Dys 'n' Dat. IB's* very own Charles Giuliano is the curator. The gallery will be closed from Dec. 22 -Jan. 4. Regular hours are: Sun-Wed., 12-7 p.m., and Thurs-Sat., 12-9 p.m.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston
536-4465
From Jan. 8 through Feb. 2, painter-and-professor John Moore's recent paintings of Boston, Barcelona and other cities will be on display. Gallery hours are Tues.-Sat., 10 a.m-5:30 p.m.

Black and White Gallery
334 Newbury St.
266-2641.
You may be stuck in Boston for the winter, but you can travel to Italy through the beautiful photographs of Elio Ciol, who will be showing pictures of his native Friuli for an indeterminate length of time. This is the artist's first New England exhibition.

Boston Public Library
Copley Square, Boston
536-5400
In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the publication of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (1843), the BPL is mounting a two-month exhibition of *The Works of Charles Dickens*. Running through Jan. 31, the exhibit will draw from the library's rare books and manuscripts collection and will include most of his 14 important novels in their first editions, or their first American editions. Open to the public Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
42 Brattle St., Cambridge
547-6789
Watercolors of New England and Boston architecture by Gillis Murray will be on display in the gallery of the center, through Jan. 6.

Cornwall Gallery
57 Cornwall St., Jamaica Plain
524-8156
The gallery's eighth group show, a mixed-media membership exhibition, will be on view from Dec. 4 to Jan. 2. Free.

de Havilland
39 Newbury St., Boston
859-3880
•Debra Dumas will be showing her abstract landscapes in acrylic canvases in her exhibit, *The Soul of the Dog*. Through Jan. 15.
•Also, there will be a multimedia holiday group show featuring 19 artists, titled Expressions. Through Jan. 15.

First Expressions
81 Arlington St., Boston
695-2808
This non-profit gallery for student art will be showing a juried exhibit and sale of works by MIT students through Jan. 8. Net proceeds from the show will be donated to Pediatric AIDS Programs. Gallery hours are Tues.-Sat., 12-6 p.m.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
266-4351
The Art of Love, an exhibition of paintings and writings by Melinda Camber Porter, will be on view at the library from Jan. 4-29. An opening reception will be held on Jan. 4 from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Both the reception and the exhibit are free and open to the public. On view during regular library hours.

Howard Yezerski
11 Newbury St., in participation with various gallery locations in the Boston area; 442-8800 x204 (information)
In honor of World AIDS Awareness Day, the local art community presents *Paper Prayers*, based on the Japanese tradition of offering painted prayers as wishes for good health. In its fifth year, this event will benefit the Boston Pediatric AIDS Project by having artists anonymously donate 12 -by-4 inch artwork, the size of a traditional Japanese *prayer*. Running through Dec. 30.

Jamaica Plain Arts Center Gallery
659 Centre St., Jamaica Plain
524-3816
•Gallery 6 5 9 Exhibitions: (Open Tues.-Fri., 10:30 a.m -6 p.m., and Sat., 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Free.) Through Jan. 2, Deborah Davidon and Robert Siegelman exhibit their unique artwork, which combines printmaking, monotypes and drawings. From Jan. 6 through Feb. 19, with the opening reception on Jan. 14, from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Napoleon Jones Henderson's *Wake Up Singing Hallelujah* celebrates Black History Month. This director of the Research Institute of African and African Diaspora Arts will be showing both his own work and work from the institute's collection, which spans 20 years of contemporary African-American art.
•Emerging Artists Gallery Exhibitions: (Open Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m., and Sat., 9 a.m. -4 p.m. Free.) Through Dec. 30, see Katherine Sietz's two-dimensional multimedia presentation, *Images of My Familiar*. From Jan. 6 through Jan. 30, L'Merchie Frazier presents African-inspired bead and textile artwork in an exhibit titled, *Save Me From My Amnesia*. The opening reception in Jan. 14, from 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Jameson and Thompson Picture Framers
15 Greenview Ave., Jamaica Plain
524-1805
Jameson and Thompson are holding their annual art exhibition from Dec. 18 through Jan. 15. The gallery is free and open to the public. Hours: Tues.-Fri., 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kingston Gallery
129 Kingston St., Boston
423-4113
Through Dec. 30, a collaborative installation in various media by the artist members of the gallery, titled *Random*. This exhibit will explore the issues concerning the psychology of sense and sensibility through an introduction to the random.

MIT Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St.., Cambridge
253-4680
Running Jan. 15 through March 27 (Opening reception on Jan. 14, from 5-7 p.m.) Free.:
•Dan Graham's *Public/Private* uses film, video, performance and more to engage the viewer in recognizing the interactions that occur in the public and private spheres. This 30-year retrospective exhibition continues to explore the artist's fascination with interior and exterior space.
•Maria Fernanda Cardoso presents her recent minimalist-inspired sculpture. She uses materials exotic to the North American viewer, such as preserved frogs, snakes, lizards. Her work addresses cross-cultural communication, particularly as it relates to the presentation and interpretation of art, and the often-charged relationships between humans and other species.

Rolly-Michaux
290 Dartmouth St., Boston
536-9898
Rolly-Michaux presents *Joan Miro: A Centennial Celebration* through Dec. 31. In its tribute to the Catalan surrealist (1893-1993), R-M presents the gallery's collection of important aquatint etchings and early lithographs.

Stebbins Gallery
Zero Church St., Harvard Sq.
576-0131
Marc. B. Malin will be putting on a one-man show, *AutobioPhotographical*, featuring drawings, photography and music. It opens Jan. 6, with a reception on Jan. 7, from 6-9 p.m., and a musical performance at 7 p.m. Gallery hours are Thurs. and Fri., 4-8 p.m., Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sun. 12-3 p.m.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston
262-1223
Through Jan. 20: Photographer Duane Michals will be exhibiting his work, with more than 75 black-and-white images, including his famous sequences and portraits. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon-6 p.m. on Sunday. Free.

MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Grad-student Ellen Shea traveled to Egypt to document the lifestyle of Egyptian peasants; the result is the 54-photo exhibit *The Faces of Egypt*. On view in the Compton Gallery, Nov. 18-Dec. 31.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston
353-0700
Showing from Jan. 7-Feb. 20, with a reception on Jan. 7 from 5-7 p.m. The gallery is open Tues.-Sun., 12 -5 p.m., and Thurs. 12-8 p.m. Admission is $3, $2 for students and senior citizens. Free Thurs. evenings. Handicapped accessible.
•In the Bakalar Gallery: *Niño Fidencio: A Heart Thrown Open*, features photographs by Dore Gardner. This exhibit will provide the public with a portrait of the life of the rural Mexican healer who died in 1938, but left a large and to-this-day-devoted following. Dore Gardener will give a gallery talk on Jan. 26 at 2 p.m.
•In the Klebenov Gallery: *Bronlyn Jones: Photographs From Southeast Asia, Mexico, and New Mexico* is an exhibit featuring five years of photos, from Buddhist temples to Mexican churches. Ms. Jones seeks to show the similarities of the religious sensibilities in the vastly dissimilar cultures she visits.

Widener Library
Harvard University
Harvard Yard, Cambridge
495-8713
Through Jan. 28, *The Drama Within: Libraries and Their Inhabitants* , black-and-white photographs by Diane Asseo Griliches. Viewing hours are: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-9:45 p.m., Sat., 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m., and Sun., noon-5 p.m.

FILM

Boston Public Library
Copley Sq., Boston
536-5400, x295
•The screen version of the Dylan Thomas classic, *A Child's Christmas in Wales* will be showing in the Rabb Lecture Hall of the BPL on Dec. 23, at 2 p.m. Free.
•*The Red Shoes*, in all its Technicolor splendor, will be in the Rabb Lecture Hall Dec. 30, at 2 p.m. Come see this tale of a ballet dancer driven by her art and her stern ballet master. Starring Moira Shearer.

French Library
53 Marlborough St., Boston
266-4351
The folks over at the French Library will be screening films and videos of French Cinema that did well at the box office in the '70s. Film screenings will be Fri.-Sun. evenings at 8 p.m. Videos will show Wed. afternoons at 1:15. The films cost $5, $4 for members, and the videos are free. Films include Pierre Granier-Deferre's *Le Chat*



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(Jan. 7,8,9), and *Le Souffle au Coeur*, by Louis Malle (Jan. 14,15,16). Videos are: *Le Grand Blond Ave Une Chassure Noire*, by Yves Robert (Jan. 5), *Je Vous Aime*, with Catherine Deneuve and Gerard Depardieu (Jan. 12), and *L'Emmerdeur* by Edouard Molinaro (Jan. 19).

MIT
Enter from 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Rm. 2-105
253-2839
The MIT Japan Program/Japanese Language Program will be presenting Japanese films (with English subtitles) on the first three Tuesday evenings in January. Each evening begins at 7 p.m., and will feature a double or triple bill. Highlights include the *Samurai* trilogy, by Ifiroshi Inagaki, and Akira Kurosawa's *Ran* (Jan. 11) and *Kagemusha* (Jan. 18). Admission is free.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston
267-9300 x300
The award-winning documentary, *If the Mango Tree Could Speak*, about boys and girls growing up in the midst of war in Guatemala and El Salvador will screen on Jan. 16 at 3:15 p.m. This film won the 1993 Education Jury Award for Enhancing Global Awareness. Tickets are $6.50, $5.50 for Friends of Film and MFA members, students and senior citizens. Call for details.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston
482-9393
The thrilling *Indiana Jones* will be brought to the big screen once again as the Wang Center shows the Jones Trilogy, back to back, on Jan. 8-9, starting at noon both days. Yessiree, all of these classic tales of swashbuckling adventure will be here for two days only. Tickets are $10, and are available now. Kids will be impressed by the gruesome snake pit, courtesy of the Franklin Park Zoo.

FASHION

Fashion Luncheon Series
Colonnade Hotel
120 Huntington Ave., Boston
424-7000
Indulge your eyes before your ears on Friday-Symphony-matinee dates. Some of Boston's finest designers will present the season's fashions, during informal pre-symphony modeling sessions in the Cafe Promenade. The next dates are Jan. 7, with Carroll Reed, Jan. 14, with Carlisle Collection, and Jan. 21, with Talbots. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. and the fashions show at 11:45. Reservations are suggested.

LECTURES/WORKSHOPS/READINGS

Boston Center for the Arts
551 Tremont St., Boston
338-8354
In *Academic Surrealism and Beyond: The Art of Stephen W. Curtis*, the extraordinary surrealist master Mr. Curtis will grace the BCA with his angelic work as pearls of wisdom spew forth from his mouth. Don't miss this rare opportunity to see a slide talk by the artist Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m., on the third floor of the BCA. Admission is $20, $10 for art students, 25 percent less if you get tickets in advance.

Boston Public Library
Dudley Branch
65 Warren St., Roxbury
442-6186
Visual artist and educator Dianne Zimbabwe will conduct a free Kwanzaa Candle Workshop for adults at the Dudley Branch Library on Dec. 29, beginning at 3 p.m. This workshop will teach you how to make the festive candles used during the annual African-American festival held in late Dec. Pre-registration is not required and materials will be supplied.

Dance Complex
536 Mass. Ave., Central Sq.
547-9363
Dancer and choreographer Peter DiMuro returns to Boston for a week of teaching. Weekday modern-dance classes will be held Jan. 4, 5 and 6, from 10-11:30 a.m., and the level is intermediate. Then there will be a three-hour workshop on Saturday titled *Divining Personal Process*, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. All classes are open to the public, and pre-registration is suggested. The technique class fee is $21 or $8.50 single; the workshop is $15; $35 for the entire series.

MIT
Kresge Little Theater, 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
Killian Hall, 14W-111, enter 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge
253-5623
Teresa Ralli, a leading actress and member of the acclaimed Peruvian theater company Yuyachkani, will demonstrate her physical and vocal expertise through theory exercises and interactions with traditional masks and costumes. Jan. 13, 3 p.m., at the Kresge, and Jan. 18, 8 p.m., at Killian Hall. Free.

MUSIC

Bank of Boston Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston
Symphony Hall, Boston
482-2595 (information)
482-6661 (tickets)
•The first performance in this season's *"Emerging Artist Series"* will be pianist Christopher Taylor, on Sun., Jan 9, at 3 p.m. in Jordan Hall. Mr. Taylor's performance will include works by Bach, Bartok, Beethoven. Tickets are $14.50 and $8.50.
•On Jan. 14, the Julliard String Quartet will appear at Jordan Hall with an all-Beethoven evening. The concert begins at 8 p.m. and tickets are $27 and $25.
•Renowned soprano Kathleen Battle will be filling Symphony Hall with her dulcet tones on Sun. Jan. 16, 3 p.m. Tickets are $32, $30 and $20.

Boston Chamber Music Society
Sanders Theater, Harvard University, Cambridge
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston
An evening of chamber music awaits you when the Boston Chamber Music Society comes to Boston for two area performances. The program, which includes Bach's Trio *Sonata from "A Musical Offering"*, will be the same for both the 8 p.m Jan. 7 performance at Jordan Hall (which will go to benefit the Floating Hospital for Children at the New England Medical Center) and the 8 p.m. Jan. 9 performance at the Sanders Theater. Tickets are $11-$27.50. Students, senior citizens and WGBH members receive discounts.

Boston Lyric Opera
Emerson Majestic Theater
219 Tremont St., Boston
248-8660 (tickets and info)
248-8811 (special events)
A classic tale of fatal attraction -—*Carmen* — opens on Jan. 12 and runs through Jan. 23. Lorraine Hunt and John Fowler sing the Bizet score, performed in French with projected English subtitles. Opening night is Jan. 12, and there will be both a pre-opera dinner and a post-opera cast party. Tickets are $75 per person for the pre- and post-events. √ There will also be two pre-opera lectures, free with a ticket to that night's performance, on Jan. 12 (director Ken Cazan) and Jan. 18 (conductor Stephen Lord), at the Tremont House (275 Tremont St.) from 6:30-7 p.m. Wait, there's more! There will be two matinee performances, on Jan. 16 and 23, with the Jan. 16 performance preceded by a brunch at the Four Seasons Hotel/Aujourd'hui Restaurant (from noon-2:30 p.m., $40 per person, limited availability.) Tickets are $18-$68.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, Boston
266-2378 (CONCERT)
The Christmas Pops will be performing until Dec. 29 (excluding Christmas Day), although John Williams stepped down as conductor. Tickets are $14.50 to $45.
•Matinee performances are Dec. 22, 23 and 26 at 3 p.m., and Dec. 24 at noon. Pops Associate Conductor Laureate Harry Ellis Dickson conducts. Mr. Dickson will also conduct evening concerts on Dec. 27 and 29, at 7:30 p.m.
•In addition, conductor Robert Bernhardt of the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Association and the Tuscon Symphony Orchestra, will lead a Holiday Pops evening concert with soprano Mary Ann Bozzuti on Dec. 22 at 7:30 p.m.
•BSO violinist Ronald Knudsen will be guest conducting an evening Pops concert on Dec. 28 at 7:30 p.m.

Boston Symphony
Symphony Hall, Boston
266-1492
•Jan. 5 through Jan. 11, Yuri Temirkanov conduct. Joshua Bell on violin as he performs Sibelius' *Violin Concerto*. Also in that concert, Prokofiev and Elgar.
•Jan. 13, 14 and 15, Thomas Dausgaard will conduct Lorin Hollander on piano in Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2*., along with works by Kirchner and Sibelius.

Emmanuel Music
Walsh Theater, Suffolk University
41 Temple St., Beacon Hill
536-3356
The first concert of an eight-part series devoted to the complete vocal, piano, and chamber works of Johannes Brahms is Jan. 9, at 4 p.m. The series will continue through June. Call for ticket information for this concert and the series.
Longy School of Music
Edward Pickman Concert Hall
27 Garden St., Cambridge
876-0956x991
•Soprano Chloe Owen pianist Barbara Karp will play the songs of Strauss, Wolf, Dvorák, and others in a "Guest Artist Series Recital" on Jan. 4, at 8 p.m. $5.
•The Jazz Department will host "Guest Artists the Oulunkylä Big Band," from Helsinki, Finland, in a concert on Jan. 14 at 8 p.m., $5 suggested donation.

MIT
Kresge Auditorium
84 Mass Ave., Cambridge
253-2700
Journey Into a Dream: Musical Tribute to Martin Luther King is the annual Celebration/Tribute to Mr. King, performed by jazz vocalist Semenya McCord and Associates. On Jan. 15, at 8 p.m. Call to confirm. Free.

Newton Music School
321 Chestnut St., West Newton
527-4553
Pianist Kevin Mc Ginty will be performing at the school in a faculty concert series recital, on Sun., Jan. 9, 4 p.m. The program will be Chopin, Schumann, Finch and Brahms. Admission is free and open to the public.



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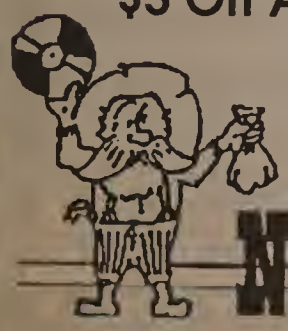
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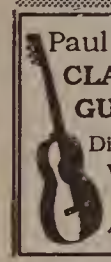
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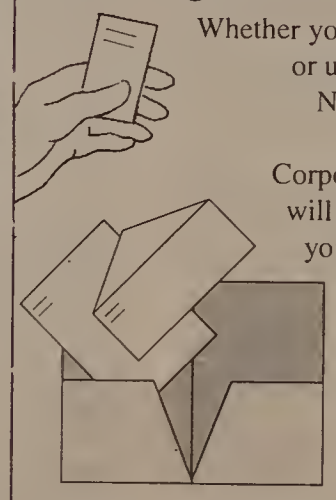
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WOMEN SEEKING MEN

NEW TO BOSTON! Attractive redhead, 20, cute, cultured, well-traveled, adventurous & musical, enjoys nature, skiing, cozy fires, boardwalks & classy, compassionate men. Seeks a male, 18-29, any race, for engaging, intelligent conversations, laughs, friendship & possible romance. EXT•8283.

PRETTY BROWN EYES! White female, 22, enjoys movies & slow music, and desires a relationship with true honesty. Seeks a black male, 23-28, who is sincere, responsible, intelligent & also wants a real relationship. Light drinking & smoking are Ok. No drugs! EXT•8222.

VERY SINGLE & VERY GORGEOUS black woman, 22, 5'2", 115 lbs, chocolate brown complexion, big brown bedroom eyes, and a very good-looking figure. Seeks a FINE black male, 22-29, for a special friendship & possible relationship. Call to find out more about me! Serious responses only! EXT•8192.

I HAVE THAT WHIP APPEAL! Attractive Jewish female, 26, professional, sensitive, Scorpio, seeks a committed, 1-1 relationship with a open-minded male. Interests include dancing, music, cooking & spoiling that special someone. Race unimportant! EXT•8256.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, REDHEADED, divorced white female, 27, long-legged, with a good career & zest for life. Seeks a white male, 27-37, at least 5'10", in good shape (physically & mentally), responsible, fun yet serious, ambitious, open to possibilities... EXT•8227.

SWEET, SEXY & PRETTY! Very voluptuous black lady, 30, smart, honest & a little shy, seeks a professional black or Latino male, 28-38, who loves sports, values family, and would enjoy quiet evenings at home with me. EXT•8198.

LET'S GO OUT & HAVE FUN! Single working mom, 27, 5'7", cute, good figure, great personality, in need of some fun & romance. Seeks a white male professional with equally good looks & great personality. EXT•8133.

THERE'S GOT TO BE A MAN out there who can recognize a good thing when he sees it! Pretty, divorced white female, 45, with class, intelligence & integrity, seeks a man, 40-55, with similar qualities. I love music, animals, family, friends & home, and want to share my life with someone special. EXT•8239.

PETITE FEMALE PROFESSIONAL, 58, 5', 92 lbs, enjoys animals, dancing, dining out & a sense of humor, seeks a male, 50-65, as possible travel companion & good friend. Respondent must not take himself seriously. EXT•8126.

PERSONALITY PLUS! White female, 27, 5'2", long blonde hair, fit & attractive (but not vain), considered fun-loving & free-spirited, with creative interests from luxury to leisure. Seeks a successful & sincere male, 27-33. EXT•8183.

VERY ATTRACTIVE ITALIAN FEMALE, 34, 5'3", dark blonde hair, divorced, independent, non-smoker. Seeks tall, dark & handsome, Italian male, 30-38, 5'10"-6'2", non-smoker, with a good sense of humor & a good job, for possible relationship. Reply only if you fit description! EXT•8110.

ATTRACTIVE WHITE FEMALE, 30, shapely, blonde hair, blue eyes, enjoys fitness, skating, dancing, sports, movies, trips, music, cappucino & night clubs. Seeks white male, 25-35, for fun & great times. No drugs! Light drinker Ok! EXT•8252.

FUGITIVE FROM MEDIOCRITY seeks mad but brilliant boyfriend! White female, 32, attractive, fun, non-smoker, well-read, loves movies, dogs & history, seeks Byron, Black-Adder, Edison or Einstein for snowball fights & midnight film-fests. EXT•8223.

ATTRACTIVE, FULL-FIGURED, single white mom, 21, dirty blonde hair, blue-green eyes, likes to play at the park during the day & snuggle up at night. Seeks an honest white male, 21-29, with similar interests. EXT•8221.

BEAUTIFUL, PETITE & SLIM Asian female, well-educated, professional, caring mom. Seeks intelligent, attractive, educated, white or Asian male, 35-47, with a zest for life. Please no nerds! EXT•8135.

COMPASSIONATE, SINCERE, honest, divorced white female, 29, with alluring brown eyes, enjoys life, walks, movies, dancing, camping, snowmobiling, skiing & much more. Seeks a sincere, honest male for friendship and/or a 1-1 relationship. No games, just honesty! EXT•8152.

ATTRACTIVE, MATURE, proportioned, full-figured white female, 25, 5'8", seeks an attractive black male, 25-37, 6'+, "Basketball type", who is a sharp dresser, monogamist, mentally & financially secure or at least knows what he wants. No smokers or drug users! EXT•8101.

NEWTON AREA ASIAN FEMALE, 45, 5'2", 115 lbs, black hair, brown eyes, gentle & honest, seeks an educated, responsible, sensitive, emotive, relationship-minded man to share my life. EXT•8237.

CARIBBEAN FEMALE, 27, 5'6", independent, employed, has a mind of her own. Seeks an attractive, employed, well-dressed, unselfish, eager to please, monogamous, heterosexual (100%), African male, 26-35, 5'7"+, who likes or can adjust to Caribbean music & culture. EXT 8220.

I'M LOOKING FOR MR. DO RIGHT! Attractive white female, 19, 5'6", thick but not overweight, green eyes, brown hair, enjoys weightlifting, dancing & more. Seeks a taller, non-smoking male, 21-30, who is financially stable. Race unimportant! EXT•8261.

DEFINITELY ATTRACTIVE! Jewish female, 35, sincere, honest, down to earth, emotionally secure, not into playing games, many varied interests. Seeks handsome, white male professional, 33-39, for a committed relationship. EXT•8187.

THE PARTY IS OVER! Very attractive, classy & sexy, marriage minded, Cape Veridian lady, 42, 5'4", 140 lbs, brown hair & eyes, nicely built. Seeks a tall, well-built, attractive male, 48-55, who has the same interests at heart, is kind, understanding, and enjoys the simple things in life. No games or heavy drinking! EXT•8161.

NATURAL BLONDE, 39, 5'3", green eyes, avg. weight, North Shore area. If you didn't just break up with your girlfriend or wife, if your tired of the air heads, have your act together, and are looking for a relationship. We have a lot in common. EXT•8104.

WHITE FEMALE, 32, redhead, blue eyes, shapely. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. My ideal: 30-something Democrat w/dog, life, brain & sense of humor. Me: nice, funny, bright, frustrated by dating game, but optimistic at heart. EXT•8271.

DIVORCED WHITE FEMALE, 43, 5'6", 128 lbs, Christian, reddish-brown hair, brown eyes, very fit, my pug dogs think I'm very attractive & outgoing. Seeks Christian white male who is active in sports (golf, tennis, jogging), has a good sense of humor, and enjoys dancing, dining & movies. Let's be best friends & possibly more! EXT•8242.

GREEN-EYED BLACK WOMAN, 29, seeks a non-smoking black male, 27-30, who enjoys late night walks & cuddling in front of the TV. He must be sincere, funny, employed & love surprises. EXT•8200.

LOVIN' IT ALL (Being a black female, single & tall)! 27, 6', 145 lbs, enjoys exercise, music & reading. Seeks a black male, 26-35, 6'+, with similar interests, an open mind, sense of humor & a great smile. EXT•8219.

STRONG, RUGGED, gentle, masculine man, 30-45, wanted to be pampered by a shy, passionate, soft & strong white female in her free time. I'm 5'6", 135 lbs, an avid weightlifter, non-smoker, and have a quiet lifestyle. EXT•8218.

COME TRAVEL down life's road with me! Voluptuous white female, 44 (looks younger), brown hair & hazel eyes. Seeks an honest, good-looking, humorous man, 35-45, with a variety of interests, who knows there is more to a relationship than the physical part. EXT•8188.

MONOGAMOUS, DOWN TO EARTH, black female, 30, 5'5", with a great sense of humor, seeks a similar male, 26-40, who enjoys sports, going to movies, dining in & rainy weather. Don't pass this up! How does friendship first sound? Let's give it a try! Nothing beats a try but a failure! No games please! EXT•8121.

WHERE ARE YOU? Very attractive, Asian female professional, with dignity & integrity, slender, feminine, 5'6", still keeps alluring body for her only man. Seeks a masculine male, 30's, unencumbered, accomplished, with "Thinker's" cheeks, deep eyes & wit, to share her heart. EXT•8279.

MOCHA BROWN & HEALTHY black female, 5'5", light brown eyes, enjoys clubing, movies, cooking & more. Seeks fun-loving, tall, handsome & well-educated white or Spanish male, 25-28, for friendship & possible relationship. I'm waiting sexy! EXT•8020.

BOSTON AREA! Attractive black female, 21, 5'3", childless, independent & employed, enjoys movies, reggae and R&B dancing, social drinking, dining out & nights in with that special someone. Seeks attractive, employed, well-dressed, monogamous, romantic African male, 26-35, 5'6"-6', healthy weight, with a nice body & strong arms. Looking forward to meet you soon! EXT•6951.

I BELIEVE IN LOVE! Attractive Italian/Spanish female, 44 (looks much younger), 5'6", champagne blonde hair, brown eyes, full-figured, affectionate & sincere, seeks younger male for long-term relationship. No drug users, heavy drinkers or head games! All races welcome! EXT•6955.

PETITE, ATTRACTIVE BLACK FEMALE, 24, working student into fitness, dancing & reading, seeks tall, attractive Italian male, 25-31, with similar interests. Please no players! EXT•8061.

SWEET & SINCERE! Full-figured, very attractive, single white mom, 34, 5'9", brown hair & eyes, great dimples, enjoys movies, cooking & quiet evenings. Seeks good-looking, kind, sincere gentleman, 34-44, 5'10"+, for friendship & possible relationship. Sincere replies only! EXT•8062.

BEAUTIFUL BUT SINGLE! White female, 25, 5'7", brown hair, green eyes, athletic, mature, honest & professional, seeks a male, with similar interests, for a 1-1 relationship. Enjoys all sports, long walks & talks, dancing, the beach, skiing, cooking, family & friends. Tired of the bar scene type! EXT•8031.

HONEST & SINCERE BLACK FEMALE, 34, 5'6", 130 lbs, intelligent, loving, good sense of humor. Seeks sincere, energetic black male, who enjoys music, dancing, movies & quiet times, for friendship or whatever comes naturally. EXT•8032.

ITALIAN FEMALE, 40, professional, attractive, physically fit, financially & emotionally secure, with many interests. Seeks a male professional, under 50, who's interested in a serious relationship. EXT•8054.

DARK HAIR, BLUE EYES, slim, divorced white female, 41 (looks & feels younger), considered attractive, centered/happy with myself & my life. Optimistic, warm, animated, loyal friend, impassioned about my work (refugee/immigrants rights), quite irreverent, wry/lively sense of humor. A voracious reader/traveler, movie goer, physically active & fit. EXT•8043.

VERY ATTRACTIVE, HARDWORKING, dedicated teacher, 30, 5'9", 135 lbs, blonde hair & sky blue eyes (Swedish), sensual, sensitive, classy, open & honest. Enjoys exercise, modelling, singing & dancing. Seeks very attractive male with similar interests & qualities. EXT•8019.

SINCERE, HONEST WHITE FEMALE, 30, 5'3", enjoys the outdoors, walks on the beach, and quiet times at home. Seeks white male, 30-38, with similar interests, for possible friendship or relationship. EXT•6987.

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

WHITE MALE, 27, 6', blond hair, blue eyes, loves to travel to places near & far, a good movie on a rainy night, and all sorts of animals. Seeks a bright, perceptive & honest lady, 25-30, with a good sense of humor, for a caring 1-1 relationship. EXT•7830.

RESCUE ME! Very handsome white male, 26, professional, caring, tired of the bar & club scene, enjoys movies, dining, Bruins games & quality time together. Seeks a white female who is intelligent, honest & attractive. Metrowest area! EXT•7866.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR HONESTY, respect, relating, good times and fun? Do you want your guy to be caring, intelligent, articulate and genuine? This thirty-something firefighter will rescue you from all those jerks you've been dating. It's the real thing, and you should call before some other smart girl gets me! Metrowest! EXT•7771.

WALKS BY THE SEA, theatre, dining & dancing till dawn! This 48yr old Jewish male is seeking the friendship of a financially secure lady, 42-55, to enjoy life to it's fullest. EXT•7923.

TEDDY BEAR SEEKS HUGS! Big, brown, brawny bruin seeks someone to hug. Not interested in painted dolls. Please be 25-40, soft, strong, awake, eager to do & be loved. EXT•7829.

DIVORCED WHITE MALE, 40, 5'6", professional, enjoys sports. Slim, fit, non-smoker desires same. Looking for a woman, 28-40, with equal parts seriousness, silliness, pragmatism & craziness, for relationship based on equality, friendship, intimacy & caring. EXT•7951.

ELIGIBLE, HANDSOME MALE seeks mature, down to earth, easygoing, sincere, romantic, honest female, with a sense of humor, to enjoy life's adventures. EXT•7922.

DIVORCED WHITE MALE, 50, with love & a zest for life, seeks an attractive lady, 28-50, 5'2"-5'8", 100-135 lbs, who is college educated, outgoing, a sharp dresser, honest & sincere. Enjoy stimulating conversation, dining out, travel, theatre, dancing & sports. I'm back to working out & have a glint in my eye, so watch out! EXT•7947.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR EACH OTHER! Youthful Jewish male, 44, seeks a special Jewish female, 34+. We see each other at The BSO, The MFA, the gym, or in shul. We smile but never meet. Let's break our pattern! EXT•7965.

SEARCHING FOR A LOCAL, un-encumbered, slim, attractive, romantic lady for a possible serious relationship with a 50+, 6'2", 195 lb, handsome (I've been told), professional, divorced white male from the Metrowest Area. Interests are myriad. If you are a spontaneous, non-pretentious, special person, also with a myriad of interests, please call. All calls answered! EXT•7886.

ATTRACTIVE, PROFESSIONAL, funny, athletic, true romantic Jewish male (Capricorn), 34, 5'10", dark hair, big brown eyes. Seeks down to earth white female (Pisces, Taurus, Virgo), 23-30, who is ready for her knight in shinning armor. EXT•7938.

GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR! Nice, honest, good-looking, handy, intelligent white male, 36, 5'5", in great shape, loves the beach, tennis, travel, skiing, and anything else that's fun. Seeks a pretty, honest & sincere woman to share the good times with. EXT•7875.

WHITE MALE, 37, 5'10", medium build, sincere, honest, bright, educated, unpretentious, humorous, sensual, enjoys beaches, hot tubs, massages, movies, music, art, reading, romantic dinners & good conversation. Seeks slim white female, 25-37, for romance & fun. EXT•7939.

MULTILINGUAL ENGINEER, bright, balanced, compassionate, accomplished, divorced white male, 40's, 6'2", with an outgoing personality, looks & a sense of humor. Seeks non-smoking, stable, tall, slim white female, under 42, with warmth, intellect & sense of direction. EXT•7921.

THE THREE MUSKETEERS! Three 22yr old, extremely handsome, charming, intelligent young men, just out of college, seek three extremely attractive, outgoing, intelligent princesses to join our adventures of drinking, dancing, dining & exploring Boston. EXT•7949.

JEWISH MALE, 43, tall, fit, terribly sexy. Been looking for a Million-Dollar Baby in the 5 & 10 cent store--now looking here! Seeking jewish female with well-turned ankle & twinkly smile. EXT•7925.

HANDSOME & ELIGIBLE! Black male, 33, 6'3", dark-skinned, black hair, brown eyes, Capricorn. Seeks a black female, 23-38, without dependents, who's interests include dining out, dancing, Rap, R&B & live Jazz. If you're seeking a monogamous relationship, call! EXT•7817.

ATTRACTIVE, 40-SOMETHING, divorced white male, multi-cultural background, monogamous, loves the ocean, movies, jazz, fine wines, tropical fish & gardening, great cook. Seeks an attractive white female, 29-45, to share with, who believes in happily ever after. EXT•7867.

ADDICTED TO LOVE! White male, 26, 6', 170 lbs, artistic, athletic, outgoing & reasonably attractive, seeks a female partner who knows what she want's out of life. She likes to laugh, love, dance, dine & explore new things together. No disappointments! Race & religion unimportant! EXT•7815.

SEEKS SKI PARTNER! White male, new to Boston area, 25, 6'1", 190 lbs, successful, MBA, athletic, fit. adventurous, enjoys boating, skiing & outdoor activities. Seeks attractive, fit, educated white female, 21-27, who can ski the bumps & stay out all night. EXT•7902.

LOOKING FOR LOVE! Very good-looking, tall white male, 29, sincere, romantic, into weight lifting, all outdoor activities, the beach, mountains & sunsets. Searching for a stable, tall, blonde female to treat special, grow & enjoy life with. EXT•7940.

IN SEARCH OF... Attractive, black Hispanic college student, 25, 6', 165 lbs, athletic build, seeks sexy white, Hispanic or European female, 20+, for serious relationship. I'm one in a million, and you are too! EXT•7907.

VERY HANDSOME, PROFESSIONAL, white male, 30's, 6'1", 185 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, athletic, seeks attractive, fit, educated, open-minded, responsible yet crazy, white female, 27-33, who is happy with herself. EXT•7932.

SEEKING HIS SWEETHEART! Bearded black male, 34, 5'10", 200 lbs, nice looks, shy & quiet. Seeks an open-minded female, 18-34, for movies, TV, bowling, theatre, cultural events, fairs, board games, museums, concerts, hugs, kisses, honesty, monogamy, affection & more. No drugs or smoking! EXT•7607.

SLEEPLESS IN THE SUBURBS! White male, 30, 6'3", 215 lbs, brown eyes, never married, enjoys travel, sports & music. Seeks an attractive, exotic woman (Greek, Hispanic, Italian, etc...), 21-30, for possible relationship. EXT•7789.

I SURRENDER, a lifelong committed bachelor has had it! Healthy, handsome, fun-loving, successful male, 40, with multiple interests, seeks an attractive, fit, warm, open, ready to laugh, non-smoking female, 25-36. Yes, quality men do exist! EXT•7551.

CHIVALROUS, HANDSOME, solid quality, svelte, divorced white male, 48, 6'2", 190 lbs, into fitness, antiques, arts, bordeaux, fireplaces & romantic walks. Seeks an attractive & fit woman, 28-42, who wants quality. Boston Area! EXT•7729.

AMIABLE, ATTRACTIVE, ATHLETIC white male, 30, 6'1", 195 lbs, dark hair, blue eyes, kind, caring, considerate & exciting, enjoys animals, sports, Boston, art, travel, dining, dancing, quiet & loud times. Seeks similar, tall, elegant & fashion conscious white female. EXT•7689.

STILL HAVEN'T FOUND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR! White male, 36, 180 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks a fit lady of quality, 28-42, for an honest & monogamous relationship. I'm sincere, and happy in my work. If you enjoy music, movies, dining out & good conversation, give me a call! EXT•7615.

SIMPLY TERRIFIC! Attractive white male, 38, looking to meet a down to earth, cute white female, 28-35, who would enjoy an adorable, 5 month old yellow lab, Vermont foliage, hot cider, country inns, dungarees & romantic dinners. EXT•7629.

I SEEK A WOMAN; a very particular person with whom to share a relationship the affection, the warmth, the rhythm I experience with life. White male, 52, 5'8", 155 lbs, enjoys conversation, thoughtful moments, humor, music, theatre, museums, good food, the outdoors, cities, skiing, skating, cycling, gardening & of course, great pizza. EXT•7671.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

ATHLETIC, SPIRITED & HANDSOME white male, 37, 6', 180 lbs, black hair, green eyes, muscular, clean shaven, into running, lifting, biking & swimming. Seeks vicarious man for sweaty workouts, fun & perhaps intimacy. EXT•7752.

BLUE COLLAR JOCK/MASSAGE ACTION! I'm 35, 172 lbs, 44" chest, clean-cut, crew-cut, good looks, built, discreet, honest & can travel. Seeking straight acting, clean-cut, built male for massage action. EXT•7912.

WHITE MALE, 37, 6'2", solid 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, stached, ex-national swimmer for England/Wales. Enjoys hiking, camping & equestrian sports. Novice rock climber, canoeing & scuba. Seeks masculine guy, 35+, who is emotionally secure & sane. Prefer stache/bearded & tall. EXT•7913.

ROCKIE HOROSCOPE

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BY ROCKIE GARDINER

DEC. 22,1993 - JAN. 18, 1994

GENERAL FORECAST:

A feeling of family solidarity, the sight of familiar faces and traditional holiday fare, plus a rare sense of security will kaep us cozy this waek, but not truly content. Wa'll be OK with ourselves, quite amicable to each other until Sunday, which is when the sun and aggressive Mars meet in ambitious Capricorn. That's an appropriate aspect for Boxing Day and the bone-breakingbattle for a wild-card spot. (Hope for her Raiders still springs in this breast!) Christmas Day itself may be a little weird. A sensuous Taurus moon goes void, of course at 10:39 a.m., so no presents given or received aftar then will have quite the impact you intended. Better exchange yours on Christmas Eve when Mercury conjuncts Venus and marries the gift of gab with the gift of love. You'll be clever and charming and utterly communicative. Save the sex for Sunday when Mars is heavily charged and the whole world is horny. Just know that everybody's vulnerable during the Cancer-Capricorn, Mommy-Daddy full-moon period, which runs for two days bafore, two days after it is exact. Tuesday at 3:05 p.m. No eclipse this time, kids, just wretched emotional excess.

ARIES (MARCH 20—APRIL 19)

In tha midst of holiday cheer and hangovers, comes the most important planetary aspect affecting your career in two years: the conjunction of your Mars ruler and the all-powerful sun in your Capricorn midheaven. What to do? Take the initiativa, crash through the glass ceiling or simply let the establishment knock on your door? Confidence is no problem, neither is energy. Becausa Mars works best and is most effective in the sign of the Goat, you can be sure that your efforts will not be for naught..

TAURUS (APRIL 20—MAY 20)

Steady as she goes. Staying on track, following a self-appointed leader is the best way for you to get through the holiday. Not that you're in any physical danger, but thara is a good chance you'll spaak words of love on Christmas Eva; declare your intentions way too soon when, in reality (which dascends like a brick on Sunday afternoon) you're simply caught up in the spirit of the season. Hugs and kisses are OK, rings and things are iffy. But if you feel advanturous, go ahead; you can always reneg later.

GEMINI (MAY 21—JUNE 20)

Full heart, full moon, full arms. Are we talking tattoos, bracelets, packages or romance? Because your Mercury ruler is wrappad in the loving vibes of Venus, you could be in rapture befora the week is over. You'll attract all sorts of literata folks and look especially attractiva, too. Parents will be pleased as punch with their offspring (instead of hitting them over the haad like Punch?), and entartainers and gamblers, the risk-takers in the crowd,will have better luck than usual.

CANCER (JUNE 21—JULY 22)

Tha word regarding work is excellent, particularly if it comes from an attractive collaague. Giving service, serving aces, sinking freethrows, cleaning the sink; day by day stuff is really appraciated when you're doing your "thing" so baautifully. And because the moon is full in your sign, everybody will be watching. Crabs with lots of Lao will adore tha spotlight, hermit Crabs will just have to suffer through it. This year there's no hiding from significant others, especially thosa with a "purpose."

LEO (JULY 23—AUG. 22)

Planning to sing, dance and gambol/gamble your way through Christmas? Almost all the planetary action takes place in your solar fifth house, the one where risky thrills lurk, where the glitz and fun comes from. So if a romantic notion pops up when you least expect it, if you feel particulary creative, courageous or combative, blame it on faisty Mars pushing you furthar, faster. Natural-born teachers and entertainers will amaze us with their audacity and the universal appeal of their ideas.

VIRGO (AUG. 23—SEPT. 22)

Keep the home fires burning this weekend. The most interesting events occur on your floor, in your kitchen, so don't get lured to another site unless you have work to do. Even that won't be too bad because you can earn major brownie points, maybe even fall in love on the job. Just make sure you drag the object of your desire back to your cave and, if need be, throw him or her into the bosom of your family. There's an odd romantic quality to this holiday that's best experianced on familiar ground.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23—OCT. 22)

Tha waight, routine or restraint you sometimes feel when contemplating your relationship to a loved one works to your advantage this week. Conveniently in tima for Christmas! No resentment, no anxiety, just a heightened sense of security and a deap-down warmth. Take advantage of the supportive connection between your Venus ruler and stable Saturn because we both know these aspects don't last. Venus also makes you mora vocal, more than willing to express yourself when it merges with Mercury on Xmas Eve. Caroling or confessing?

SCORPIO (OCT. 23—NOV. 21)

More money, more stuff. Maybe a philosophical discussion of the value of whatever/whoever you presently charish, or is that covet? And a graater determination to get what you want, even if that simply comes down to raspectability or parental approval. When your Mars co-ruler meets the sun in Capricorn — a rare enough occurence, you apply your passion, your enormous energy to a legitimate, tima-honored cliche, such as, "Nothing succeeds lika success."

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22—DEC. 21)

Happy birthday to the travelers, teachers and translators of the zodiac. Thank our lucky stars the new moon highlights a purely personal agenda, our solar first house, because there's little reason for anyone to pay us any attantion at all this week. And since our Jupiter ruler is lurking in the reclusive 12th house, we'll probably opt for a very quiet, practically nonexistent birthday celebration this year. Well, maybe you'll get all fired up when Mars conjuncts your natal sun, but me, I'll get a fever.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22—JAN. 20)

You have until Sunday, which is when Mercury and Venus leave Sag, to present your case, to make your wish for Chnstmas peace on your turf come true. Saying what you mean and meaning what you say is easy, perhaps even an inspiration to an impressionable Libra or a Virgin who has dropped his or her guard in the seasonal spirit of brotherly love. This is a good time to think about New Year's resolutions, the easy ones you can keep, the creatively challenging ones you should.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 21—FEB. 18)

Moral support from the usual sources plus more support from the power behind the throne (your guardian angel?) this week. Easy aspects to your Saturn ruler can bring in bucks, not just presents for your birthday and/or Xmas. The major event, however, takes place on Boxing Day when the sun and Mars combine to give you a shot of energyand ambition you haven't felt in years. Just make sure that, in your rush to succeed, you don't hurt someone who really cares about you.

PISCES (FEB. 19—MARCH 19)

Continued success with the establishment, the straight, industrious types who rule somebody's roost. And yes, plenty of cock, too, when horny Mars meets the sun on Sunday. While the holiday may not be all about good will toward men, there's enough macho posturing to affect a single-minded, non-sexist fish. Except for the overpowering smell of Old Spice, the rest of the week can be quite sweet, and sometime next Thursday fairly ennching. Doing year-end stock and bond transactions?

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